

ARNSIDE AND SILVERDALE AONB DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

Sustainability Appraisal Report

PUBLICATION PLAN

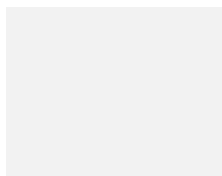
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This report dated 26 October 2017 has been prepared for Lancaster City and South Lakeland District Councils (the "Client") in accordance with the terms and conditions of appointment dated 12 February 2015 (the "Appointment") between the Client and **Arcadis (UK) Limited** ("Arcadis") for the purposes specified in the Appointment. For avoidance of doubt, no other person(s) may use or rely upon this report or its contents, and Arcadis accepts no responsibility for any such use or reliance thereon by any other third party.

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Term
AA	Appropriate Assessment
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CoGAP	Code of Good Agricultural Practice
cSAC	candidate Special Area of Conservation
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DPD	Development Plan Document
HLS	High-Level Stewardship
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JSA	Jobseeker's Allowance
LGS	Local Geological/Geodiversity Sites
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LSOA	Lower-level Super Output Area
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PRoW	Public Right of Way
pSPA	potential SPA
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCI	Site of Community Importance
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems

1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction to and Purpose of this Report

- 1.1.1 This Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report has been prepared by Arcadis UK Ltd. (formerly known as Hyder Consulting (UK) Ltd.) on behalf of both Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Council as part of the combined SA and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (hereinafter referred to as SA) of the emerging Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Development Plan Document (DPD). The DPD will be the first for the Arnside & Silverdale AONB and will guide development in the AONB over the next 15 years (2016-2031). The AONB boundary is shown in Image 1-1.
- 1.1.2 The SA process commenced in the summer of 2015 with a Scoping Study¹ which set the scope and level of detail of the SA. In autumn 2015 an SA of the DPD Issues and Options² was undertaken which appraised the emerging vision and objectives and draft development and policy area options.
- 1.1.3 This Publication version of the SA Report provides a summary of the SA process and documents the findings of the appraisal and its influence on the DPD's development. It will be issued along with the Draft DPD to the Secretary of State for consideration.

1.2 What is SA?

- 1.2.1 SA is a process for assessing the social, economic and environmental impacts of a plan and aims to ensure that sustainable development is at the heart of the plan-making process.

Sustainable Development

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy "Securing the Future" describes a common purpose for Sustainable Development:

The goal of sustainable development is to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life for future generations.

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy 2005 set a new framework for sustainable development and describes how this should be pursued. Five Guiding Principles were identified:

- Living within environmental limits;
- Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society;
- Achieving a Sustainable Economy;
- Promoting Good Governance; and
- Using Sound Science Responsibly.

- 1.2.2 It is a legal requirement that the Local Plan is subject to SA; this is set out in the Town and Country Planning, England Regulations 2012. Guidance stipulates that the SA must comply with the requirements of the SEA Regulations³, which transpose the SEA Directive⁴ into UK law.

¹ Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD SA Scoping Report (June 215) - 020-UA001453-UE31-01-F

² Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD SA of Issues and Options Report (November 2015) – 021-UA001453-EEA-01-F

³ The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. S.I. 2004 No.1633.

⁴ Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, June 2001

Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

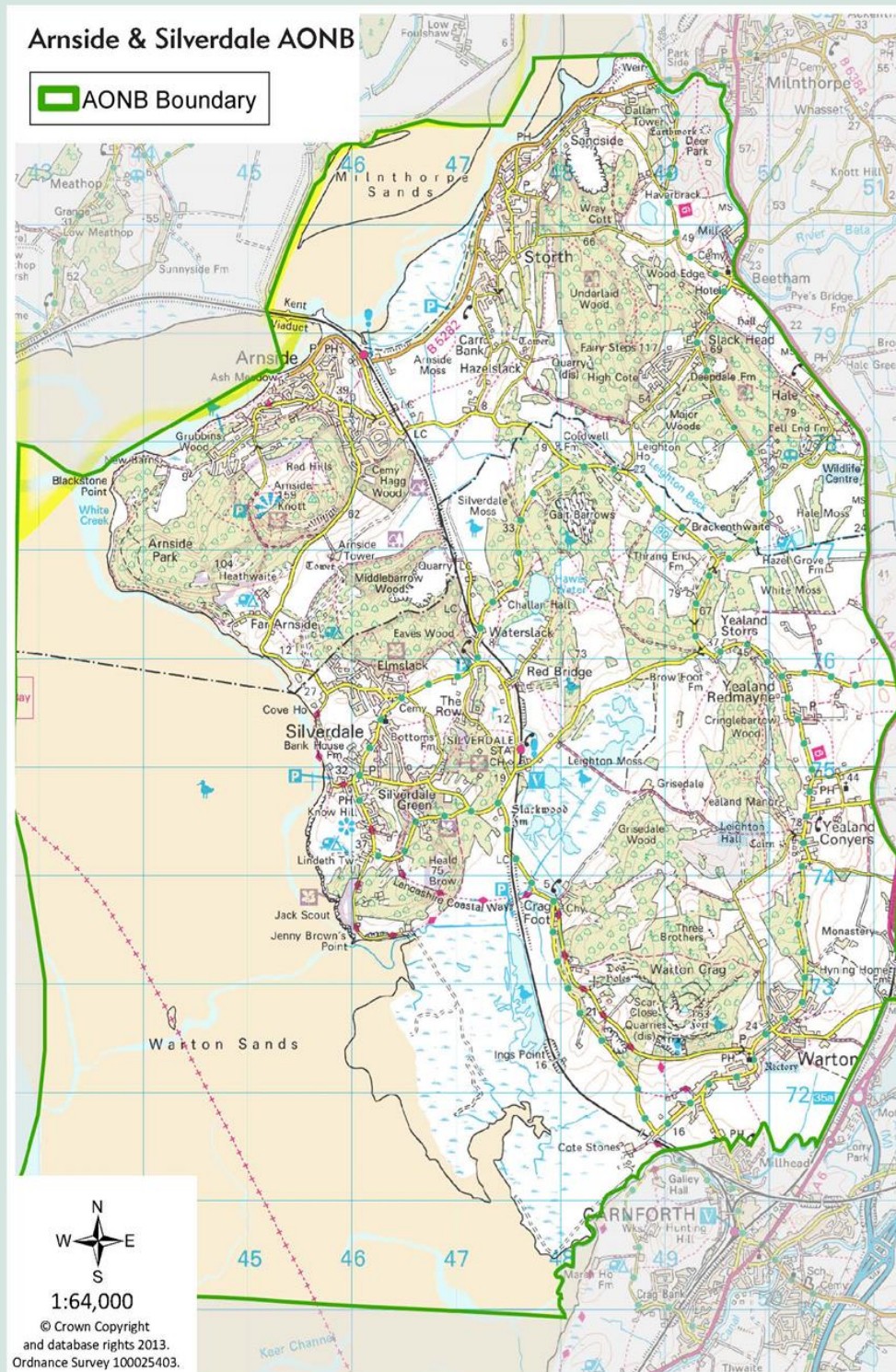


Image 1-1 AONB Boundary

- 1.2.3 SEA is a systematic process for evaluating the environmental consequences of plans and programmes to ensure that environmental issues are integrated and assessed at the earliest opportunity in the decision-making process. Article 1 of the SEA Directive states that the aim is to:

- 1.2.4 provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.
- 1.2.5 It is possible to combine the processes of SEA and SA because they share a number of similarities.
- 1.2.6 The guidance which requires that SA and SEA be conducted as a combined process (i.e. a process which assesses social, economic and environmental effects) is that published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)⁵. Whilst there are formalised approaches for both SA and SEA, only SEA has a legal obligation to perform certain activities. These legal obligations have been and will continue to be adhered to throughout the SA of the Local Plan. This SA Report includes a series of boxes which clearly identify the specific requirements of the SEA Regulations that need to be fulfilled.

1.3 Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.3.1 European Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna (the 'Habitats Directive') requires that any plan or programme likely to have a significant impact upon a Natura 2000 site (Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA)), which is not directly concerned with the management of the site for nature conservation, must be subject to an Appropriate Assessment. The overarching process is referred to as Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). In addition, it is a matter of law that candidate SACs (cSACs), Sites of Community Importance (SCI), Ramsar sites and potential SPAs (pSPAs) are also considered in this process.
- 1.3.2 HRA Screening has been undertaken to determine if the AONB DPD (either in isolation and/or in combination with other plans or projects) would generate an adverse impact upon the integrity of a Natura 2000 site, in terms of its conservation objectives and qualifying interests. Its findings have been used to influence this SA where appropriate. This process is documented in a separate report⁶ submitted to Natural England for approval.
- 1.3.3 The HRA Screening report is also available to statutory consultees, stakeholders and the public as part of the consultation, alongside this report and the DPD itself.

⁵ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal/sustainability-appraisal-requirements-for-local-plans/>

⁶ Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD HRA Screening Report (September 2016) – 201-UA001453-EEC-020F

2 Introduction to the AONB and the DPD

2.1 Introduction to the AONB

- 2.1.1 The Arnside & Silverdale area was designated as an AONB in 1972 under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act of 1949, in recognition of the outstanding qualities of its unique landscape.
- 2.1.2 The AONB extends to approximately 75 km², including 30 km² of intertidal sands and mudflats. This landscape is of national importance due to its special characteristics, which include an intimate mosaic of low limestone hills, woodland, wetland, pastures, limestone pavements, intertidal flats, coastal scenery and distinctive settlements.
- 2.1.3 The Arnside & Silverdale AONB is located in the North West of England. The AONB straddles the boundary between two districts (Lancaster City and South Lakeland District), and so falls between their two respective counties: Lancashire and Cumbria. The main settlements within the AONB area are Arnside, Warton, Silverdale and Storth & Sandside. The management of the AONB is co-ordinated by the Arnside & Silverdale AONB Partnership which is made up of the four responsible local authorities; Cumbria County Council, Lancashire County Council, Lancaster City Council, South Lakeland District Council, as well as statutory agencies, voluntary bodies, parish councils, businesses, user groups, landowners and farming representatives

AONB Designation

- 2.1.4 The primary purpose of the AONB designation is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area. This should be done whilst also taking account of the needs of agriculture, forestry, and other rural industries and of the economic and social needs of local communities. Sustainable development should be promoted within the AONB where this will conserve and enhance the environment.
- 2.1.5 AONBs are also designated by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as category V which is 'Protected Landscapes/Seascapes'. This is a worldwide category of protected areas where the 'the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant ecological, biological, cultural and scenic value'.
- 2.1.6 The fundamental principle underlying planning and development management in AONBs is that any new development within the AONB that has a materially adverse impact can only proceed where it is demonstrated that it satisfies an overriding national need. All development is expected to conform to a very high standard of design, to be in keeping with local distinctiveness and should seek to conserve and enhance the AONB's natural beauty. Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) places a duty on all local authorities, public bodies and statutory undertakers to pay 'due regard' to the purpose of AONB designation in carrying out their functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in AONBs. Planning policies for AONBs are contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans. The NPPF provides specific guidance for development planning and decision-making in relation to AONBs. It confirms that 'great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty' and that AONBs 'have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty'. The 'great weight test' is significant and is one of the most stringent legal tests that can be applied under planning law. In specific relation to major development, the NPPF states that planning permission should be refused for major developments in AONBs except in exceptional circumstances and where it can be demonstrated that they are in the public interest. The NPPF confirms that local planning authorities should set out the strategic priorities for their areas within Local Plans and accordingly deliver the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment, including landscape. The NPPF also confirms that:
- allocations of land for development should prefer land of lesser environmental value (counting AONBs as the highest value);
 - local authorities should set evidence and criteria based planning policies against which proposals for any development on or affecting landscape areas will be judged (development affecting AONBs includes impact on their setting); and
 - planning should contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment.

- 2.1.7 The physical landscape surrounding the AONB provides an impressive setting. Morecambe Bay sits to the west with coastal saltmarsh and intertidal flats partly within the AONB providing an area of 310 km² of mud and sand rich in estuarine diversity. Adjacent to the AONB to the northwest lies the Lake District National Park offering its stunning scenery, abundant wildlife and cultural heritage. To the southeast lies the Forest of Bowland AONB, offering a landscape important for heather moorland, blanket bog and rare birds, and the Yorkshire Dales which is a key focal point for tourism.

Natural Beauty and Special Qualities

- 2.1.8 The natural beauty of an AONB landscape is partly due to nature and is partly the product of many centuries of human modification. It encompasses natural and human factors that together make an area distinctive and 'special'. These 'special' qualities are what make the area nationally important and give a sense of place. The 'special' qualities are summarised below.

Outstanding Landscape and Spectacular Views

- 2.1.9 The landscape is a highly diverse mosaic of low limestone hills, woodlands, wetlands and mosses, pastures, limestone pavements, coastal cliffs and intertidal flats. Thousands of years of interaction between human activity and nature have shaped its character creating a living 'patchwork' of contrasting habitats criss-crossed by limestone field boundaries and hedgerows and interspersed with distinctive buildings and settlements.
- 2.1.10 Spectacular views over Morecambe Bay and towards the Lake District to the west and north, and towards the Yorkshire Dales and the Forest of Bowland to the east and south, give the area an impressive setting.
- 2.1.11 The small-scale yet complex nature of the landforms gives an intimate feeling within valleys and woodlands which contrasts with the open nature and expansive views from higher ground and along the coast.

Unique Limestone Geology

- 2.1.12 Rare and distinctive Carboniferous limestone geology underpins the natural beauty of the AONB and unifies its character. The limestone landscape is particularly unusual because its karst features were formed at low altitude and show clear evidence of glacial and postglacial processes. This combination of attributes makes Arnside & Silverdale AONB a nationally important geological asset.
- 2.1.13 The Carboniferous limestone bedrock was deposited more than 300 million years ago, when the region was located near the equator. Notable features include:
- Distinctive areas of limestone pavement, which are often covered by woodland but are sometimes open with only a scatter of ferns, herbs and stunted trees;
 - Low cliffs, which fringe the coast between Arnside and Silverdale;
 - Cave systems which have developed through solution-weathering of the limestone;
 - Exposed palaeokarst formations;
 - Extensive folding and faulting including the 'Silverdale Disturbance'; and
 - Notable fossil assemblage sites, particularly along the coastal margin.

Morecambe Bay – A Stunning Seascape

- 2.1.14 Morecambe Bay is the largest intertidal area in the UK where five estuaries meet in a horseshoe-shaped bay of spectacular scale and grandeur. Coastal saltmarsh and intertidal flats partly lie within the AONB but also extend westwards over a huge area (310km²) of mud and sand – a kaleidoscope of water and light; sea and sky; sound, texture and colour.
- 2.1.15 The coast is dominated by open skies that create an ever-changing backdrop: clear blue skies; swift-blown clouds on a windy day; blackening clouds before a storm; shafts of light shining through a gap in the cloud cover; or vivid sunsets which fill the sky and reflect on the shallow waters of the mudflats. Shining sandbanks, mudflats and constantly changing channels are alive with the evocative calls of curlews and flocks of waders and wildfowl keeping time with the ebb and flow of the tide.

Rare and Precious Habitats

- 2.1.16 One of the most striking features of the AONB is its incredible biodiversity. The outstanding number and mix of priority habitats, within a small area, create a mosaic that is home to an amazing diversity of wildlife. The variety and importance of wildlife in relation to the small size of the area is a unique quality of this AONB.
- 2.1.17 Of particular significance, for their extent and value, are:
- Native woodlands which include the fern and moss-rich ash woodlands typically found over limestone outcrops and pavement;
 - Lowland calcareous grassland usually dominated by blue moor-grass, with a wide range of characteristic herb species;
 - Lowland heathland which is unusual within a limestone setting but is found here in mosaic with limestone grassland;
 - Lowland fen and reedbeds, with the reedbed at Leighton Moss being the most extensive area of reedbed in North West England;
 - Limestone pavement, notably at Gait Barrows National Nature Reserve (NNR) which has the most botanically rich limestone pavement in England;
 - Maritime cliff and slopes which, around Morecambe Bay, support rare ledge and limestone grassland communities;
 - Coastal saltmarsh which is extremely important to roosting and breeding waterfowl and waders; and
 - Intertidal mudflats which stretch across Morecambe Bay creating one of the most important sites in England for wildfowl and wading birds.

Internationally and Nationally Important Species

- 2.1.18 The AONB is home to an amazing diversity of species, many of which are uncommon in a national or international context but thrive within the unique mosaic of habitats. The density of rare and protected species found within this small area is also of note. Over 100 species included on the list of England's priority species are known to occur regularly within the AONB.
- 2.1.19 The numbers and diversity of butterflies are particularly impressive with 34 species found in most years, including the nationally rare High Brown Fritillary, the nationally scarce Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Duke of Burgundy, White-letter Hairstreak and Northern Brown Argus, and one of only two English populations of Scotch Argus. Well over half the UK's flowering plant species have been recorded including the Lady's-slipper Orchid, the Lancaster Whitebeam which is found nowhere else in the world other than around Morecambe Bay, the Purple Ramping Fumitory which has a worldwide distribution restricted to the west of Britain, the east coast of Scotland and the east of Ireland, and the nationally scarce Blue Moor-grass which dominates the AONB's unimproved grasslands.
- 2.1.20 Notable breeding birds include several reed bed specialists which are found at Leighton Moss such as Bittern, Marsh Harrier and Bearded Tit. Others, such as Marsh Tit, are found throughout the limestone and wet woodlands, with the AONB being a stronghold for this Red List species. Internationally significant numbers of Oystercatcher can be found at high tide roosts on the coast each autumn and the intertidal flats are an important feeding station for long distance migrant wading birds such as Black-tailed Godwit, Knot and Dunlin.

Rich Sense of History

- 2.1.21 The heritage of the AONB is integral to its character and quality, creating 'time-depth' within the landscape. Field patterns reflect human occupation over several thousand years with significant areas classed as Ancient Enclosure dating back to the Middle Ages. The stone ramparts of an Iron Age hill fort are still visible today on Warton Crag.
- 2.1.22 Over a third of the AONB's now extensive woodlands are considered to be ancient woodland, where coppice workers produced both fuel and woodland products, with evidence of charcoal burners' pits and later iron workings.

- 2.1.23 Numerous small abandoned quarries can be found which were worked by individual farmers or local communities, whilst other quarries developed into large-scale extraction industries that are highly visible reminders of past and current industrial activity. As well as being used for construction of distinctive stone buildings and field-boundary walls, locally quarried limestone was fired in limekilns and used for mortar, lime-wash and as a soil conditioner. There are 36 known limekiln sites in the AONB, most of which are substantial limestone built structures and important landscape and industrial heritage features.
- 2.1.24 Historic designed landscapes at Leighton Hall, Hazelwood Hall and Hyning Park are of significance and the registered parkland at Dallam Park is nationally important.

Distinctive Settlement Character

- 2.1.25 Stone buildings and settlements created during the last 800 years contribute strongly to the character and quality of the landscape through the design, construction and detailing of individual buildings, the form, layout and pattern of villages and hamlets and the settings of many of the buildings.
- 2.1.26 Much of the vernacular building style dates back to medieval times, when some of the earliest stone buildings were built, such as Hazelslack Tower, Arnside Tower, much of Leighton Hall, Beetham Hall and a number of farmsteads. The presence of date stones, small 'fire windows', hood mouldings constructed over windows and 'slobbered masonry' used to weatherproof limestone rubble-wall buildings, demonstrate a strong local tradition that continued to be used by later generations, developing a local style of building that remains a key characteristic of the AONB.
- 2.1.27 The earliest settlements, at Warton, Yealand Redmayne, Beetham and Hale, have a distinctive historic character, retaining a medieval linear form with a characteristic 'main street' that is still clearly evident.

Strong Community and Culture

- 2.1.28 Vibrant communities exist within each of the villages and there is also a shared identity with parishes coming together as part of the AONB, strongly connected to the landscape. Working the land is the foundation of the rural economy and the long-standing cultures of low-intensity pasture management and woodland coppice management have created important habitats upon which many of today's notable species depend.
- 2.1.29 There are many opportunities for people to get involved, learn about and actively participate in the conservation of the area. There are numerous local groups and societies that provide activities based on, and which support interest in, the AONB, such as natural history, local history, ornithology, sustainability and walking groups and societies. There is high community awareness of the area's unique qualities and of its designation as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- 2.1.30 The AONB has become an important locus for scientific investigation and education due to its outstanding wildlife and geology. Many artists and crafts people choose to live and work in the area, attracted by its scenic beauty, wildlife and quality of light. Cultural events with a distinct AONB focus, such as Greenwood Fairs and Apple Days, have flourished and Festivals promoting increased understanding of and connection to the area's special qualities have become annual calendar fixtures.
- 2.1.31 The historic crossing of the Morecambe Bay sands is unique; the route is extremely hazardous due to quick-sand, moving channels and fast incoming tides, and led to the royal appointment of the first official guide in 1548. The 'Queen's Guide to the Sands' still regularly guides groups safely across the sands today.
- 2.1.32 The Furness Railway line influenced local settlement development and still provides an important transport link which reinforces economic and social connections to neighbouring areas.

Opportunities to Enjoy the Countryside

- 2.1.33 The area offers wonderful opportunities to enjoy quiet recreation such as walking, cycling, wildlife watching and horse riding. The network of narrow lanes and minor highways is one of the delights of the area and, along with an intricate web of public rights of way, access land and other paths,

provides many opportunities for people to come into close contact with the area's wildlife, geology and history, providing inspiring learning opportunities and engaging visitors with the landscape.

- 2.1.34 Existing access to the coast enables visitors to experience the strong contrast between the landscape and the seascape and this will be enhanced by the future development of the England Coast Path.
- 2.1.35 Attractions, such as Leighton Hall, RSPB Leighton Moss Reserve and the Wildlife Oasis draw people to the AONB and enhance the visitor experience.

Sense of Tranquillity, Space and Place

- 2.1.36 The AONB is a place for inspiration, spiritual refreshment, dark skies at night and clear, unpolluted air. People come here to relax, unwind and recharge their batteries, to get close to nature, breathe in the fresh sea air and absorb exhilarating wide open views. Tranquillity and a sense of space are easy to find both in the intimate inland landscape and on the hills and open coast.
- 2.1.37 The area's distinctive character and unique combination of scenery, history, abundance of wildlife, peace and quiet, and culture make the AONB unique. For many, this very particular sense of place is the primary motivation to visit and creates a strong connection with and love for this landscape.

A Highly Designated Area

- 2.1.38 A measure of how important the area is for its biological, geological and historical interest is provided by the number and extent of locally, nationally and internationally designated sites which lie within the AONB:
- 49% of the total AONB area is designated under European directive for its habitat, species or bird interest;
 - 54% of the AONB is covered by national Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) designation;
 - A further 12% of the AONB has been identified as Local Wildlife Sites by Lancashire and Cumbria County Councils;
 - Over 15% of the AONB is covered by Limestone Pavement Orders;
 - 7 sites covering nearly 6% of the area of the AONB are designated as Local Geological Sites;
 - There are 10 Scheduled Monuments, 114 Listed Buildings, and 1 Registered Park and Garden; and
 - Village Conservation Areas have also been identified for their built heritage value.
- 2.1.39 The special qualities are described in more detail in a report which accompanies the Management Plan. Consultation has been carried out on the above special qualities.

Pressures

- 2.1.40 These special qualities that make the AONB worthy of its designation are vulnerable to a wide range of pressures. These pressures can come from development, recreation, changes in woodland management and agricultural practices. Positive management is therefore required to conserve and enhance the natural environment and the AONBs distinctive character.
- 2.1.41 Around 14% of businesses are involved in tourism and this accounts for nearly a fifth of total employment within the AONB. Opportunities exist to develop nature tourism within the AONB, however, this must not compromise the area's special qualities.

2.2 Background to and purpose of the AONB DPD

- 2.2.1 The AONB straddles the boundary between two counties (Lancashire and Cumbria) and two Districts (Lancaster and South Lakeland). Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Council are responsible for preparing Local Plans and determining planning applications in their areas. A Local Plan sets out what development is needed in an area and contains policies to ensure that those needs are met in a sustainable way. Local Plans are used to determine planning applications and also to influence infrastructure provision and environmental management. A Development Plan Document (DPD) is part of the statutory Local Plan. Together, the Councils are preparing a DPD for

the Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB area to help set out these specific development needs and policies for the AONB area.

2.2.2 Therefore, the reasons for preparing the AONB DPD are as follows.

- While the AONB is an area of National Landscape Importance, it is relatively small and lies on the edge of both Districts. This means that district-wide Local Plans for Lancaster and South Lakeland would not have the AONB as their main focus. **An AONB DPD can focus on the AONB and have its conservation and enhancement at its heart.**
- The **AONB DPD** is an important means of implementing the AONB Management Plan and will give **statutory development plan policy force** to some of the principles of the management plan when planning applications are considered.
- The **special character of the AONB** requires a different approach to local planning to that outside nationally important landscapes, an issue that was raised by the Inspector considering South Lakeland's Local Plan Land Allocations document.
- Councils and other public bodies now have a **duty to co-operate**, which means that, in areas where planning issues cross boundaries, they must work together.
- **Policies and decisions need to be consistent** across the whole of the AONB in respect of the conservation significances and the response to development pressures.
- **The communities within the AONB have a strong desire to be involved in shaping its future.** The AONB Partnership provides a strong and well established forum to bring the communities together.
- The compact size of the AONB and its complex self-contained inter-relationships and related settlement characters give a **strong sense of unity and cohesiveness** to the AONB.

2.2.3 This will be the first AONB DPD in England.

2.3 Pre-existing Plans & Strategies

2.3.1 In order to give the SA of the emerging AONB DPD context and ensure an informed view of current issues and management strategies, various plans and strategies which currently exist and may affect the AONB have been reviewed. The documents are listed below and a number of them have been subject to SA or SEA. The SA of the AONB DPD will draw extensively from this existing suite of SA/SEA work and will seek consistency with it where possible.

The Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB Management Plan

2.3.2 This is a statutory document and is prepared by the AONB Partnership.

2.3.3 The current AONB Management Plan was adopted in 2014 and covers the period 2014 to 2019. The Management Plan sets out strategies and actions which it aims to deliver within the AONB. These are to:

- conserve and enhance the natural beauty and special qualities of the AONB;
- promote and support sustainable agriculture, forestry and other rural industries;
- promote the social and economic wellbeing of people living within the AONB;
- increase public understanding and enjoyment of the AONB; and
- meet the recreational needs of local residents and visitors alike – where these are compatible with the purpose of AONB designation.

The Lancaster District Local Plan

2.3.4 The Lancaster District Local Plan is currently in preparation. Two key points are relevant to the management of the AONB.

2.3.5 Firstly, the Lancaster District Core Strategy (2008) which sets out the overall development strategy and vision, identifies the AONB as a key element of the District's environmental capital, identifies the need for a spatial strategy for the AONB and identifies Silverdale as one of a number of sustainable villages in the district where new development would be supported in principle.

- 2.3.6 Secondly is the Lancaster District Local Plan Development Management DPD (adopted December 2014). This includes a general policy on landscape considerations including development in AONBs – specifically that development of new or on existing caravan sites is to take place within the AONB. No sites are allocated for development within the AONB in this DPD. The settlement hierarchy for the district was expanded as part of the Development Management document and now also includes Warton as one of the district's sustainable rural settlements. There are also a number of policies saved from the Adopted 1997 Local Plan (not subject to SA/SEA) including Policy E3 which does not permit development that would directly or indirectly have a significant adverse effect upon the character or harm the landscape quality, nature conservation interests or features of geological importance within the AONB.
- 2.3.7 Lancaster City Council is currently in the process of updating its Local Plan to create a new Part 1 and Part 2 which will contain revised policies and allocations.

The South Lakeland Local Plan

- 2.3.8 The relevant parts of the South Lakeland Local Plan are as follows.
- 2.3.9 Firstly, the Core Strategy (adopted October 2010) which recognises and safeguards the special characteristics of the AONB and identifies Arnside and Storth/Sandside as Local Service Centres.
- 2.3.10 The Local Plan Land Allocations (adopted December 2013) refers to the issues the AONB DPD will address, and will be superseded within the AONB by the AONB DPD. The Land Allocations plan does not allocate sites in the AONB. A Development Management Policies DPD is also currently at the Publication stage.
- 2.3.11 Finally, there are saved policies of the adopted 1997 South Lakeland Local Plan (saved Local Plan 2006); note that this has not been subject to SA or SEA, as it pre-dates the legislation. This includes Development Management Policies identifying green spaces and an unimplemented allocation of land for local employment use at Quarry Lane, Storth.
- 2.3.12 The above saved Local Plan policies are due to be replaced by the South Lakeland Development Management Policies document – draft policies for this plan are due to be consulted upon in autumn / winter 2016. This will also carry forward the extant allocation of the saved Local Plan.

2.4 Outline of the Draft DPD

- 2.4.1 The Draft DPD includes the following sections:
1. Introduction
 2. Vision and Objectives
 3. Overall Strategy
 4. Policy Issues
 5. Proposed Development Allocations
 6. Policy Areas Not Covered in the DPD
 7. Monitoring and Implementation Framework
 8. Appendices
- 2.4.2 The vision, objectives, policy areas and proposed development allocations are summarised below:

DPD Vision and Objectives

- 2.4.3 The vision for the DPD is set out below.

Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is a landscape of international importance, whose distinctive character is conserved and enhanced for future generations. It is a place that is much loved and highly valued for its strong sense of place, unique geology, rich wildlife and cultural heritage and the benefits it provides to society.

Its distinctive landscape character - an intimate mosaic of low limestone hills, woodland, wetland, pastures, limestone pavements, intertidal flats, coastal scenery and distinctive settlements - is enjoyed, cherished and conserved by those who live in, work in and visit the area.

The high quality landscape supports and is supported by the area's thriving rural economy and vibrant diverse local communities.

There are many and varied opportunities for people to access, enjoy and understand the area's Special Qualities, and participate in their conservation, creating a strong connection with nature and the landscape.

Challenges and pressures are effectively and sensitively managed in an integrated way through a partnership approach. The area's natural and cultural assets are managed and used wisely for future generations.

2.4.4 The objectives of the DPD are set out below:

- (I) To conserve and enhance the landscape, and the natural beauty of the AONB, including landscape character and visual amenity, wildlife, geology, heritage and settlement character;
 - (II) To ensure that all development is appropriate and sustainable in its location and design and is of high quality;
 - (III) To ensure that planning policy is shaped by effective community engagement;
 - (IV) To provide sufficient supply and mix of high quality housing to contribute to meeting the needs of the AONB's communities, with an emphasis on affordable housing and without adverse impact on the landscape character of the AONB;
 - (V) To support rural employment and livelihoods, and sustainable tourism;
 - (VI) To provide the necessary services and infrastructure to support both existing and new development;
- To support the development of a safe and sustainable transport network, including paths and cycleways, to improve connectivity, reduce the need to travel and encourage sustainable forms of transport.

Policy Issues

2.4.5 The following policies are included in the Draft DPD:

- AS01 Development Strategy
- AS02 Landscape
- AS03 Housing Provision
- AS04 Natural Environment
- AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation
- AS06 Key Settlement Landscapes
- AS07 Historic Environment
- AS08 Design
- AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities
- AS10 Infrastructure for New Development
- AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation
- AS12 Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage
- AS13 Energy and Communications
- AS14 Advertising and Signage

Proposed Development Allocations

2.4.6 The following proposed development allocations are included in the Draft DPD:

AS15– Proposed Housing Allocations				
Site Ref.	Parish	Name	Ha.	Estimated no. of dwellings
AS17	Arnside	Land Off Queen's Drive	0.12	6
AS18	Arnside	Land on Hollins Lane	0.22	6
AS19	Arnside	Land on Briery Bank	0.27	8
AS20	Beetham	Land on Church Street	0.21	6
AS21	Warton	Land North West of Sand Lane	0.41	12
AS22	Warton	Land North of 17 Market Street	0.7	10

AS16 – Proposed Mixed-Use Allocations				
Site Ref.	Parish	Name	Ha.	Proposal
AS23	Arnside	Station Yard	1.03	Car parking, employment, community/visitor facilities and rail access. Possible residential or live-work
AS24	Silverdale	Silverdale Railway Goods Yard	0.36	Employment and car parking
AS25	Beetham	Land on Sandside Road and Quarry Lane	3.10	Employment, Residential, community facilities and access

2.4.7 Site Mini-Briefs have been prepared for:

AS17 –Land Off Queen's Drive, Arnside
 AS18 –Land on Hollins Lane, Arnside
 AS19 – Land on Briery Bank, Arnside
 AS20 –Land at Church Street, Beetham
 AS21 –Land North West of Sand Lane, Warton
 AS22 – Land North of 17 Main Street, Warton
 AS23 –Station Yard, Arnside
 AS24 – Land at the Railway Goods Yard, Silverdale
 AS25 –Land at Sandside Road and Quarry Lane, Sandside

3 The SA Process

3.1 Stages in the SA Process

- 3.1.1 Government guidance subdivides the SA process into a series of stages. Whilst each stage consists of specific tasks, the intention should be that the process is iterative. Table 3-1 presents the key stages in the SA process and indicates where specific tasks have been addressed in this SA Report. The table also demonstrates how each of the SA stages is linked to the preparation and development of the Local Plan.

Table 3-1 Stages in the SA Process

SA Stage	SEA Regulations Requirements The environment report must:...	Section of the Report (where applicable)	Application to AONB DPD SA
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope			
A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives	...describe "the relationship (of the plan or programme) with other relevant plans and programmes" (Schedule 2-1) ...describe "the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation" (Schedule 2-5)	Chapter 2 and Appendix B	Stage A corresponds to the scoping stage of the SA and the findings of this stage are presented in the Scoping Report which was, most recently, consulted upon for a six-week period in Nov.-Dec. 2015. During this stage, the scope of the SA was defined. Comments received on the proposed SA scope have been taken into account, and incorporated into this SA Report where applicable.
A2: Collecting baseline information	...describe "relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without its implementation of the plan or programme" (Schedule 2-2) and, 'the environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected' (Schedule 2-3)	Chapter 2 and Appendix C	
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems	...describe "any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC" (Schedule 2-4)	Chapter 3	
A4: Developing the SA Framework	...provide "a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information" (Schedule 2-8)	Chapter 3, Appendix D	
A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA	...allow that the authorities referred to in Regulation 4 are consulted when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report. (Regulation 12-5))	Chapter 3, Appendix C	

SA Stage	SEA Regulations Requirements The environment report must:...	Section of the Report (where applicable)	Application to AONB DPD SA
Stage B: Developing and Refining Options and Assessing Effects			
B1: Testing the Plan objectives against the SA Framework	...“identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of”: “reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme” ...and...“ implementing the plan or programme...” (Regulation 12-(2)) ...give “an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with” Schedule 2-8	Chapters 4 to 6	Stage B of the SA process is linked to the overall production of the Local Plan which includes the development of plan options and the selection of the revised preferred option. There has been interaction between the plan-making and SA teams during Stage B which has enabled potential adverse effects of the Local Plan to be avoided / minimised and potential sustainability benefits maximised. Stage B is the primary assessment stage of the SA process and is the main output of this report.
B2: Developing the Plan Options			
B3: Predicting the effects of the Plan			
B4: Evaluating the effects of the Plan			
B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects	...describe “measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme...” Schedule 2-7	Appendices E, F and G	
B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Plan.	... provide “a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring” Schedule 2-9		
Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report			
C1: Preparing the SA Report	... include “the information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process in order to avoid duplication...”. Details of the information to be given in the Environmental Report are provided in Schedule 2.	This Report	This SA Report has been produced in line with the requirements of the SEA Regulations for producing an Environmental Report. A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) is also provided.
Stage D: Consultation on the Preferred Option Local Plan and the SA Report			
D1: Public participation on the proposed submission documents	... provide that statutory authorities and the public are given ‘ <i>early and effective opportunity within time frames to express their opinions</i> ’	N/A	This SA Report and the DPD are being consulted upon in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
D2: Appraising significant changes resulting from representations	N/A	Future stage	This SA Report will be updated to reflect comments received from the consultation.

SA Stage	SEA Regulations Requirements The environment report must:...	Section of the Report (where applicable)	Application to AONB DPD SA
D3: Making decisions and providing information		Future stage	Reasons for selecting preferred options in light of the SA findings and consultation on the SA will be documented.
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan			
E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring	N/A for the Environmental Report. The requirement is as follows: <i>"The responsible authority shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of each plan or programme with the purpose of identifying unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and being able to undertake appropriate remedial action"</i> (Regulation 17)	Chapter 6	Monitoring to be undertaken of environmental performance of the DPD should be proposed.
E2: Responding to adverse effects		Monitoring will commence once the Local Plan has been adopted.	

3.2 Stage A: Setting the Context and Objectives, Establishing the Baseline and Deciding on the Scope

Geographical Scope of the SA

3.2.1 The geographical scope of the SA has been driven by the geographical scope of the AONB DPD – i.e. the whole of the AONB. Regarding the allocations element of the DPD, the SA has considered the spatial extent of their likely impacts. In some cases, this has remained local to the site in question, whereas in other cases, the impacts of the allocation are predicted to be felt over a wider area, including potentially outside the AONB. Similarly, the cumulative effects of a number of allocations may result in impacts occurring over a wider area. These have also been considered in the SA.

Temporal Scope of the SA

3.2.2 The DPD is intended to cover a 15-year period, and so the timescale reflected in the SA is 2016 – 2031. If there are likely to be any sustainability effects of the DPD that would last longer than this, these have also been considered.

Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Objectives

3.2.3 The box below stipulates the SEA Regulations' requirements for this stage of the process.

Box 1: SEA Regulations' Requirements for the Review of Plans Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives

The SEA Regulations require that the SEA covers:

'an outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes' (Schedule 2-1).

'the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation' (Schedule 2-5)

3.2.4 A review of other plans and programmes that may affect the preparation of the DPD was undertaken in order to contribute to the development of both the SA and the plan itself. This included:

- Identification of any external social, environmental or economic objectives, indicators or targets that should be reflected in the SA process;
- Identification of any baseline data relevant to the SA;
- Identification of any external factors that might influence the preparation of the plan, for example sustainability issues;
- Identification of any external objectives or aims that would contribute positively to the development of the Local Plan; and
- Determining whether there are clear potential conflicts or challenges between other identified plans, programmes or sustainability objectives and the emerging DPD.

3.2.5 The review included documents prepared at international, national, regional (sub-regional) and local scale. A brief summary of the documents reviewed and the main findings are summarised in Table 3-2. Further details are presented in Appendix B.

Table 3-2 Summary Description of the Plans and Programmes Reviewed

Level	Summary
International Plans and Programmes	A review was undertaken of key International Conventions and European Directives that could potentially influence the development of the DPD and the SA. European Directives are transposed into national legislation in each individual Member State and, therefore, there should be a trickle-down effect of the key principles and an application to the relevant national, regional and local circumstances in other planning documents.
National and Regional Plans and Programmes	A review was also undertaken of relevant plans and strategies. These included the UK Sustainable Development Strategy which outlines the over-arching Government objective to raise the quality of life in our communities. The Climate Change Act which commits the UK to action in mitigating the impacts of climate change and the National Planning Policy Framework which sets out the Government's economic, environmental and social planning policies for England.
Local Policy	Plans are produced at the local level to specifically address issues that are important locally through a number of policy documents relating to the economy; health; safety; tourism; sustainable communities; housing; employment, physical activity and environmental aspects such as biodiversity, landscape and seascape, climate change among others. Local Plans considered here are; the Arnside & Silverdale AONB Management Plan; the South Lakeland Local Plan and the Lancaster City Council Local Plan (including their component parts). The Arnside & Silverdale AONB Management Plan sets out a framework that gives guidance and direction towards achieving the long term 'Vision' for the Arnside & Silverdale AONB. The DPD and the SA should draw from these documents and transpose their aims in their policies and proposals. These local plans have been instrumental in the development of the SA Framework (refer to Section 6). These plans, should in theory have included the main influences of international, national, regional and county level plans through the 'trickle-down effect'. They should also provide more of a local focus for the AONB. It is, through identifying these themes and incorporating them into the DPD that synergies can be achieved with other relevant documents. County level documents are also considered where relevant including, for example, county level landscape strategies and minerals plans.

3.2.6 The key results of the review can be summarised as follows:

Social

- The need to ensure that new housing development meets local needs (for all sections of society).
- Recognising the importance of open spaces, sport and recreation and the contribution that they make to enhancing quality of life.
- Raising levels of health and well-being and promoting greater levels of physical activity.
- The need to improve educational attainment and levels of numeracy and literacy.
- The need to promote more sustainable transport choices and to improve accessibility.
- The enhanced coastal access as a result of the Marine and Coastal Act 2009 gives a change in recreational use of Morecambe Bay and needs to be well managed.

Economic

- The need for long-term sustainable patterns of development that provide for the economic and social needs of all populations.
- Promoting sustainable rural economic development that supports social and environmental objectives.
- A key component of the AONB economy is tourism with 14% of businesses involved in this.
- To promote and enhance a sustainable tourism economy within the AONB without compromising the special qualities of the AONBs landscape.
- The need to broaden the economic base of rural areas and promote economic inclusion.

Environmental

- Conserve and enhance the special landscape of the AONB, more specifically its distinctive character and natural beauty.
- Conserve and enhance the distinctive settlement character in the AONB.
- The need to protect and enhance the unique historic environment of the AONB and cultural heritage assets.
- To protect and conserve landscape features contributing to the industrial heritage of the AONB including limekilns, quarries and mineral railways.
- To protect and conserve landscape features which contribute to local special character within the AONB such as drystone walls, hedgerows and in field trees.
- The need to ensure the siting, design, scale and materials of a development are of a character that enhances the quality of the landscape whilst being sympathetic to the AONBs special qualities.
- The need to enable developments that positively enhance the special qualities of the AONB.
- The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity (including flora and fauna), the priority species and priority habitats within the AONB and the geodiversity as an integral part of economic, social and environmental development.
- The need to protect and enhance biodiversity resources particularly sites of international importance e.g. Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites and Morecambe Bay which is a Nature Improvement Area.
- The importance of preserving the large and internationally renowned areas of wetland habitat.
- The need to create and enhance green infrastructure, habitat connectivity, multi-functionality of green infrastructure and priority habitats.
- To ensure soil resources are protected and geodiversity is conserved and enhanced including, in particular the areas of limestone pavement.
- The need to promote and protect the water environment including issues such as water quality and resource use.
- The prudent use and need to reduce the use of natural resources. Recycling and reuse opportunities should be sought.
- The need to promote sensitive waste management.
- The need to reduce flood risk within the AONB from surface run off and coastal processes.
- Promoting sustainable design and improving energy efficiency.
- The need to address and prevent further erosion of the coastal zone through natural processes affecting access.
- The need to mitigate and adapt to climate change incorporating the use of measures such as sustainable drainage features.
- The need for the conservation and enhancement of the quality, distinctiveness and character of rural areas.
- Conserving and enhancing the setting of the AONB and also views into, across and out of the area.
- Enhancing the resilience of ecological networks.

- 3.2.7 The European Spatial Development Perspective adopted in 1999, identified a potential conflict that is likely to prevail in all countries, irrespective of their location and this concerns balancing the social and economic claims for spatial development with an area's ecological and cultural functions to ensure that the most sustainable patterns of development are achieved. Through the SA process and the inclusion of suitable sustainability objectives, indicators and targets it should be possible to identify where potential issues and conflicts may arise and to develop suitable policy modifications and mitigation measures.

The Sustainability Baseline and Key Sustainability Issues

- 3.2.8 Box 2 defines the SEA Regulations requirements for this element of the process.

Box 2: SEA Regulations Requirements for Baseline Data Collation

'the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected' (Schedule 2-3)
'any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds(a) and the Habitats Directive. (Schedule 2-4).

Methodology

- 3.2.9 Characterising the environmental and sustainability baseline, issues and context is an essential part of developing the SA Framework. It comprises the following key elements:
- Characterising the current state of the environment of the AONB including social and economic aspects; and
 - Using this information to identify existing problems and opportunities that could be considered in the DPD.
- 3.2.10 The environmental, social and economic baseline was characterised through the following methods:
- Review of relevant local, regional, national and international plans, strategies and programmes; and
 - Data research based around a series of baseline indicators developed from the SEA Regulations topics (biodiversity, population, human health, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, and landscape), the Government's guidance and the data available for the AONB. Data was also collated for additional socio-economic topic areas including deprivation, housing and employment to ensure that a broad range of environmental, social and economic issues were considered.
- 3.2.11 The collation of baseline data also enabled the identification of key sustainability issues and opportunities affecting the AONB.
- 3.2.12 Appendix A summarises the key baseline trends across the AONB. Each section is subdivided to present the following:
- The baseline indicators that have been used (some are also contextual indicators and may not actually form part of the SA Framework);
 - Descriptive text, graphs and statistics about the AONB; and
 - Key data gaps.
- 3.2.13 Sustainability issues and opportunities identified from the baseline review are detailed below.
- 3.2.14 The SEA Directive requires 'material assets' to be considered within the SA. Material assets refer to the stock of valuable assets within a study area and can include many things from valuable landscapes, natural and cultural heritage through to housing stock, schools, hospitals and quality agricultural land. It is considered that the material assets of the AONB are appropriately covered in the following baseline sections, and consequently will not be repeated as a separate section:
- Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna;
 - Soils and Geology;

- Cultural Heritage;
- Landscape;
- Housing; and
- Transportation.

3.2.15 The AONB straddles two Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) and as such data collection for the baseline has been based largely on data for Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA). This has been because difficulties have arisen in separating statistical data for each respective LPA for specifically only the AONB area.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

3.2.16 Table 3-3 presents the key sustainability issues and opportunities for the AONB. In addition to written baseline information, Appendix A contains figures which illustrate some of the data, including designated nature conservation sites, heritage and landscape features. The below results from baseline data research conducted as part of the SA Scoping study for the AONB DPD conducted in 2015. It is recognised that more up-to-date data and information may be available – a comprehensive update will be conducted at an appropriate time, if needed to support planning policy development or changes. In the meantime, small, individual updates will be made (e.g. pursuant to consultation) where the new information is specifically identified or is material to the SA.

Table 3-3 Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

Topic	Summary
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The AONB has fewer children and younger people and a greater percentage of people over 65 than Cumbria, Lancashire or nationally. ▪ This is likely to have impacts on areas, such as: availability of health care provision, access to services, strain on public transport systems, labour force deficiencies, housing supply and need.
Education and Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational attainment in the AONB is good compared to regional and national levels and should be maintained. ▪ Low level of people with no qualifications and a good level of people with higher qualification attainment for the AONB when compared with national data. ▪ Access to education should be maintained with growth in population within the AONB in order to ensure education provision continues to meet the needs of the local population.
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall health in the area is very good. ▪ The percentage of people reported to be in 'very good', 'good' or 'fair' health is slightly above that in Cumbria and nationally and significantly above that in Lancashire. ▪ A growing older population is likely to increase pressure on local health provision. Coupled with the rural nature of the AONB this could potentially become a difficult issue to tackle – it is a problem experienced more widely in South Lakeland, for example. ▪ Access to doctor's surgeries and dentists within the rural areas is more limited and could be improved. This is particularly important for the AONB's elderly population. ▪ The rural nature of the AONB could mean healthcare issues may become a difficult to tackle logistically. ▪ There are opportunities to further promote access to outdoor recreational pursuits in open areas within the AONB to benefit the health of the local population. ▪ There are also opportunities to further promote walking and cycling across the AONB.
Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Crime levels in the AONB are lower than national and regional levels. ▪ Anti-social behaviour makes up the largest proportion of offences within the AONB. Further work is needed to reduce such problems ▪ Although incidences of crime and disorder are not high in the AONB, its rural nature means that there is a need to ensure that access routes, footpaths etc. are well marked and not unduly isolated to reduce opportunities for crime. ▪ There is a need to ensure that communities are safe working and living environments.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bad surface water quality, particularly in Leighton Beck (a SSSI, SPA and SAC) is an issue in the AONB. Hawes Water and Leighton Moss and The Pool are internationally designated nature conservation sites. Both have recorded water qualities of Moderate with Leighton Moss and The

Topic	Summary
	<p>Pool declining from Good between 2013 and 2016 .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal flooding poses a risk to the area however risk of fluvial flooding is low. Appropriate upland 'soft' management techniques should be undertaken together with any necessary 'hard' management to ensure the area is adequately safeguarded from the risk of flooding – particularly with increased flood risks associated with modern day climate change. Any 'hard' management should however carefully consider the local landscape and seascape and designs should be sympathetic in order to reduce any potentially negative impacts on the AONB. Opportunities should be sought to tackle the main contributory factors to poor water quality. These include agricultural run-off and septic tank overflow. New developments and households within the area should be encouraged to minimise water use and to re-use rainwater where possible i.e. grey water recycling systems. When considering additional housing in Silverdale, the issue of septic tanks and impact on water quality in the estuary should be considered and the potential connection to mains sewerage. Areas at risk from flooding should be protected from development that would increase that risk. New developments should be encouraged to use green infrastructure such as SuDS to manage runoff and further reduce flood risk. There has been no change in licensing strategies indicating that there is no particular or increasing pressure on water resources in AONB area.
Soils and Land Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area contains a number of important geological and SSSI designations, particularly its limestone pavements which are offered protection under limestone pavement orders, of which there are 16 within the AONB. Opportunities should be sought to conserve and enhance these important sites/resource for the area. Woodlands cover approximately a third of the area of the AONB. Diseases such as Chalara dieback (Ash Dieback) are not present within the AONB but as ash woodlands are the dominant woodland type within the AONB this is a key issue which should be monitored. High synthetic fertiliser/pesticide/herbicide etc. application rates can cause detrimental impacts on soils and surrounding watercourses. Although this is a problem in the area, manure spreading is much more prevalent and can lead to manure run-off from farm fields and pollution to nearby water courses. To protect the soils, and the surrounding landscape, application of substances should be regulated and minimised wherever possible. The Code of Good Agricultural Practice (CoGAP) states techniques for minimising odour and ammonia losses and should be followed. The use of Agri-environment payments to help minimise these adverse impacts/risk should be maximised. Two SSSI designations are of geological interest within the AONB together with Local Geological/Geodiversity Sites (LGS). These designated sites are all in positive or favourable condition. The Agricultural Land Classification within the AONB states no Grade 1 or Grade 2 soils are present. However, the Agricultural Land Classification within the AONB identifies 32% of the terrestrial AONB as Grade 3 (good/moderate), Permeant pasture provides effective erosion control often on vulnerable sites. Climate change is causing more severe droughts and more extreme rainfall events. To protect the AONB's soils from suffering from either or both of these impacts active management should be undertaken to protect the landscape. Opportunities should be sought to protect and enhance important sites, designations and resources for the area. Where previously developed sites exist, the aim should be to continue to remediate and re-use them, although this decision should be made on a site-by-site basis as some brownfield sites may now have developed significant biodiversity interests.
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no Air Quality Management Areas within the AONB. Effects on European sites from air pollution should be considered to ensure development does not adversely impact these designations. Air quality across the AONB and the surrounding region is good with pollutants below objectives set and classified as 'safe', and this is not likely to change given the likely size of any future development.
Energy and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predicted climate changes have the potential to impact on many aspects of the AONB including biodiversity, agriculture, forestry, human health and the historic environment. Climate change could lead to potential changes in species ranges and abundance as well as timing of biological events due to an increase in temperature.

Topic	Summary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loss of intertidal habitat as a result of sea level rises could present a constraining issue for species. ▪ Temperature changes could affect farming and forestry in the longer term. ▪ Damage may be more likely to the historic environment due to waterlogging and new pest species which affect the integrity of recognised sites. ▪ Reducing the carbon footprint through energy conservation and efficiency and the promotion of appropriate renewable energy sources should be a priority for the area. ▪ There is a need to increase the production of energy from low carbon and appropriate renewable sources. ▪ New developments should be encouraged to include sustainable design principles. ▪ Reducing motorised road transport on the AONB's roads and encouraging more sustainable modes of transport would contribute to reducing the effects of climate change. ▪ Due care must be given to the conservation of biodiversity, landscape and heritage resources when identifying sites for renewable energy projects. ▪ Green infrastructure is important and delivers a number of multifunctional benefits – Note this is a cross-cutting issue.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The AONB's natural environment is central to its character and designation. Conserving and enhancing it is paramount to the AONB's future. ▪ There is a large percentage of nationally and locally protected areas, species and habitats present within the AONB. ▪ There are four Natura 2000 sites: two SACs - Morecambe Bay and Morecambe Bay Pavements and two SPAs - Morecambe Bay (also part of a potential SPA (pSPA)⁷) and Leighton Moss. The latter two are also Ramsar sites. ▪ There are 19 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) (two of which are designated for geological reasons) which cover 54% of the whole AONB and 4026 ha; one NNR; and 64 Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs) which cover 20% of the terrestrial AONB and 888 ha. ▪ Woodlands cover around a third of the terrestrial AONB. Active woodland management has increased over recent years but 46% of the total woodland area is currently unmanaged. The area also contains a large number of other priority habitats. ▪ Diseases such as Chalara dieback (Ash Dieback) are not present within the AONB but as ash woodlands are the dominant woodland type within the AONB this is a key issue which should be monitored. ▪ There is a need to continue the increase of the area's woodland which are in a favourable or improving condition. ▪ There is a need to continue the increase of the area's limestone grassland which are in a favourable or improving condition. ▪ There are large areas with high quality natural and biodiverse environments in the AONB, which should be conserved and enhanced. ▪ Opportunities should be sought to develop robust ecological networks through habitat enhancement, expansion and the creation of buffer zones, linear corridors to link habitats. This will lead to improved species diversity and make the area more resilient to climate change allowing for greater movement of species within ecological corridors. ▪ Opportunities should also be sought to develop the unique nature of the area's buildings and their support for wildlife through habitat enhancement, expansion and the creation of buffer zones, linear corridors to link habitats. This will lead to improved urban biodiversity and make the area more resilient to climate change allowing for greater movement of species within ecological and urban corridors. ▪ ▪ The high quality of the environment provides opportunity to develop recreation and tourism in the AONB, although care should be taken to ensure that development is appropriate and does not adversely affect biodiversity resources. ▪ The condition of a number of SSSIs should be improved and opportunities should be sought to

⁷ Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary pSPA is proposed to protect important areas of land, coast and sea used for a variety of purposes by the qualifying features. The new pSPA amalgamates the existing Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPAs and adds marine areas identified for foraging terns breeding in these SPAs. See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/morecambe-bay-and-duddon-estuary-special-protection-area-changes-comment-on-proposals>

Topic	Summary
	<p>deliver biodiversity enhancements where possible, for example by improving the connectivity between designated sites and areas of open space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opportunities should be sought to promote land management schemes where possible, as these can lead to a number of environmental benefits and enhancements. ▪ Efforts should be made to maintain the increase in the number of SSSIs that are currently in unfavourable condition moving into unfavourable but recovering status, with an overall aim of this being that all SSSIs in unfavourable condition move into recovery and that eventually, all SSSIs move into favourable condition.
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cultural heritage assets and their setting should be conserved and enhanced where appropriate. Conservation or restoration efforts should continue to return the cultural assets within the AONB currently on the 'at risk register' back to better conditions so that they can continue to add to the areas cultural diversity and value. ▪ Parkland, designed landscapes and gardens within the AONB are at risk. Harm to the historic environment can be reduced through good land management and planning policies and decisions that take full account of the significance of the asset and its setting. In addition to protecting statutory sites, it is important to ensure that the wider historic landscape is protected and also non-designated heritage and archaeological resources. ▪ Pressures for development within the AONB are ongoing, and there is continued risk of damage to the rich archaeological resource and traditional character of settlements and individual buildings.
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The landscape character of the AONB has been influenced by people in many ways such as through settlement, quarrying, land management and farming. Sustainable development of settlements and the sustainable management of resources must be made a priority to reduce the impact on landscape character. ▪ There is a need to protect and enhance the distinctive landscape character that combines a highly diverse mosaic of high-quality and contrasting landscape types such as; improved agricultural pastures; with large semi-natural areas; low limestone hills; woodlands; wetlands and mosses; pastures; limestone pavements; coastal cliffs and intertidal flats. This will help to create a coherent and resilient ecological network, retain a sense of place and maintain the strong relationship between the landscape and its underlying geology. ▪ The landscape of the AONB is a national designation, highly sensitive to the potential impacts of new development. Any new development has to be considered in light of the capacity of the landscape to accept it without significant negative landscape impact. ▪ Increased activity, noise and light pollution associated with some developments has the potential to adversely affect tranquility within the AONB. ▪ It is important for landscape character and quality to be maintained and where possible restored and enhanced. The use and creation of new Agri-environment schemes should be encouraged as one way to aid the protection and enhancement of the areas landscape. ▪ Features important to the landscape and which give the AONB its local distinctiveness should be conserved, restored and enhanced. ▪ There are many outstanding and special scenic qualities within the AONB including the dramatic views over Morecambe Bay. Future development could impact these views and the setting of the AONB negatively and so locations for development should consider carefully the implications visually on the landscape. Pressures from development can lead to a decline in the landscape character of the AONB. ▪ The AONB's high-quality landscape is an important resource for attracting visitors and enhancing the quality of life for residents. However, an increase in visitor numbers that would bring more cars and recreational activities to the AONB may also lead to a decline in the tranquility of the AONB. ▪ The distinctive settlement character is an identified special quality of the AONB for example the linear structure of Warton and the Yealands, the open dispersed nature of Silverdale. Development within the AONB should be complimentary of this where possible and thus conserve the distinctive character and special quality of the AONB. ▪ One of the AONB's special characteristics is its rural nature, ▪ Views into, across, within and out of the AONB are very important and are one of the AONB's special qualities. Therefore, they should be conserved and enhanced where possible. ▪ The setting of the AONB is also a very important feature and the landscape and seascape are both key landscape elements which help create this setting.
Minerals and Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sandside Quarry is the only remaining active limestone quarry within the AONB and is due for closure in 2020.

Topic	Summary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No new mineral developments are planned within the AONB. ▪ It will be important to ensure that appropriate restoration plans are in place following cessation of working at Sandside Quarry. ▪ There are no active landfill sites within the AONB and no new waste developments are planned. ▪ There is one household waste recycling centre within the AONB which is located in Carnforth. There are additionally small recycling points within the villages for example located in Arnside.
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The dominant travel to work method across the AONB is by car. Better facilities to encourage more sustainable transport use would be beneficial to the area. This could include enhanced car parking at stations to encourage train use. Locations will have to be appropriate to ensure no adverse effect on landscape character. ▪ The Silverdale shuttle should be retained and promoted to enable the residents access rail links. Linkages between Arnside & Silverdale could be further improved for residents wishing to travel. ▪ There is a good percentage of open access land in the AONB which can be used by visitors and residents to access/explore the countryside via PROW and other paths. This access should be maintained and improved if possible to continue providing the public with opportunities to explore the special scenic qualities of the AONB. ▪ With much of the area being rural, access to public transport can be difficult for some and is reflected in the lower proportion of people utilising these methods to travel to work. ▪ The Morecambe Bay cycleway and the potential link across the viaduct are key opportunities. ▪ A greater integration of transport could be promoted linking rail and buses with cycling routes and allowing for combining modes of transport for the public. This would be a significant opportunity for residents of the AONB. ▪ Maintaining good rail links is also a key issue. The direct link from the AONB to Manchester airport and with centres such as Preston and Manchester and the west coast mainline to London. Rail is an important mode for visitors and residents. ▪ Opportunity to enhance sustainable coastal access, e.g. the England Coast Path (a new National Trail all around England's coast, opening in sections to be complete in 2020), together with the maintenance of PROWs and other paths.
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The AONB area has low JSA claimant numbers and this suggests a strong local economy, however, much local employment is in the tourism industry and many people travel out of the AONB to work. ▪ Many people commute to places of work outside of the AONB which enables them to bring money back into the AONB economy but doesn't support the growth of local jobs. ▪ Tourism is an important business sector in the area and further opportunities should be sought to utilise the area's environmental and cultural assets to build on this. However, this needs to be in a sustainable way which is sympathetic to landscape character, other environmental features, and the communities within the AONB. ▪ Farming is a very important part of the economy in the AONB. Farms predominantly graze livestock such as beef and dairy cattle, and sheep. Although dairy farming is declining farms are diversifying and are now supporting tourism by providing a range of non- agricultural activities. Opportunities for activities to further drive the economy behind farming should be sustainable and considerate to the special qualities of the AONB. ▪ As well as being a key driver in the economy farming also has an integral role in conserving and enhancing the landscape. ▪ Land is widely targeted for environmental stewardship and Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) in the AONB however trends show this is declining. This is likely to increase pressure on the profitability of farms. Increasing fuel prices and changing markets can add additional pressure. ▪ Supporting the farming community within the AONB, although it may be relatively small, is an important aspect because this supports the rest of the economy such as the visitor economy and attracting people to live there. ▪ Woodlands also play an important role in the recreation and tourism economy by providing places for people to take up leisure activities. ▪ There is also a developing local wood fuel economy and interest in wood products from forestry is rising within the AONB. ▪ Supporting local small business development by making land allocations for employment purposes in a way that does not significantly adversely affect the landscape character. ▪ The railway and the stations at Arnside & Silverdale are important economic drivers.

Topic	Summary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The railway also offers opportunities for people to visit the AONB and then connect to walking or cycling experiences. There are opportunities to capitalise upon the AONB's environmental and cultural assets and to develop the tourist industry. This must be done appropriately such as quiet tourism that takes into account the special qualities of the AONB.
Deprivation and Living Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overall deprivation across the AONB is relatively low Engaging with local residents and making sure that the respective the Councils keep them well informed will be essential in creating vibrant communities. There may be scope in the future to more actively involve the local community in decision-making, enabling the Councils to understand the needs and desires of the residents, which, in the long-term could help contribute to the establishment of more sustainable communities. Local services should be retained and developed or enhanced to support community life and the local tourism industry. Opportunities should be sought to drive up wages where possible.
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a need to ensure that the diversity of housing stock directly reflects local needs. It has been indicated that there is a need for smaller homes within the area. House prices within the AONB are above average and this reflects the desirable nature of the area as a place to live. However, it also means that house prices are often beyond the financial reach of local people. Housing allocations should contribute to meeting affordable housing needs of the local population in a way that does not significantly adversely affect the landscape character. Sheltered housing needs for the elderly should be met, as this is a particular issue due to the ageing population. Given the area's attractive rural character, a number of properties are owned as second homes. This affects local affordability and availability of homes for local people.

SA Framework

Background to the SA Framework

- 3.2.17 The SA Framework underpins the assessment methodology and comprises a series of SA Objectives (covering social, economic and environmental issues) that are used to test the performance of the plan being assessed. Whilst the SEA Regulations do not require the use of SA Objectives, they are a recognised tool for undertaking the assessment and are aspirations/goals that an authority/organisation should work towards achieving.
- 3.2.18 The SA Objectives are separate from the objectives of the DPD, although there may be some overlaps between them. To help measure the performance of the Local Plan's components against the SA Objectives, it is beneficial if they are supported by a series of indicators and targets. Baseline data has been collated to support each of the indicators, as this provides a means of determining current performance across the borough and gauging how much intervention or the extent of work needed to achieve the targets that have been identified. The following section provides further details about the development of the SA Framework.

Development of the SA Objectives

- 3.2.19 The SA Objectives have been developed using the review of other relevant plans, programmes and environmental objectives, the baseline data, the key issue and opportunities, and the outcomes of consultation on the SA scope.
- 3.2.20 Table 3-4 presents the proposed SA Objectives and Sub-Objectives that have been used in the appraisal of the DPD and its options, including for site options by providing a framework for identifying and applying relevant spatial criteria (see Section 3.1.2).
- 3.2.21 The SA Framework was amended following receipt of the Scoping Report consultation responses from statutory consultees. In 2015, the SA Framework was modified as follows:
- SA Objective for 'air quality' added, as it was previously scoped out;
 - Objective added related to 'proximity to services';
 - Under the historic environment objective, specific references added to historic setting of heritage assets; and

- Historic environment sub-objectives amended to ensure that they reflect national policy and legislation.

Table 3-4 SA Framework

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives
1. To ensure there is housing to meet local needs in a manner sensitive to the AONB. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To ensure there is enough housing available to contribute to meeting the needs in all areas. ▪ To increase the availability of affordable housing. ▪ To ensure housing is decent.
2. To improve wellbeing, physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community. ▪ To improve access to health and social care services for all through proximity to GP surgeries etc. ▪ To improve transport links to GP's surgeries (rail/bus). ▪ To promote healthy active lifestyles and access to recreational space. ▪ To ensure there is access to greenspace, countryside, public spaces, rights of way, play areas and open coast for people to enjoy. ▪ To ensure there are cultural /social/ community facilities and activities for people to enjoy / participate in including access to village halls and civic buildings. ▪ To encourage the development of strong and cohesive communities through proximity to existing settlements. ▪ To create a healthy and safe working and living environment with low rates of crime and disorder.
3. To improve the level of skills, education and training. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society through access to primary schools, secondary schools and further educational establishments. ▪ To improve the provision of education and training facilities. ▪ To improve access to and involvement in Lifelong Learning opportunities. ▪ To improve access to environmental education.
4. To improve sustainable access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To ensure public transport services (bus and train) meet the needs of all and development is located in proximity to bus services. ▪ To ensure highways infrastructure serves people's transportation needs (including for private vehicular travel, walking and cycling). ▪ To ensure public buildings and public spaces are readily accessible to all in including access to village halls and civic buildings. ▪ To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport and reduce dependence on the private car. ▪ To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities. ▪ To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities for all including proximity to shops. ▪ To promote and facilitate access to, and opportunities to enjoy, the countryside, historic environment and green open space including a range of open space typologies.
5. To diversify and strengthen the local economy in a manner that is sensitive to the AONB. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To help create the right economic conditions and infrastructure provision to encourage inward investment. ▪ To stimulate the use of local companies, products, services, heritage and culture and provide other forms of community benefit. ▪ To encourage indigenous growth of local businesses. ▪ To encourage diversification, innovation and entrepreneurship. ▪ To help improve the competitiveness and productivity of the local economy. ▪ To increase the environmental performance of local companies and their products/services. ▪ To support maintenance of the agricultural economy. ▪ To provide sustainable tourism. ▪ To foster heritage-led regeneration.

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To optimise the use of previously developed land, buildings and existing infrastructure.
6. To retain and create jobs and ensure the workforce meets local needs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure people are educated, trained and skilled to meet local economic needs. To increase the number, variety and quality of employment opportunities, including those offered by tourism, social enterprise and inward investment.
7. To encourage economic inclusion and access to jobs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase access for all to a range of jobs, through improved training, sustainable transport and communication links. To ensure economic development and employment opportunities are distributed evenly and are in areas of greatest need.
8. To protect and improve air quality.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect and improve local air quality
9. To limit and adapt to climate change and increase energy efficiency.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To ensure existing buildings have optimal energy efficiencies. To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport and reduce dependence on the private car. To ensure new developments are able to withstand extreme weather events. To include Green Infrastructure to reduce flood risk and surface water runoff in order to adapt to climate change. To encourage the use of clean, low carbon and energy efficient technologies sensitive to the AONB.
10. To protect and enhance water quality, resources and reduce the risk of flooding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain, and where possible improve the quality and quantity of water resources. To minimise the risk of water pollution from all sources. To promote the wide use of sustainable drainage systems and other flood reduction or defence measures. To promote measures to reduce demand and improve demand management for water. To help reduce pressure on watercourses/water bodies from diffuse pollution such as agricultural waste, fertilizer and run-off from drains and concrete surfaces and point sources such as septic tank discharge. To encourage prudent water usage to reduce pressure on water resources. To align with current or planned sewerage infrastructure provision. To reduce or manage flooding through avoidance of areas of significant risk. To encourage the inclusion of flood mitigation such as SuDS and green infrastructure measures.
11. To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect and conserve habitats, species, geological and geomorphological sites, especially where these may be rare, declining, threatened or indigenous. To help ensure biodiversity sustainability by enhancing conditions wherever necessary to retain viability of the resource. To minimise adverse impacts on species and habitats through new development and human activity. To ensure and enhance continuity and connectivity of ecological networks such as river corridors, coastal habitats, uplands, woodlands and scrub to enable free passage of specific habitat dependent species.
12. To protect and enhance landscape, seascape and settlement character and quality.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure night skies are dark. To promote high quality and sustainable design for buildings, spaces and the public realm sensitive to the locality. To reduce exposure to noise disturbance. To protect and enhance local landscape quality, local distinctiveness sense of place and character from unsympathetic development and changes in land management. To retain rural nature of the AONB landscape and rural character of the AONB settlements. To maintain the remoteness and tranquillity of rural landscapes.

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To encourage low-input and organic farming, with environmental stewardship styles of land management. ▪ To sustain and extend tree cover, hedgerows, woodlands, and sustainable forestry. ▪ To conserve and enhance seascape character. ▪ To conserve settlement character. ▪ To conserve and enhance landscape features such as drystone walls, in-field trees, limekilns, ponds etc. ▪ To conserve views across, into and out of the AONB. ▪ To maintain open spaces. ▪ To maintain the mosaic of contrasting landscape character types. ▪ To encourage the appropriate re-use and improvement of brownfield sites.
13. To protect land and soil and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To minimise the loss of greenfield sites, areas of open spaces and amenity, and productive agricultural land. ▪ To encourage development of brownfield land in sustainable locations. ▪ To ensure that the creation of contaminated land will be avoided. ▪ To ensure the quantity and quality of soil resources and function is safeguarded for the future.
14. To manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste and encourage recycling.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To minimise the extraction, transport and use of primary minerals and encourage the use of recycled material. ▪ To promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction. ▪ Minimise waste and encourage the sustainable use of natural resources by reusing existing buildings where appropriate. ▪ Ensure new developments are designed to integrate recycling opportunities and facilities i.e. by having appropriate storage areas for recycling receptacles and proximity to recycling sites
15. To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense of local history.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To promote a sense of community identity, a sense of place and sense of local history. ▪ To encourage social inclusiveness and cohesion, and help continue valued local traditions. ▪ To improve and broaden access to, and understanding of local heritage, historic sites, areas and buildings. ▪ To provide better opportunities for people to access and understand local heritage and to participate in cultural and leisure activities.
16. To conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To protect and enhance the historic environment, including heritage assets and their setting ▪ To conserve and enhance historic landscape character and settlement character. ▪ To protect and enhance non designated assets and landscapes. ▪ To sensitively conserve areas of high archaeological and historic landscape importance including historic designated landscapes.
17. To increase the level of participation in democratic processes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To encourage local people and community groups to become involved in decision making about important aspects of the AONB. ▪ To identify members of society, including hard-to-reach groups that may require help to participate fully in the decision-making process. ▪ To help communities to understand the decision-making process, their opportunity to influence decisions and how decisions may impact on them. ▪ To respect the needs of all communities and future generations.

The SA Scoping Consultation

3.2.22 The SA Scoping Report was consulted upon for a longer period than the statutory five-week minimum period in November and December 2015. Comments were received from Natural England,

the Environment Agency, Historic England, the AONB Unit, and a private town planning firm. These comments can be found in Appendix C.

3.3 Stage B: Developing and Refining Options and Assessing Effects

Appraisal of Reasonable Alternatives

- 3.3.1 As identified in Box 3, the SEA Regulations require that the assessment process considers alternatives:

Box 3: Consideration of Alternatives

The SEA Regulations require that an SEA environmental report:

***'...identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of—(a) implementing the plan or programme; and (b) reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme.'* (Regulation 12-(2)); and provides *'an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with'* (Schedule 2-8).**

- 3.3.2 Government guidance advises that only realistic and relevant alternatives should be considered and they should be sufficiently distinct to enable a meaningful comparison of their different environmental effects. This SA Report presents a summary of the findings of the Issues and Options that were previously assessed in 2015.
- 3.3.3 Section 4 of this report provides a summary of the assessment of the options proposed in the Issues and Options Discussion Paper. The assessment of options employed a matrix in which each of the options is appraised against the SA Framework and a score is applied using the nomenclature in Table 3-5. Where appropriate, recommendations were made.

Table 3-5 Summary of Options Appraisal Nomenclature

Impact	Description	Symbol
Major Positive Impact	The proposal contributes to the achievement of the SA Objective and is likely to deliver enhancements.	++
Positive Impact	The proposal contributes partially to the achievement of the SA Objective but not completely.	+
No Impact/ Neutral	There is no clear relationship between the proposal and/or the achievement of the SA Objective or the relationship is negligible.	0
Negative Impact	The proposal partially detracts from the achievement of some elements of the SA Objective.	-
Major Negative Impact	The proposal detracts from the achievement of all elements of the SA Objective.	--
Uncertain impact – more information required	It is not possible to determine the nature of the impact as there may be too many external factors that would influence the appraisal or the impact may depend heavily upon implementation at the local level.	?
Positive and Negative Impacts	The option has a combination of both positive and negative contributions to the achievement of the SA Objective.	+/-
Timescale	The effects could be realised in the short-term (next 5 years), medium term (5-10 years), long term (more than 10 years) or a mix of these.	S / M / L
Direct/indirect	The effect is a direct or indirect consequence of the proposal.	D / I
Reversibility	The effect is reversible or irreversible.	R / I
Certainty	There is high, medium or low certainty in the prediction.	H / M / L

Assessment of Proposed Allocations

3.3.4 The assessment of proposed allocations is based on spatial data wherever possible. The SA Framework was translated into a set of criteria for allocations assessment, which is presented in Appendix D. The scale used is as presented in Table 3-5 below.

Table 3-5 Key to the assessment of allocations and alternative sites

Symbol	Definition
Effects identified	
++	Major positive criterion met.
+	Minor positive criterion met.
O	Neutral / negligible criterion met.
-	Minor negative criterion met.
--	Major negative criterion met.
N/A	Not applicable - criterion not met.
Timing of effects	
ST	Short-term
MT	Medium-term
LT	Long-term
S-MT, S-LT, etc.	Short to Medium Term, Short to Long Term, etc.
N/A	Not Applicable
Uncertainty of assessment (i.e. that the effect would occur in accordance with the symbol)	
H	High uncertainty (i.e. effect may not occur at all)
M	Medium uncertainty (effect likely, but may vary in extent / level of significance)
L	Low uncertainty (effect is likely to occur as assessed)
N/A	Not Applicable

3.3.5 An initial assessment was then conducted across this range of criteria, resulting in a summary score for each SA topic / objective based on the following:

- the worst score would take precedence, so any major negative criterion met would score major negative for the entire SA objective, followed by minor negative;
- if no negative criteria were met, the most positive score would take precedence, so any major positive criterion met would score major positive for the entire SA objective, followed by minor positive; and
- in the absence of the above, an SA objective would score neutral / negligible.

3.3.6 Each SA objective was then reviewed for mitigation recommendations or other special notes about that allocation, and a residual effect score was assessed. In principle, a score would only be changed if mitigation could be recommended that would likely, or had highly promising potential to, make negative effects neutral or negligible, or would increase neutral or minor positive scores by generating greater net benefits. As such, if an SA objective had both negative and positive scores at the outset, neutralising a negative score would 'bring out' the positive criteria for that SA topic / objective. This precautionary approach helps to ensure that risks of negative impacts receive appropriate attention.

3.3.7 The potential for significant cumulative effects was then considered, and given a low scale of development and very few significant cumulative effects amongst sites, this was added as a qualitative commentary at the end of each site assessment.

3.3.8 Key points from the HRA (screening) relative to each site were also summarised.

3.3.9 The results of the assessment are presented in Chapter 5 and Appendix G.

Assessment of Policies

3.3.10 The assessment of DPD policies has been undertaken using an approach which recognises that:

- upon implementation no single DPD policy will have an effect on any SA Objective (see further explanation below) – the effects on the environment or communities / socio-economics result from the entire DPD, with all policies acting together⁸;
- similarly, mitigation for the adverse effects mainly brought on by a particular policy does not need to occur within that same policy – the SA needs to consider how other policies can be applied or amended to mitigate such effects;
- many policies only have the potential to significantly affect some or a few SA Objectives, and hence they should be filtered down for relevance to the assessment;
- the DPD policies, even if not spatially specific, have a clear spatial dimension vis-à-vis the proposed allocations and broad spatial strategy of the DPD; they will be applied to planning applications for sites which align with the DPD's proposed distribution of development; and
- the DPD policies must also be robust enough to deal with any windfall sites which may come forward during the plan period, addressing AONB-wide issues and constraints.

3.3.11 Regarding the first point above, one must consider firstly that the DPD's main purpose is to direct developers (via certain policies) towards making proposals which align with the Council's Vision for the AONB (including the level and distribution of development), and then to (via other policies) manage development by assessing those proposals against all of the DPD's policies (as well as other policies – see Section 5.1). Once approved, a proposal will be implemented / constructed and reflect the application of all of the DPD's policies (plus others). Not all of those policies will have influenced the degree to which a proposal achieves every SA Objective, but the results of those policies will all be reflected in the location, size / scale, layout, design, landscaping, ancillary development / infrastructure, etc. of that development.

3.3.12 Secondly, one must understand that although it is possible for an AONB DPD policy to be the major contributor to an effect or to present the potential for effects, effects themselves result from changes which actually happen "on the ground" and which are experienced or perceived. Therefore, again, those changes will only occur after *all* of the DPD policies are applied to a proposal and it has obtained planning permission. The key question for SA should therefore be: "do the DPD's policies, acting together, leave the potential for significant adverse effects and maximise the significant benefits, and if so, what are they?"

3.3.13 The assessment approach employed is therefore highly "risk-based", considering the likelihood of significant adverse effects occurring despite the beneficial or mitigating aspects of proposed policies. In this way, it provides a more joined-up 'test' of the DPD policies to check that the risks of significant effects are addressed appropriately, and that policy-makers and planning officers have the necessary tools to adequately judge, guide and control development towards the aims of achieving sustainable development (the balance of achieving all SA Objectives).

3.3.14 Step 1 of the policy assessment has been to conduct an initial filtering exercise of every policy for potential relevance to each SA Objective. This is based on practitioner experience and professional judgement about the relationship between development in general and the matters covered by each SA Objective. Where a policy has been found not to have a significant relationship with an SA Objective, this is justified, and likewise, the potential positive, negative and mitigating roles of policies are explained. 'Mitigating role' refers to policies which may alone not have the potential for

⁸ It is recognised that there may be relatively rare cases in other English local plans where an SA objective is only affected by one policy of a given 'DPD' / document. However, typically there is a negative policy / mitigating policy relationship (e.g. *loss of habitat from development / requirement to replace habitat*), multiple / enhancing benefits (e.g. *creating housing to meet housing needs / tailoring the size and affordability of housing to meet housing needs*), or multiple / compound negative influences (e.g. *losing soils to housing / building transport measures to accommodate development and losing more soils*).

significant effects, but which have been formulated specifically to deal with the potential significant effects of other policies, or which otherwise do so incidentally.

- 3.3.15 The initial filter of policies is provided in Appendix F, and summarised in Section 5.3.
- 3.3.16 Step 2 involved an assessment which was then conducted of the draft policies acting in combination on each SA Objective, whilst considered the results of the assessment of proposed allocations (Section 5.2 and Appendix G). The assessment first considered any initial effects of the policies without mitigating and enhancing policy already in place. The assessment then considered all mitigating (i.e. counteracting any potential adverse effects) and enhancing (i.e. making beneficial effects more beneficial) policy already in place in order to identify the potential effects of policies as they are without SA recommendations and scored the effects of the entire DPD over the short to medium term, and also the long term. The SA has then considered further recommendations both at policy level, and when planning major sites or determining future planning permissions at those sites.
- 3.3.17 When determining the significance of the effect of a policy, the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects have been considered. This includes cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects. The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected) have also been considered. The value and vulnerability of certain areas and populations have also influenced the assessment, considering in particular where thresholds or standards may be exceeded.
- 3.3.18 Cumulative effects have been considered within each SA Objective assessment – these arise from two or more impacts occurring simultaneously, whereby an impact that may not have a significant effect on its own may combine with another to produce a cumulative effect that is significant. There are two main types of cumulative effect:
- intra-plan effects which could result from policies or proposals in the DPD working in combination to change the severity of an effect; and
 - inter-plan effects, where effects of other strategies, plans or programmes acting in combination with AONB DPD.
- 3.3.19 Also, secondary effects are those that are not a direct result of the plan, but occur away from the original effect or as a result of a complex pathway. Synergistic effects are those where effects interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects.
- 3.3.20 The nature, impact and potential significance of the potential effects has been assessed using a standard scoring approach based on the approach used for the original Core Strategy SA. This is presented in Table 3-6 below.

Table 3-6 *Scoring approach for the policy assessment*

Impact	Description	Symbol
Major Positive Impact	The policy/site contributes to the achievement of the SA Objective and is likely to deliver enhancements.	++
Positive Impact	The policy/site contributes partially to the achievement of the SA Objective but not completely.	+
No Impact/ Neutral	There is no clear relationship between the policy/site and/or the achievement of the SA Objective or the relationship is negligible.	0
Negative Impact	The policy/site partially detracts from the achievement of some elements of the SA Objective.	-
Major Negative Impact	The policy/site detracts from the achievement of all elements of the SA Objective.	--
Uncertain impact – more information required	It is not possible to determine the nature of the impact as there may be too many external factors that would influence the appraisal or the impact may depend heavily upon implementation at the local level.	?
Positive and Negative Impacts	The policy/site has a combination of both positive and negative contributions to the achievement of the SA Objective.	+/-

- 3.3.21 Step 3 of the assessment of draft policies was then to recommend any mitigation or enhancement measures to improve the environmental or socio-economic performance of the DPD. There were many SA topics where the policies are already robust enough to fully deal with all of the risks of significant adverse effects, and also to maximise benefits, and so no recommendations were made. However, where recommendations for policy were made, the policies were then assessed for the potential residual effects with the recommendations in place.

3.4 Technical Limitations and Uncertainties

- 3.4.1 The SA is out of necessity conducted at a high level, using baseline information at an appropriate level of detail, including geographically. The potential for effects predicted is always subject to a changing baseline, which can be influenced by many factors outside of planning, and outside of those captured by the SA research conducted. These uncertainties are normally dealt with by taking a 'worst case', unless there is a documented and justifiable reason to expect a better baseline. With such exceptions, the SA does (or should, subject to any consultation responses) identify relevant areas of future baseline research and monitoring required.
- 3.4.2 As a result of the above, in terms of temporal effects and considering potential timescales, there is a limit to the accuracy of predicted effects into the long term. Also, should the DPD continue to guide development which is constructed in the long term (e.g. beyond 10 years from now), it must be considered that there are likely to be changes in policy, economics, technology, etc. in that time period, and the SA won't have taken these into account. However, the long-term assessment is of course still valid and useful, as the SA uses the best available information at the current time to make its predictions, and any development (e.g. new housing) that takes place within the short to medium term under these policies will presumably last for at least several decades (and most likely much longer).
- 3.4.3 Site-level baseline used in this assessment is also highly changeable – for example, any given community facility can close down or move within a period of months, and thus an assessment which considers a site to have good access to this facility pre-development, may not do so by the time construction begins, even if this is only within a few years. These circumstances are impossible to predict, and are an inherent part of the SA and indeed planning process. The planning system is generally robust enough to deal with such changes by re-assessing the needs of sites / communities at the time applications are made.
- 3.4.4 During the assessment of the DPD, there has sometimes been uncertainty when predicting the potential effects. Where this has occurred, the uncertainty is identified within the appraisal matrices and as with all potential adverse effects identified, this is accompanied by recommendations to mitigate such effects where possible.
- 3.4.5 The DPD will essentially act to direct / guide and shape / manage the future development of the AONB. There is therefore reliance upon future decision-makers, in particular planning officers, as well as on-going planning enforcement to ensure sustainable development is achieved.

4 SA of Issues and Options (2015)

4.1 SA of Spatial Distribution Options

4.1.1 In 2015 an Issues and Options Consultation Discussion Paper was consulted upon. This presented a number of options for the spatial distribution of new development. These are summarised below:

- a. Development sites allocated in primary settlements only + highly restrictive policies for everywhere else limiting any development outside these to exceptional cases only (accompanied by exceptions criteria).
- b. Development sites allocated in primary settlements only + policies to judge each application on its merits for everywhere else but with an assumption that a moderate proportion of new development will be delivered outside of the primary settlements.
- c. Development sites allocated in 4 largest settlements (primary settlements plus Beetham) only + highly restrictive policies for everywhere else limiting any development outside these to exceptional cases only (accompanied by exceptions criteria).
- d. Development sites allocated in 4 largest settlements (primary settlements plus Beetham) only + policies to judge each application on its merits for everywhere else but with an assumption that a moderate proportion of new development will be delivered outside of these settlements.
- e. Most allocated sites in primary settlements plus some in secondary settlements and highly restrictive policies limiting development to exceptional cases/policies to judge each case on its merits elsewhere.
- f. Most development in 4 largest settlements, some in smaller villages, some in hamlets or open countryside.

4.1.2 Table 4-1 provides an appraisal of these six options against the SA Framework Objectives. It must be borne in mind that this appraisal represents a stage in the SA process, and has not been amended. However, comments from consultation lead to the following considerations:

- SA Objectives 6 and 7: the largest overall industry in the AONB is tourism, and many people commute out of the AONB for work. Given the importance of the landscape to tourism and the high proportion of out-commuters in the AONB, the economy could be harmed by policy which promotes development outside of the largest settlements, except in exceptional circumstances. Options A, C and E are most protective of the countryside in this respect, and so could be scored as most positive (for reasons above), whereas Options B, D and F could be assessed as both positive and negative for their potential impacts on the countryside, in support of the out-commuting pattern (which is beneficial, as it also draws investment back into the AONB, but not as sensitive as the local tourism industry);
- SA Objective 8: development needs are very limited in rural areas, and so major benefits are unlikely for Options D and E; and
- SA recommendations: given the above, the SA should recommend highly restricted provision in more remote rural areas (rather than “some limited provision”), whereby significant economic benefits are only likely in service centres. Development needs in smaller settlements and more rural areas can be accommodated through individual planning applications and by passing exceptions tests.

Table 4-1 Summary of Strategic Options Appraisal Scores

Option / Score						
SA Objective	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)
1.Housing	- S/M/L D I M	+ S/M/L D I L	- S/M/L D I M	+ S/M/L D I L	++ S/M/L D I M	++ S/M/L D I H
2.Health	+ M/L D R M	+ M/L D R L	+ M/L D R M	+ M/L D R L	+ M/L D R L	+ M/L D R L

Option / Score						
SA Objective	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)
3.Education	++ M/L D R H	+ M/L D R L	++ M/L D R M	+ M/L D R L	+/- M/L D R M	+/- M/L D R L
4.Service access	++ S/M/L D R H	+ S/M/L D R L	++ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R L	+/- S/M/L D R L	+/- S/M/L D I L
5.Community	+ L I R L	+ L I R L	+ L I R L	+ L I R L	+ L I R L	+ L I R L
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L
7.Economy	+/- M/L I R L	+/- M/L I R L	+/- M/L I R L	+/- M/L I R L	+ M/L I R M	++ M/L I R M
8.Jobs	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R M	++ S/M/L I R M	++ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L
9.Economic inclusion	+ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R M	++ S/M/L D R M	++ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L I R L
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I I L	- M/L I I L	- M/L I I L
11.Climate change	+ L I I M	0 L I I M	+ L I I M	0 / L I I M	- L I I L	- L I I L
12.Water	+ S/M/L D I M	+ S/M/L D I M	+ S/M/L D I M	+ S/M/L D I M	+/- S/M/L D I L	- S/M/L D I L
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L I I M	0 S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I I M	0 S/M/L I I L	- S/M/L I I L	- S/M/L I I L
14.Landscape	0 S/M/L I I M	- S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I I M	- S/M/L I I L	- S/M/L I I L	- - S/M/L I I L
15.Soil / resources	++ S/M/L D I H	+ S/M/L D I M	++ S/M/L D I H	+ S/M/L D I M	- S/M/L D I L	- - S/M/L D I L
16.Minerals / Waste	+ S/M/L I R M	? S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R M	? S/M/L I R L	? S/M/L I R L	? S/M/L I R L
17.Heritage	?	?	?	?	?	?

Commentary on Social Effects of Options

- 4.1.3 Options A and C both restrict housing outside of the largest centres. This will create a barrier to being able to achieve the SA objective which is to provide housing to meet all needs in all areas. Allocations judged by policies elsewhere such as in B and D could improve wider housing provision (depending on the policy), while E and F provide the greatest breadth of provision for housing allocation – in particular F. E and F would lead to a greater fulfilment of the local affordable housing needs in most remote areas. Option F therefore performs strongest against the housing objective.
- 4.1.4 All options promote most development in the Primary settlements which also contain the best access to healthcare and primary schools, although healthcare services are only located in Arnside and Silverdale. Exceptions criteria such as in A, C and E will ensure a greater proportion of housing allocations fall within the already established settlements providing the greatest access to these services. Health and wellbeing is also a function of, e.g. access to community facilities and open space for exercise and recreation. There are greater numbers of community facilities in the four largest settlements. Allocations in more primary and secondary settlements will achieve development of strong cohesive communities. Whilst allocations within rural countryside and hamlets will help retain strong local community participation and build stronger values within small communities. Options E and F will mean allocations for housing located in smaller settlements and some in the

countryside. This may ensure better access to greenspace, countryside for pursuing leisure activities but are located further from healthcare, schools and community facilities so from this perspective, allocations should be more limited.

- 4.1.5 Sustainable access to services and facilities will be more likely in Primary settlements and so allocating in just these areas (options A and C) will ensure that people will have the greatest access to services and public transport. This is partially true for those options which include Secondary settlements although some of these (Carr Bank, Slackhead and Hale) have fewer existing facilities than others. The opposite is true for the options that include more development in the smallest settlements (E and F) unless such development is able to generate a greater demand to allow such services to be developed. However, although this is negative, options E and F do ensure that the SA sub objective to promote and facilitate access to, and opportunities to enjoy, the countryside, historic environment and green open space is achieved. The SA objective which sets out the promotion of the use of sustainable modes of transport and reducing the dependence on the car will most notably not be achievable in more rural areas where development may be allocated in options E and F. This is due to poor public transport service links and a greater distance to travel to reach certain amenities not provided within the community.
- 4.1.6 Allocations in all settlements have potential to benefit community cohesion by increasing the vitality and population in those settlements. This may be of greatest benefit to the smallest settlements where the difference would be more noticeable than in the Primary settlements which are arguably more resilient. This assessment is uncertain because there may be other external factors which play a part in the creation and development of community spirit although those settlements that have more community facilities are likely to benefit from those facilities as community focal points to build around – this is less the case in the smallest settlements.
- 4.1.7 It is not clear what relationship Options A, B, C and D will have with community participation. They will not detract from SA objectives but it is uncertain if they contribute to the achievement of SA objectives. Options E and F will help achieve the SA objective of encouraging local people and community groups to become involved in decision making about aspects of the AONB. This is because by helping create larger vibrant communities away from primary settlements there will be more chances to engage people living rurally to become actively involved.

Potential Mitigation Considerations

- 4.1.8 The above analysis suggests that the greatest social benefits would arise from a balanced approach that sees most development in Primary settlements and Beetham with more limited development in those Secondary settlements with the most services and only limited (but important) development in the smaller villages/hamlets to help improve vitality, participation and housing needs in those areas.

Commentary on Economic Effects of Options

- 4.1.9 Within the AONB there are approximately 2,800 economically active people and the largest employer based in the AONB is the Billerud Paper Mill in Beetham. Promoting most development in the largest settlements, including Beetham would have the greatest overall benefit to economic growth as these settlements have the strongest service offering, infrastructure, transport links and existing businesses. All options include development in the Primary settlements to capitalise on this and can help encourage inward investment. However, SA Objective 7 also seeks to promote a diverse economy including in rural areas and sustainable tourism. Options A-D offer little in this respect so have been scored as both positive (for reasons above) and negative for their lack of rural offering. Options E and F still include a main focus in Primary settlements but also in Secondary and in the case of F, in smaller rural hamlets and the open countryside. It is assumed that other policies would prevent development in these areas being inappropriate with regards to the special qualities of the AONB.
- 4.1.10 All options which propose new allocations in the Primary settlements are likely to improve access to jobs in those areas as these are the main centres of employment (notably Beetham). Income and employment deprivation is relatively low in the AONB although Silverdale exhibits the highest levels within this area. Focussing development in Silverdale as one of the Primary settlements may be

beneficial. Consequently, all options are seen as positive against the employment and economic inclusion objectives. Options E and F also provide for the best opportunities to encourage jobs in rural areas, perhaps in agriculture or sustainable tourism. Consequently, these options have also scored strongly together with the options that specifically reference Beetham. It is assumed that those options which include moderate development outside the main settlements, in accordance with policy, would enable some job growth in more rural areas so long as it is sustainable.

- 4.1.11 It should, however, be noted that sustainable transport and communications links are poorer in the smaller settlements, and so job growth in these areas is likely to be very localised only. Other limitations to existing infrastructure may also exist. Job scarcity may also be an issue in the much smaller allocations within hamlets, and so this may mean that there are insufficient job opportunities available for any new residents.

Potential Mitigation Considerations

- 4.1.12 It is recommended that a balanced approach of allocations in Primary settlements, Beetham and the larger Secondary settlements is chosen. Some limited provision in more remote rural areas may provide local economic benefits also, whether this be achieved through policy or specific allocations. This will allow the economy will experience the most positive effects both centrally in areas of growth and areas with economic centres well established, whilst also ensuring smaller settlements are provided for in terms of economic growth and the workforce needed to support local and diverse business in all areas of the AONB.

Commentary on Environmental Effects of Options

- 4.1.13 There are no air quality management areas within the AONB as air quality is not currently a significant issue within the AONB. The small development allocations, whether in Primary settlements only (options A and C) or across Primary and Secondary settlements (options B, D, E and F), are unlikely to cause any major issues for air quality within the AONB, particularly as traffic will not rise substantially. However, it is worth noting that allocating in Primary settlements only would allow more use to be made of sustainable transport methods and thus protect air quality within settlements and across the wider AONB. In contrast, those options that result in a greater spread of development (notably Option F and to a lesser degree E) are likely to result in greater car dependence and emissions across the AONB. This includes both emissions relating to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, although again the level of effect is considered very low. Effects from potential air pollution on European sites from any development allocations must be considered as part of the parallel HRA process. Although new housing is likely to have a more energy efficient design it is not clear whether any option would have a greater benefit in these terms. The assessment of SA Object 11 is therefore primarily based around the issue of car dependence.
- 4.1.14 Options for allocations located only in Primary settlements and Beetham (options A, B, C and D) presents the best opportunity for housing to contribute towards, and successfully achieve, upgraded sewerage infrastructure provision, or to align with recent or planned upgrades. However, option E and F for housing allocation will allow for more housing allocation in Secondary settlements and therefore will likely be reliant on the existing approach of using septic tanks. This is important as it has been identified through desk studies that opportunities should be sought to tackle the main contributory factors to poor water quality. This is caused by agricultural runoff and the use of septic tanks which are used for example in Silverdale. At this scale, it is not possible to accurately predict the relative effects on flood risk although it is clear that more remote developments in the open countryside are most likely to be on greenfield land and would require specific sustainable drainage measures to avoid an increase in surface water run-off. Also, coastal settlements such as Arnside and Storth/Sandside are at greatest risk from coastal flooding – this would affect all options although for this options assessment, there was uncertainty regarding the exact locations for development. It was assumed that development would not be allocated in areas of flood risk, so negative scores were not applied in this respect although it is an important issue to be aware of.
- 4.1.15 The AONB has a valuable natural environment including a large number of protected species and areas designated both at local and international level (four Natura 200 sites and two Ramsar designations are within the AONB). Policy would dictate that no new development would be allowed

to adversely affect these designated areas. However, it is considered that the options that promote development within the existing largest settlements only (A and C) would have the lowest potential to affect bio/geodiversity and green infrastructure connectivity. Allocations in Primary settlements predominantly will allow housing to not encroach too far out towards the rural environment and ensure ecological networks such as river corridors, coastline habitats, uplands, woodlands and scrub enable free passage of specific habitat dependant species. Therefore, these options (A, B, C and D) focussing development in Primary settlements and some in Beetham will have a neutral effect on Bio/Geodiversity (at this scale of assessment). Whilst it is not possible to say there would be benefits, the negative effects would also be much smaller. The options that allow a greater spread of development, including those in the more remote countryside areas have a higher potential to affect this. Consequently, allocations that allow for development to occur in more secondary settlements (E and F) and in particular the rural areas of the AONB in option F, do not achieve all SA objectives as the development could cause negative impacts on biological receptors and reduce or encroach onto habitat. *Allocations within the AONB should aim to not sever important links between these areas of biodiversity. This would reduce the likelihood of negative effects.*

- 4.1.16 Options for development within four main settlements (A and C) only would reduce the amount of landscape change and light spill/tranquillity effects across the remainder of the AONB. Views into and across the AONB will be less likely to be effected as these settlements have the greatest ability to accept change and these options may have the greatest opportunity for re-use and improvement of brownfield sites. Options B and D, although focussing allocations within Primary settlements, also include moderate development outside of the Primary settlements. However, at this options assessment stage it was assumed that the policy against which these would be judged would be strict and would not allow significant landscape effects, although cumulative effects may be possible.
- 4.1.17 For soils and natural resources, housing allocations will need to focus on redevelopment of previous developed sites / brownfield sites to meet SA objectives and to ensure resources are safeguarded against development. Options A and C provide the greatest potential to achieve this by ensuring that housing development prioritises brownfield land in sustainable locations and also reduces the loss of greenfield sites, areas of open space and amenity and productive agricultural land which are more likely to be affected in countryside areas. Option F which does not limit development rurally this scores low in regards to sustainability whilst also having greater uncertainty.
- 4.1.18 For options A and C, the designation of housing in the four main settlements only has the greatest potential to re-use existing buildings. Within these primary settlements there may also be facilities to recycle and they would require less in terms of new infrastructure connections and provision thereby reducing materials and energy use. The converse would be true for the options which promote more development in more isolated areas.
- 4.1.19 The AONB has a strong agricultural and industrial heritage with features remnant of these eras creating 'time-depth' within the landscape. There is a higher density of historical assets located in the Primary settlements, but there are also a very many heritage assets in and around the smaller settlements and in the open countryside, including field patterns and boundaries which are located in areas with historic agricultural practices. However, in many cases it is possible to develop new housing without adversely affecting heritage assets so long as it is developed sensitively and does not directly or indirectly (such as via setting) damage the assets. In some cases, development may be able to provide enhancements. Therefore, at this scale the assessments against heritage are considered to be uncertain. Nevertheless, options E and F which promote a wider spread of development may have potential to result in greater cumulative effects than those focussed in fewer centres.

Potential Mitigation Considerations

- 4.1.20 Recommendations are that development should be focussed within Primary settlements where possible in order to decrease the pressures on the natural environment and its resources and notably cumulative effects. The options that promote more spread out development and more in remote countryside areas are expected to have the greatest adverse effects in general. It was recommended that further policies will be needed at a more local level to help achieve sustainability

in resource management; however, the assessment of draft policies in Chapter 5 considers this issue and whether the combination of local plan policies is suitably robust.

4.2 SA of Policy Area Options

4.2.1 Section 5 of the Issues and Options Consultation Discussion Paper presented a series of questions for consultation regarding policy areas – see below:

- Q6 Should the AONB DPD identify the proportion of affordable housing to be developed in the AONB?
- Q7 Should the AONB DPD restrict new housing development to local people and/or those who are going to use the property for their sole or main occupancy?
- Q8 How should the AONB DPD promote the development of certain housing types within the AONB to meet particular housing needs?
- Q9 How should the AONB DPD plan for housing development on rural estates, in isolated locations or specifically for agricultural and forestry workers?
- Q10 Should the AONB DPD prioritise and/or set a locally appropriate target for the use of brownfield land?
- Q11 Should the AONB DPD seek to guide the density of new development?
- Q12 Should the AONB DPD identify allocations of land for community infrastructure?
- Q13. Are there any particular locations, buildings or types of development that should be incorporated into the AONB DPD for employment uses?
- Q14 How should policies deal with energy-related developments?
- Q15 What policies should the AONB DPD contain to manage the impact of new development on highways and other services?
- Q16 Do you consider that there is a need for any additional parking facilities in the AONB's settlements?
- Q17 What policy stance should the AONB DPD take towards proposals for new or expanded caravan sites within the AONB?
- Q18. Have the right elements for assessing the designation of private open spaces as Important Open Space been identified?
- Q19. Of the existing designated open spaces shown on the accompanying maps, are there any you feel need not be designated as Important Open Space or any that could be suitable for other uses? What uses?
- Q20. Aside from those spaces marked on the accompanying maps, are there any other parcels of land that you feel should be given Important Open Space designation? Why?
- Q21 How should the AONB DPD provide for the assessment of development proposals that may impact on landscape, seascape, coastal features or settlement identity and separation?
- Q22 How should the AONB DPD protect or enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity of the AONB?
- Q23 What are the implications for development in places without mains drainage or mains sewerage systems?
- Q24 How should the AONB DPD manage the protection and enhancement of the historic environment?
- Q25 How should the AONB DPD manage the significance and protection of design features, and the standards of design required for new development in the area?
- Q29 Should the AONB DPD identify development boundaries? For which settlements?
- Q30 Should the AONB DPD phase development during the 15 year time horizon of the plan? What phasing approach is appropriate?

4.2.2 Many of these can be re-worded in the form of options and are therefore considered to be reasonable strategic alternatives as with the six spatial options.

- 4.2.3 The matrices in Appendix E provide the assessment of these options against the SA Framework Objectives.
- 4.2.4 It should be noted that it was not considered that questions 13, 18, 19 and 20 could be appraised in this manner as these formed more general, open ended questions. Further explanation on the reasons for this specific to each question is detailed below.

Questions Not Appraised

- 4.2.5 Q13. Are there any particular locations, buildings or types of development that should be incorporated into the AONB DPD for employment uses?
- 4.2.6 This question is quite broad and focuses on a number of variables for policy proposals. Once more specific feedback is offered on types of options for fulfilling development for employment uses, then an SA of the options can be undertaken.
- Q18. Have the right elements for assessing the designation of private open spaces as Important Open Space been identified?
- 4.2.7 This question focuses more on feedback on the elements in which it has been decided that private open space should be designated as important open space.
- Q19. Of the existing designated open spaces shown on the accompanying maps, are there any you feel need not be designated as Important Open Space or any that could be suitable for other uses? What uses?
- 4.2.8 This question focuses on obtaining feedback on whether the designated Important Open Spaces which have been chosen are suitable, and if not, what alternative use they could be better suited for. In the future it may be worthwhile assessing any alternative uses once they are more clearly defined.
- Q20. Aside from those spaces marked on the accompanying maps, are there any other parcels of land that you feel should be given Important Open Space designation? Why?
- 4.2.9 This is also an open question. If reasonable alternative areas are identified in the future, these may need to be subject to SA.

5 SA of the Draft AONB DPD

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 As described in Section 2.4, the DPD includes nine allocations and 14 development management policies. However, also as described in Chapter 2, the AONB DPD will help set out the specific development needs and policies for the AONB area while working in tandem with other development policies set out by the UK Government and within the overlapping South Lakeland District and Lancaster City district. The current key documents are:
- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF);
 - South Lakeland Local Plan - Core Strategy (2010);
 - Saved Policies of the South Lakeland Local Plan (1997);
 - Lancaster District Core Strategy (2008);
 - Lancaster District Development Management Policies (2014); and
 - Saved policies of the Lancaster District Local Plan (2004).
- 5.1.2 The AONB DPD helps to implement the AONB Management Plan – see Sections 2.2 and 2.3.
- 5.1.3 Also, note that South Lakeland's Development Management Policies DPD is being prepared simultaneously with the AONB DPD, and it will replace the 'Saved Policies' listed above. It is likely it will be adopted at around the same time as the AONB DPD.
- 5.1.4 The above policy documents will be applied equally and alongside the DPD when determining planning applications within the AONB, and therefore are incorporated into the assessment where appropriate. For example, where development supported or encouraged by the AONB DPD presents risks of adverse effects (e.g. to carbon emissions), the relevant mitigating policies of the South Lakeland and Lancaster City local plans would apply (e.g. policies on sustainable design / energy efficiency and any policy to do with sustainable energy within new development).
- 5.1.5 It is important, therefore, to emphasise that the AONB DPD will not have impacts or effects on its own, but only in combination with the above other plans as they apply within the AONB boundary.
- 5.1.6 The assessment of proposed allocations, alternative sites and draft policies has followed the methods described in Section 3.1. The results of the SA are discussed in this chapter.

5.2 Assessment of Site Allocations

- 5.2.1 This section provides a summary of the assessment of the proposed site allocations. The detailed site assessments can be found in Appendix G.
- 5.2.2 The assessment of proposed site allocations has been conducted in accordance with the methodology described in Section 3.2, using the criteria set out in Appendix D. The proposed allocations are shown in Table 5-1 below.

Table 5-1 Proposed AONB DPD Allocations

Site Ref.	Parish	Site Name	Size (ha)	Proposed Use
AS17	Arnsdale	Land Off Queen's Drive	0.12	Residential - 6 dwellings estimated
AS18	Arnsdale	Land on Hollins Lane	0.22	Residential - 6 dwellings estimated
AS19	Arnsdale	Land on Briery Bank	0.27	Residential - 8 dwellings estimated
AS20	Beetham	Land on Church Street	0.21	Residential - 6 dwellings estimated
AS21	Warton	Land North West of Sand Lane	0.41	Residential - 12 dwellings estimated
AS22	Warton	Land North of 17 Market Street	0.70	Residential - 10 dwellings estimated
AS23	Arnsdale	Station Yard	1.03	Car parking, employment, community/visitor facilities and rail access. Possible residential or live-work

Site Ref.	Parish	Site Name	Size (ha)	Proposed Use
AS24	Silverdale	Silverdale Railway Goods Yard	0.36	Employment and car parking
AS25	Beetham	Land on Sandside Road and Quarry Lane	3.1	Employment, Residential, community facilities and access

Housing, Health, Education, Access and Economic SA Objectives

- 5.2.3 The proposed allocations are likely to contribute positively to these SA Objectives. The provision of approximately 48 new dwellings provides the opportunity to contribute to meeting local housing needs, and to provide housing of high quality. The sites are all very accessible to community services and facilities which support good health and well-being, and to sustainable transport opportunities. The residential sites are all in close proximity to schools.
- 5.2.4 The sites all support economic inclusion through proximity of housing to local employment opportunities (i.e. existing settlements), or by siting employment sites so as to have good access from residential areas. The employment sites make a positive contribution to the local economy and the supply of job opportunities for residents.
- 5.2.5 A key challenge surrounding site AS17 Land Off Queen's Drive is the creation of an appropriate access point; the site is already linked to the highway via a paved route that is in the same ownership, however, the link is not an adopted road and development would only occur on the grounds that the developer is able to demonstrate how suitable access can be achieved.
- 5.2.6 Site assessment recommendations: policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.

Air Quality, Climate Change / Energy, Water

- 5.2.7 None of the sites are likely to affect air quality significantly. All of the sites have the potential to increase CO₂ emissions via construction and operation over the lifetime of the developments, but this can be partly mitigated through policy through sustainable / zero carbon design, promoting and improving sustainable transport opportunities, and habitat creation / 'naturalisation' of the built environment (e.g. green roofs, green walls).
- 5.2.8 Sites AS23 Station Yard, AS24 Silverdale Railway Goods Yard and AS25 Land at Sandside Road and Quarry Lane are adjacent to a water body, but with mitigation in the form of protection of the water body from physical modification or pollution risk through policy, there should be no significant residual effects. Areas of sites AS23 and AS25 also fall within an area of high flood risk (Flood Zone 3), therefore policy must ensure appropriate sequential testing is undertaken and sufficient drainage mitigation is in place.
- 5.2.9 Groundwater is particularly sensitive in the AONB and although none of the site allocations fall within a groundwater Source Protection Zone, measures should be taken during development to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity. Developers should also provide new sewerage systems to prevent adverse effects on the unready in adequate system. The existing sewerage system in area would require upgrades as there are pressures from aging and ineffective private systems in order to accommodate the proposed developments and mitigate any impacts on the water quality of Morecambe Bay.
- 5.2.10 Site assessment recommendations: None – application of flood risk management policy is expected to ensure adequate resilience against flooding, and prevent the worsening of fluvial or surface water flood risk.

Bio- / Geo-diversity, Land / Sea-scape and Character and Minerals and Waste

- 5.2.11 Sites AS17, AS18, AS21, AS22 and AS24 all fall within 500 m of designated nature conservation sites, but with appropriate mitigation, significant effects on these sites are unlikely. Sites AS23 and AS25 are adjacent to an SAC, SPA and Ramsar site, and while the sensitivity is greater, the scale of

development is such that there are unlikely to be significant effects, including cumulatively with other development (see also the HRA Screening Report).

- 5.2.12 Most of the sites are expected to have either a beneficial or neutral effect on landscape and seascape character. However, sites , AS21 and AS22 could have a slight adverse effect without mitigation; there are specific recommendations for each site in order to ensure a neutral / negligible effect on landscape or seascape.
- 5.2.13 All of the sites are expected to have a slight adverse effects on the use of raw materials (minerals) for construction and the production of waste during both construction and operation. However, with mitigation to maximise the use of recycling and reuse, the effect is considered likely to be negligible.
- 5.2.14 Site assessment recommendations: Site-level assessments should determine appropriate pollution prevention measures in accordance with local planning policy.
- 5.2.15 See also site-specific landscape / seascape recommendations in Appendix G.
- 5.2.16 Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.

Community and Heritage

- 5.2.17 The sites will not affect the achievement of the Community SA Objective significantly, either positively or negatively.
- 5.2.18 Sites AS20, AS21 and AS23 are in proximity to Listed Buildings, and Site AS22 also contains a locally designated building which should be retained, and any development should be sensitive in its design. Sites AS20 and AS22 are also in close proximity to a Conservation Area. With mitigation, none of these allocations are expected to have a significant effect on Heritage.
- 5.2.19 Site assessment recommendations: Historic environment policy has been proposed. It will be important to ensure that proposals do not affect the setting of historic assets.

5.3 Rejected Alternative Site Allocations

- 5.3.1 All sites suggested at the initial Call for Sites stage or through the Issues and Options Consultation were visited by SLDC and LCC Officers and the AONB Manager. Alongside the initial call for sites, a set of site assessment criteria was developed in consultation with key stakeholders including Parish Councils. These were used to create a Site Assessment Form against which each of the site suggestions were assessed.
- 5.3.2 Amongst other criteria, the Site Assessment Forms included a set of Exclusion Criteria. The exclusion criteria covered factors that, if present, would render a site wholly inappropriate for development regardless of how well the site might perform against other factors. Many of the exclusion criteria used would apply to any site, such as flood risk, whilst some related specifically to the Arnside & Silverdale AONB, such as mitigatable landscape impacts and priority habitat. Any sites to which the exclusion criteria applied were ruled out of further consideration.
- 5.3.3 Any sites that were not ruled out by Exclusion Criteria were subject to further tests and assessment using the other criteria set out on the site assessment form. HRA was also undertaken on all sites to which Exclusion Criteria did not apply. Details of this can be found in the accompanying HRA Report.
- 5.3.4 Some sites that had passed the site assessment were then ruled out when new information became available, for example, some owners who had previously submitted their sites for consideration changed their minds and withdrew the sites. Altogether, this assessment left a small number of sites that were considered to have potential for allocation for development.
- 5.3.5 All sites excluded by that point were considered not to represent 'reasonable alternatives' for the purposes of SA and as such, only those sites remaining after these assessments were subject to SA.
- 5.3.6 However, two sites were subject to SA but are not allocated for development in the AONB DPD. These are S50 St John's Avenue, Silverdale and S56 South Of Whinney Fold, Silverdale. The site assessment matrices for these two sites are provided in Appendix H. Taking into account the findings of the site assessment, the HRA and SA results and the public and stakeholder consultation, it was decided that these sites, whilst not ruled out by any single stage in the process described

above, raised a range of issues that cumulatively would have unacceptable impacts on the AONB and its communities.

5.4 Summary of the Initial Filter of Policies

5.4.1 In accordance with the assessment methodology reported in Section 3.1, the policies were assessed initially for potential relevance to each SA Objective. The full assessment and reasons for 'screening' some policies out from assessment against certain SA Objectives can be found in Appendix F. A summary is provided in Table 5-2 below.

Table 5-2 Summary of the initial filter of policies

KEY															
Y	Potential for significant positive or negative effects – requires assessment														
0	Potential for effects recognised, but unlikely to be significant														
0	No potential for effects, significant or otherwise														
SA Objective (Short Title)	Policy Ref.:	AS01	AS02	AS03	AS04	AS05	AS06	AS07	AS08	AS09	AS10	AS11	AS12	AS13	AS14
	Policy Title:	Development Strategy	Landscape	Housing Provision	Natural Environment	Public Open Space and Recreation	Key Settlement Landscapes	Historic Environment	Design	Economic Development and Community Facilities	Infrastructure for New Development	Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation	Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Energy and Communications	Advertising and Signage
1. Housing		Y	0	Y	0	0	0	0	0	0	Y	0	0	0	0
2. Health		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	Y	0	0	Y	0	0
3. Education		Y	0	0	Y	0	0	Y	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	0
4. Sustainable Access		Y	0	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	0
5. Local Economy		Y	0	Y	0	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	0	Y	0
6. Retention and Creation of jobs		Y	0	Y	0	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0
7. Economic Inclusion and Job Access		Y	0	Y	0	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0
8. Air Quality		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9. Climate Change and Energy Efficiency		Y	0	Y	0	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0
10. Water Quality		Y	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0
11. Biodiversity and Geodiversity		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0
12. Landscape, Seascape and Settlement Character and Quality		Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0
13. Land and Soil		Y	0	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0
14. Mineral Resources		Y	0	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0

SA Objective (Short Title)	Policy Ref.:	AS01	AS02	AS03	AS04	AS05	AS06	AS07	AS08	AS09	AS10	AS11	AS12	AS13	AS14
	Policy Title:	Development Strategy	Landscape	Housing Provision	Natural Environment	Public Open Space and Recreation	Key Settlement Landscapes	Historic Environment	Design	Economic Development and Community Facilities	Infrastructure for New Development	Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation	Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Energy and Communications	Advertising and Signage
15. Heritage and the Community		Y	0	Y	Y	Y	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0
16. Historic Environment and Heritage Assets		Y	0	Y	Y	Y	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0
17. Democratic Processes		Y	0	Y	0	Y	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0

5.5 Assessment of Policies

SA of DPD Policies: Housing

5.5.1 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

1. To ensure there is housing to meet local needs in a manner sensitive to the AONB.

5.5.2 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To ensure there is enough housing available to meet needs in all areas.
- To increase the availability of affordable housing.
- To ensure housing is decent.

5.5.3 Table 5-3 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for Housing, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-3: Summary of the Biodiversity Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development	None	N/A

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		Effect	AONB-wide		Outside of AONB		
Effect of the AONB DPD			Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
	Short / Medium Term	+	D	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	+	D	M	0	ID	M
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		South Lakeland Core Strategy, Policy CS8.7 Sustainable construction, energy efficiency and renewable energy Draft South Lakeland Development Management Policies DPD – policy with draft title of ‘Achieving High Quality Design’					

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
		Lancaster City Development Management DPD, Policy DM35 Key Design Principles					
Residual effect	Short / Medium Term	++	D	M	0	ID	M
	Long Term	++	D	H	0	ID	M

- 5.5.4 As a result of Policy AS01 (Development Strategy), including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, there are potential benefits to the existing residents of the AONB as a result of the increase in housing in general. Without enhancing policy, this housing would be expected to be of a mix of sizes to meet market demand. However, Policy AS03 seeks the maximum possible level of affordable housing provision, as well as that housing meets the number, types and tenure of homes required in an area. This policy will enhance the benefits of new homes, ensuring that housing provision is needs-based, rather than solely profit-driven (though viability remains a factor – policy allows for demonstration of what can / cannot be achieved). Policy AS03 includes for an affordable housing target of 50%.
- 5.5.5 Also, new housing would be expected to be of a modern standard, meeting modern regulations as a minimum, which are likely to be of a higher standard to the average existing home. This is considered a minor beneficial effect without further enhancing policy, which is set out in the South Lakeland and Lancaster City planning policy for design. The benefits would be to existing residents, who would be afforded the opportunity to access this new housing, as well as to new residents. Although a proportion of new residents may be from areas outside of the AONB, the quantity of new housing combined with the plan targeting local needs is not considered likely to provide significant cross-boundary benefits. It is very unlikely that future migration of residents in and out of the AONB will be significantly influenced by the DPD.
- 5.5.6 Policy AS10 helps to ensure that new housing provides and is supported by sufficient infrastructure, which could in turn help to ensure that the housing that is needed over the plan period is delivered.
- 5.5.7 It is noted that the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) shows high deprivation in the area of “Access to Housing and Services” (a measure which includes relative access to key services, but more appropriately issues around homelessness and housing affordability) in the settlements of Silverdale, Sandside/Storth, Beetham, Yealand Redmayne and Yealand Conyers. These are also areas where new housing “may be permitted” under Policy AS01, and as such, the policy may help to reduce inequality in access to housing. There may be particular benefits where new housing is permitted in these settlements.
- 5.5.8 The SA has tested for the potential for negative effects, such as the following possibilities:
- A loss of housing, either in total or of a particular type (e.g. affordable);
 - Potentially a disproportionate increase in expensive housing (e.g. larger-sized houses) relative to affordable housing; and/or
 - A reduction in housing quality.
- 5.5.9 The above are considered highly unlikely either as a direct result of DPD policy, or indirectly (e.g. policy not adequately addressing any of the above issues, thus allowing developers to prioritise profit over other considerations), and therefore there would be no negative effects of the DPD. (See also below.)
- 5.5.10 With policy AS03 and AS10 enhancing the benefits of Policy AS01, housing provision is likely to have a major beneficial effect by ensuring it is affordable and built in areas with the highest need.

Policy Recommendations for SA Housing Topic:

Policy AS01 could be strengthened to ensure that the specific housing requirements of local needs are met to reduce over and under allocations of housing stock in any one given area. This recommendation has now been incorporated into AS01.

Policy AS08: Design could act as an enhancing policy for this SA Objective if it were to discuss housing standards in terms of internal design. (At present, it focuses on external design quality.) It could cross-reference other DPDs, as appropriate.

This change would improve the certainty of the scoring of major beneficial effects (from medium and high, to low and medium, respectively).

Residual effect with policy recommendations, if taken up:

		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Residual effect	Short / Medium Term	++	D	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	++	D	M	0	ID	H

SA of DPD Policies: Health

5.5.11 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

2. To improve wellbeing, physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities.

5.5.12 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community.
- To improve access to health and social care services for all through proximity to GP surgeries etc.
- To improve transport links to GP's surgeries (rail/bus).
- To promote healthy active lifestyles and access to recreational space.
- To ensure there is access to greenspace, countryside, public spaces, rights of way, play areas and open coast for people to enjoy.
- To ensure there are cultural /social/ community facilities and activities for people to enjoy / participate in including access to village halls and civic buildings.
- To encourage the development of strong and cohesive communities through proximity to existing settlements.
- To create a healthy and safe working and living environment with low rates of crime and disorder.

5.5.13 Table 5-4 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for Health, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-4: Summary of the Health Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS01 Development Strategy (development management aspects) Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation Policy AS06 Key Settlement Landscapes	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Proposed allocations	Policy AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development (See also other relevant SA Topics, as discussed below.)

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development		

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	+	D/ID	L	+	D/ID	M
	Long Term	+	D/ID	M	+	D/ID	H
Mitigating or enhancing policy or other applicable plans / strategies		South Lakeland Core Strategy, Policy CS9.1 Social and community infrastructure Draft South Lakeland Development Management Policies DPD – policy with draft title of ‘Achieving High Quality Design’ Lancaster City Development Management DPD, Policy DM35 Key Design Principles					
Residual effect	As above.						

- 5.5.14 Without mitigating policy, new development resulting from Policy AS01 (Development Strategy), including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, will lead to an increase in residents in certain areas, which in turn can put pressure on the capacity of key services and facilities, such as GPs and other healthcare facilities, open space / play areas and others. The increase in residents, and also new economic development which may result from Policy AS09 (Economic Development and Community Facilities) can also increase levels of use of the transport network to an extent to reduce the relative accessibility of services and facilities, and there can be highway safety issues when considering the volume of traffic introduced by new development. As such, the effect of Policy AS01, which supports new development in the AONB (albeit sustainably), combined with proposed allocations without mitigating policy is considered potentially minor adverse within the AONB, but negligible outside of the AONB boundaries, given the low level of development and low likelihood of significant cross-boundary impacts on use of services.
- 5.5.15 Mitigating policy in the form of AS05, AS09 and AS10 aims addresses the potential for negative effects by addressing the need for adequate infrastructure in support of new development, and ensuring there are no significant negative impacts on the transport network. In particular:
- AS05: “proposals that restrict or prevent access to the coast, or that reduce or compromise other recreational networks will not be permitted”;
 - AS05: “where new development is proposed, developers will be required to provide new or enhanced public open space”;
 - AS09: “development proposals that bring... community benefits to the AONB... will be supported in principle for the following purposes subject to meeting other policy requirements: ... small-scale new or expanded outdoor sport and leisure facilities; ... shared (co-location) and flexible service and facility uses of buildings in Local Service Centres and Small Villages where this will help to ensure the continued operation of key services or community assets”;
 - AS10: “new development will contribute towards new infrastructure or improve the capacity of existing infrastructure... Reference should be made to the Councils’ Infrastructure Delivery Plans when considering the priorities for new infrastructure provision”; and
 - AS10: “high priority should be given to supporting active travel and enhancing sustainable travel networks, including infrastructure investment to benefit walking, cycling and public transport.”
- 5.5.16 Further details and provisions of the policies above (and others) can be found in the draft AONB DPD. In particular, the supporting text to Policy AS10 expands upon the types of infrastructure

which must be considered: “A strong community requires services and facilities that contribute to the quality of life and functioning of a community. Both Councils have adopted policies to ensure that there are opportunities to develop and maintain features including recreation facilities, health services, allotments, shops, places of worship, pubs and village halls. There are also locally specific needs such as for new provision for car parking or for new pedestrian or cycle routes. In some cases, it will be possible for new development to contribute towards the provision or maintenance of these facilities, through the use of planning obligations which may be sought where they are necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms. Obligations are funded through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), planning conditions or legal agreements.”

- 5.5.17 Having addressed the key potential adverse effect to health in terms of access to services and facilities (including open space), the residual effect of DPD policies on health is expected to be beneficial. This would be as a result of a combination of multiple factors: beneficial economic effects, any improvements to walking or cycling facilities alongside new development, and also benefits to the landscape or historic environment which can improve the outdoor living environment for attractive walking and cycling – see SA Objectives 12, 15 and 16.
- 5.5.18 Although the economic benefits are effectively quite limited with the low scale of new development proposed (while preserving the valuable tourist economy), studies show that there is a correlation between high employment levels, higher incomes and better health. This includes direct health benefits affecting mental health (greater confidence, access to social and support networks, etc.), and likewise physical health (ability to afford active recreational opportunities, access to education, etc.). Also, economically deprived areas tend to experience a greater prevalence of risk behaviours, such as smoking, taking illegal drugs, and teenage pregnancy – economic benefits can reduce the level of such behaviours within a community, or prevent increases. It is likely that the housing effects such as improved affordability (see SA Objective 1) and economic effects (see SA Objectives 5, 6 and 7) will have the predominant effect on health, relative to other potential effects of the DPD. These are considered minor beneficial from the short to long term, affecting residents both within and outside of the AONB.
- 5.5.19 The SA has considered the potential for other adverse effects to health, such as:
- Economic impacts (which can affect health – discussed below) – see SA Objectives 5, 6 and 7;
 - Air quality impacts – see SA Objective 8;
 - Loss of open space to development or replacement of buildings / land uses for cultural /social/ community facilities with new development such as housing;
 - Loss of access to greenspace, countryside, public spaces, rights of way, play areas and open coast – see SA Objective 4;
 - Loss of community cohesion / urban sprawl and loss of settlement identity; and
 - Increases in levels of crime / fear of crime.
- 5.5.20 However, there is not considered to be any significant potential for such adverse effects, given the low scale of development proposed. The economic effects are considered beneficial (see SA Objectives 5, 6 and 7). Air quality will not be affected significantly (see SA Objective 8), and with mitigating policy, open space and access to greenspace, the countryside, public spaces, etc. will be preserved (see SA Objective 4). Mitigating aspects of Policy AS01, Policies AS02 and AS06 all ensure that settlement identity will be preserved, but even without such protections, it is unlikely that the scale of development proposed would be able to affect community cohesion to a large enough degree to significantly affect people’s health. Similarly, the scale of development is not large enough to risk creating new areas vulnerable to crime or which might exacerbate existing crime issues.
- 5.5.21 There are no policy recommendations at this stage. See also SA Objective 1: Housing, and SA Objective 4: Sustainable Access.

SA of DPD Policies: Education

- 5.5.22 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

3. To improve the level of skills, education and training.

- 5.5.23 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society through access to primary schools, secondary schools and further educational establishments.
- To improve the provision of education and training facilities.
- To improve access to and involvement in Lifelong Learning opportunities.
- To improve access to environmental education.

5.5.24 Table 5-5 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for Education, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-5 Summary of the Education Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective		Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective			Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects		
Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development		Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Proposed allocations			Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development		

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	0	ID	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	+	ID	M	0	ID	H
Mitigating or enhancing policy or other applicable plans / strategies		Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.						

5.5.25 The SA has considered whether development within the AONB could in theory have an adverse effect on education, as new housing (AS01), including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, could bring the existing schools or other educational facilities over-capacity. This could in turn affect educational attainment levels. However, firstly, the relevant education authorities in Cumbria and Lancashire are involved in preparation of the DPD, and have helped to ensure that levels of development are unlikely to have a significant effect on school capacity.

5.5.26 Also secondly, it is expected that Policy AS10 would ensure that new development leads to proportionate increases in schools or other educational facilities. Also, combined with new development, Policy AS10 could potentially benefit existing schools and the service provided to existing residents in the long term, such as by funding new classrooms built to a better standard or with modern facilities.

5.5.27 For the purposes of the SA, this assessment has considered education within the AONB only, so effects outside are considered to be neutral. The assessment of proposed site allocations has identified that all of the sites are in close proximity to primary schools, although none are near to secondary schools. The very small scale of development limits the extent of net benefits that can be achieved via developer contributions.

Policy Recommendations for SA Education Topic:

Policy AS10 would benefit from a consolidated reference list of potential infrastructure requirements (including cross-reference to each authority's Infrastructure Delivery Plan, as is already in the draft DPD), and this should include school expansion (primary and secondary) where required, and further education opportunities. It could also benefit from an additional provision that infrastructure requirements will account for the needs of the wider community, where relevant to that proposal. Such a provision will help ensure that any pre-existing shortfalls are not worsened by new development.

Although such a policy improvement would be beneficial, it is unlikely to change the assessment significantly.

SA of DPD Policies: Sustainable Access

5.5.28 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

4. *To improve sustainable access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces*

5.5.29 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To ensure public transport services (bus and train) meet the needs of all and development is located in proximity to bus services.
- To ensure highways infrastructure serves people's transportation needs (including for private vehicular travel, walking and cycling).
- To ensure public buildings and public spaces are readily accessible to all in including access to village halls and civic buildings.
- To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport and reduce dependence on the private car.
- To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities.
- To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities for all including proximity to shops.
- To promote and facilitate access to, and opportunities to enjoy, the countryside, historic environment and green open space including a range of open space typologies.

5.5.30 Table 5-6 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for sustainable access, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-6 Summary of the Sustainable Access Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Proposed allocations	Policy AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	0	D	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	+	D	M	0	ID	M

	Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
	AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Mitigating or enhancing policy or other applicable plans / strategies	Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.					

- 5.5.31 Policy AS01 and the proposed allocations focus development within Local Service Centres, and small villages which have some community services. Policy AS01 specifically requires that in Beetham where services and facilities are particularly limited, the suitability of proposals will be considered in relation to the level of services and facilities there. The proposed allocations all have excellent access to public transport opportunities, and most also have good access to a range of services including primary schools, local or key service centres, the countryside or open coast, places of worship, town or village halls, cultural or leisure facilities (theatre, sport / recreation centre, museum, etc.), open space and designated historic assets.
- 5.5.32 It has been considered by the SA that without mitigating policy, new development brought about by Policy AS01, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, would cause a small increase in the number of residents in the AONB, which could have a negative impact on sustainable access in terms of affecting the capacity of such things as roads, bus services, community services and facilities, leisure / cultural facilities and open space. In turn, it has been considered that this effect in the AONB could have a knock-on effect on residents outside of the area, if residents then choose or need to use services outside of the AONB in replacement.
- 5.5.33 However, mitigating policy in the form of AS05, AS09 and AS10 aims to address the potential for negative effects by addressing the need for adequate infrastructure in support of new development, and ensuring there are no significant negative impacts on the transport network. In particular:
- AS05: “proposals that restrict or prevent access to the coast, or that reduce or compromise other recreational networks will not be permitted”;
 - AS05: “where new development is proposed, developers will be required to provide new or enhanced public open space”;
 - AS09: “development proposals that bring... community benefits to the AONB... will be supported in principle for the following purposes subject to meeting other policy requirements: ... small-scale new or expanded outdoor sport and leisure facilities; ... shared (co-location) and flexible service and facility uses of buildings in Local Service Centres and Small Villages where this will help to ensure the continued operation of key services or community assets”;
 - AS10: “new development will contribute towards new infrastructure or improve the capacity of existing infrastructure... Reference should be made to the Councils’ Infrastructure Delivery Plans when considering the priorities for new infrastructure provision”; and
 - AS10: “high priority should be given to supporting active travel and enhancing sustainable travel networks, including infrastructure investment to benefit walking, cycling and public transport.”
- 5.5.34 Having addressed the key potential adverse effect to access, the residual effect of DPD policies on sustainable access is expected to be neutral / negligible in the short to medium term, given that existing residents already enjoy high levels of access, and new development will maintain this good sustainability performance.
- 5.5.35 Cumulatively and over time, there is potential for significant long-term benefits. Possible enhancements within the AONB relevant to access could come about via:
- AS04: “new development will... *enhance* ecosystem services, taking into full account those detailed in the AONB Management Plan; *enhance* ecological networks, diversity and connectivity, including *enhancing* or *creating* new ‘stepping stones’, buffer zones, corridors and other linkages, including those that connect across the AONB boundary”;

- AS05: “Development will connect with and fill gaps in the existing recreational route network where appropriate opportunities exist”;
- AS05: “where new development is proposed, developers will be required to provide new or enhanced public open space”; and
- AS10: “new development will contribute towards new infrastructure or improve the capacity of existing infrastructure... Reference should be made to the Councils’ Infrastructure Delivery Plans when considering the priorities for new infrastructure provision”;

5.5.36 This would depend upon the extent to which new development delivers improvements to services and facilities and/or sustainable transport opportunities which benefit the wider community.

Policy Recommendations for SA Topic ‘Sustainable Access’:

As for the SA Objective for ‘Education’, Policy AS10 would benefit from a reference list of potential infrastructure requirements (including cross-reference to each authority’s Infrastructure Delivery Plan, as is already in the draft DPD). Some of the following is mentioned in the supporting text to the policy, but a consolidation into a single list could ensure comprehensive coverage of key areas, including:

- public transport services (bus and train);
- highways infrastructure (including minor works, e.g. access and road safety);
- walking and cycling facilities;
- places of worship, village halls and civic buildings (e.g. improvements, extensions);
- cultural and leisure facilities;
- essential services and facilities; and
- sports, recreation and green open space including a range of open space typologies.

It could also benefit from an additional provision that infrastructure requirements will account for the needs of the wider community, where relevant to that proposal. Such a provision will help ensure that any pre-existing shortfalls are not worsened by new development.

Although such a policy improvement would be beneficial, it is unlikely to change the assessment significantly.

SA of DPD Policies: Local Economy

5.5.37 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

5. To diversify and strengthen the local economy in a manner that is sensitive to the AONB.

5.5.38 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To help create the right economic conditions and infrastructure provision to encourage inward investment.
- To stimulate the use of local companies, products, services, heritage and culture and provide other forms of community benefit.
- To encourage indigenous growth of local businesses.
- To encourage diversification, innovation and entrepreneurship.
- To help improve the competitiveness and productivity of the local economy.
- To increase the environmental performance of local companies and their products/services.
- To support maintenance of the agricultural economy.
- To provide sustainable tourism.
- To foster heritage-led regeneration.
- To optimise the use of previously developed land, buildings and existing infrastructure.

5.5.39 Table 5-7 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for local economy, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-7: Summary of the Local Economy Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Proposed allocations	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Proposed allocations	Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD without mitigation	Short / Medium Term	+	D	L	+	ID	M
	Long Term	+	D	L	+	ID	L
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.						

- 5.5.40 Policy AS09, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, will generate over 4ha of employment land, which will have a beneficial effect on the local economy, providing:
- opportunities for inward investment, potential to encourage indigenous growth of local businesses by providing premises in which they can grow; and
 - opportunities for the diversification of the local economy, as well as competitiveness and productivity.
- 5.5.41 Policy AS01, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, will also provide over 70 new dwellings, including affordable homes, which will help minimise increases in the cost of living in the AONB for existing residents, and potentially help to home key workers, such as those who support and sustain community services and facilities that are essential to an efficient economy.
- 5.5.42 These potential beneficial effects would be received by residents both within and outside of the AONB.
- 5.5.43 Policies that limit the scale of development in the AONB and that protect the landscape and natural environment may not lead to net benefits, but will help ensure:
- maintenance of the agricultural economy, in terms of minimising loss of agricultural land to new development; and
 - protection of tourism within the AONB, ensuring that its attractive features, including heritage, continue to sustain and increase the tourism industry.
- 5.5.44 The significance of the beneficial effect is considered overall minor beneficial, given the relatively small scale of change.

Policy Recommendations for SA Local Economy Topic

The Council could include provisions within policy, such as Policy AS09, to support and encourage innovative industries, as well as or in particular innovative solutions to increase the environmental performance of local companies and their products and services.

Residual effect with policy recommendations, if taken up:

		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Residual effect	Short / Medium Term	+	D	L	+	ID	L
	Long Term	++	D	M	+	ID	M

SA of DPD Policies: Retention and Creation of jobs

5.5.45 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

6. To retain and create jobs and ensure the workforce meets local needs.

5.5.46 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To ensure people are educated, trained and skilled to meet local economic needs.
- To increase the number, variety and quality of employment opportunities, including those offered by tourism, social enterprise and inward investment.

5.5.47 Table 5-8 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for the retention and creation of jobs, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-8: Summary of the Retention and Creation of Jobs Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Proposed allocations	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Proposed allocations	Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD without mitigation	Short / Medium Term	+	D	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	+	D	L	0	ID	M
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.						

5.5.48 It follows from the assessment of SA Objective 5 on Local Economy that the AONB DPD would have beneficial effects upon employment opportunities. Again, the creation of new employment land and

buildings presents opportunities for new jobs, and likewise the protectionist policies which benefit the tourism industry will help to sustain and increase jobs in this industry.

5.5.49 Further to this, any increases in economic activity have the potential to be implemented alongside new training and further education opportunities (depending upon the businesses attracted), or alternatively to generate the demand for such training or further education within the AONB.

5.5.50 As for SA Objective 5, the significance of the beneficial effect is considered overall minor beneficial.

Policy Recommendations for SA Retention and Creation of jobs Topic:

The AONB DPD could include provisions within policy to encourage proposals that include training and further education opportunities. A more diverse pool of skills in the AONB may help to sustain and increase the diversity of employment opportunities available.

Residual effect with policy recommendations, if taken up:

		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Residual effect	Short / Medium Term	+	D	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	+	D	M	0	ID	M

SA of DPD Policies: Economic Inclusion and Access to Jobs

5.5.51 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

7. To encourage economic inclusion and access to jobs.

5.5.52 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To increase access for all to a range of jobs, through improved training, sustainable transport and communication links.
- To ensure economic development and employment opportunities are distributed evenly and are in areas of greatest need.

5.5.53 Table 5-9 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for Economic Inclusion and Access to Jobs, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-9: Summary of the Economic Inclusion and Access to Jobs Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Proposed allocations	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Proposed allocations	Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	+	D	L	0	ID	M

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
	Long Term	+	D	L	0	ID	M
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.						

5.5.54 It follows from the assessment of SA Objectives 5 and 6 on Local Economy and Retention and Creation of Jobs that the AONB DPD would have beneficial effects upon economic inclusion and access to jobs. Again, the creation of new employment land and buildings presents opportunities for new jobs, and likewise the protectionist policies which benefit the tourism industry will help to sustain and increase jobs in this industry. The proposed mixed use allocations are at Arnside, Sandside and Silverdale, which are three important local centres which serve a wider catchment area, and these allocations will certainly help to distribute opportunity throughout the AONB. All areas already perform well in terms of income and employment deprivation according to the IMD (2015).

5.5.55 As for SA Objectives 5 and 6, the significance of the beneficial effect is considered overall minor beneficial from the short to long term.

SA of DPD Policies: Air Quality

5.5.56 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

8. To protect and improve air quality.

5.5.57 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To protect and improve local air quality

5.5.58 Table 5-10 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for air quality, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-10 Summary of the Air Quality Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
N/A – air quality is already very good in the AONB and does not require improvement	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Proposed allocations	Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	0	D	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	0	D	M	0	ID	H
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Residual effect	As above.						

5.5.59 The scale of development which can result from the AONB DPD via Policies AS01, AS09 and AS10, including the proposed site allocations, is unlikely to cause a significant effect on air quality in the AONB given that air quality is already at a good standard and well within Air Quality Objectives (AQOs). There are no air quality management areas (AQMAs) within the AONB or along key inter-regional routes around the AONB, with the nearest relevant AQMA being in the centre of Carnforth to the south. Areas outside the AONB are also unlikely to be significantly affected.

5.5.60 Where there are no significant effects, mitigation is not required. However, the AONB DPD proposes policy to minimise road transport, and therefore emissions to air. Mainly, this mitigation is in the form of Policy AS10 which says “high priority should be given to supporting active travel and enhancing sustainable travel networks, including infrastructure investment to benefit walking, cycling and public transport.” The proposed allocations are all within existing settlements which provide community facilities and services. They are all adjacent to sustainable transport services, whether bus stops or rail stations. (See also SA Objectives 4 and 9).

5.5.61 The HRA (see SA Objective 11 – Biodiversity) has considered the potential for effects on European sites from air pollution.

SA of DPD Policies: Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

5.5.62 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

9. To limit and adapt to climate change and increase energy efficiency.

5.5.63 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- To ensure existing buildings have optimal energy efficiencies.
- To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport and reduce dependence on the private car.
- To ensure new developments are able to withstand extreme weather events.
- To include Green Infrastructure to reduce flood risk and surface water runoff in order to adapt to climate change.
- To encourage the use of clean, low carbon and energy efficient technologies sensitive to the AONB.

5.5.64 Table 5-11 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for climate change and energy efficiency, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-11: Summary of the Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS12 Water Quality, Sewerage and Sustainable Drainage	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Proposed allocations	Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS13 Energy and Communications

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	-	ID	L	-	ID	M
	Long Term	0	ID	M	0	ID	H
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		South Lakeland Core Strategy, Policy CS8.7 Sustainable construction, energy efficiency and renewable energy South Lakeland Core Strategy, Policy CS9.1 Social and community infrastructure South Lakeland Core Strategy, Policy CS10.1 Accessing services South Lakeland Core Strategy, Policy CS10.2 Transport impact of new development Draft South Lakeland Development Management Policies DPD – policy with draft title of ‘Rights of Way and other routes providing pedestrian and cycle access’ Draft South Lakeland Development Management Policies DPD – policy with draft title of ‘Parking Provision, new and loss of car parks’ Draft South Lakeland Development Management Policies DPD – policy with draft title of ‘Achieving High Quality Design’ Lancaster City Development Management DPD, Policy DM20 Enhancing Accessibility and Transport Linkages Lancaster City Development Management DPD, Policy DM21 Walking and Cycling Lancaster City Development Management DPD, Policy DM23 Transport Efficiency and Travel Plans Lancaster City Development Management DPD, Policy DM36 Sustainable Design					
Residual effect	Short / Medium Term	-	ID	L	-	ID	M
	Long Term	+	ID	H	+	ID	H

- 5.5.65 Without mitigating policy, new development resulting from Policies AS01, AS09 and AS10, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, will cause increases in carbon emissions within the AONB, which is unavoidable as a result of construction processes, the operational needs of new houses and employment uses and increased transport demand of new residents. Construction processes, even if using methods to minimise emissions, rely upon fossil fuels in vehicles, plant and also the embodied carbon of materials. Operationally, new buildings also use energy and require material inputs, which are highly likely to be at least partly derived from fossil fuel use, and thus lead to carbon emissions. Likewise, any increased demand for and use of transport relies on fossil fuels, particularly if that mode is the private car.
- 5.5.66 The proposed allocations are all within existing settlements which provide community facilities and services. They are all adjacent to sustainable transport services, whether bus stops or rail stations. There are also a range of mitigating policies in the AONB DPD, and also the existing South Lakeland and Lancaster City Local Plan documents.
- 5.5.67 The AONB DPD proposes policy to minimise road transport, and therefore emissions. Mainly, this mitigation is in the form of Policy AS10 which says “high priority should be given to supporting active travel and enhancing sustainable travel networks, including infrastructure investment to benefit walking, cycling and public transport.” Policy AS13 encourages small-scale and appropriate (within the context of the AONB) renewable energy developments, which could in the long term lead to a net reduction in carbon emissions.

- 5.5.68 The South Lakeland and Lancaster City mitigating policies of relevance aim to maximise the sustainable design of proposals in order to minimise the use of materials with a high carbon footprint and also achieve high levels of energy efficiency. These policies also seek to ensure high levels of access to local services and facilities by non-car modes, and likewise to sustainable transport opportunities.
- 5.5.69 With mitigating policy from the South Lakeland and Lancaster City local plans relating to design, new development could achieve a net beneficial effect in the long term, by reducing the amount of emissions that would have otherwise occurred without mitigating policy in place.
- 5.5.70 The long-term assessment is highly uncertain, as it depends upon unknown detail about the carbon footprint of new development and the amount of new travel generated, vs. various potential benefits of lower reliance on the car and increased energy efficiency of buildings, plus the amount of renewable energy generation achieved in the AONB.
- 5.5.71 In terms of adaptation to climate change, issues relating to green infrastructure and flood risk are addressed under SA Objective 10 below, and these outcomes are not repeated in this assessment.

Policy Recommendations for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Topic:

As per the SA Objective for housing, Policy AS08: Design could act as both a mitigating and enhancing policy for this SA Objective if it were to include aspects related to energy efficiency. Given the scale of growth expected in the AONB, the potential for largescale energy efficiency such as Combined Cooling, Heating and Power (CCHP) schemes is probably negligible, but the Councils may also wish to consider a policy which includes their use in new development of a certain size, or even the potential for District Heating schemes.

This change would improve the certainty of the scoring of minor beneficial effects in the long term.

Residual effect with policy recommendations, if taken up:

		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Residual effect	Short / Medium Term	-	ID	L	-	ID	M
	Long Term	+	ID	M	+	ID	M

SA of DPD Policies: Water Quality

- 5.5.72 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

10. To protect and enhance water quality, resources and reduce the risk of flooding

- 5.5.73 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To maintain, and where possible improve the quality and quantity of water resources.
- To minimise the risk of water pollution from all sources.
- To promote the wide use of sustainable drainage systems and other flood reduction or defence measures.
- To promote measures to reduce demand and improve demand management for water.
- To help reduce pressure on watercourses/water bodies from diffuse pollution such as agricultural waste, fertilizer and run-off from drains and concrete surfaces and point sources such as septic tank discharge.
- To encourage prudent water usage to reduce pressure on water resources.
- To align with current or planned sewerage infrastructure provision.
- To reduce or manage flooding through avoidance of areas of significant risk.
- To encourage the inclusion of flood mitigation measures and green infrastructure such as SuDS

- 5.5.74 Table 5-12 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for water quality, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-12: Summary of the Water Quality Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective		Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective			Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects		
Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS12 Water Quality, Sewerage and Sustainable Drainage		Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Supporting Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation (permissive aspects)Proposed allocations			Policy AS10 Supporting Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation (restrictive aspects) Policy AS12 Water Quality, Sewerage and Sustainable Drainage		

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD without mitigation	Short / Medium Term	0	D	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	0	D	M	0	ID	H
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		South Lakeland Core Strategy, Policy CS8.1 Green infrastructure South Lakeland Core Strategy, Policy CS8.8 Development and flood risk Lancaster City Development Management DPD, Policy DM38 Development and Flood Risk Lancaster City Development Management DPD, Policy DM40 Protecting Water Resources and Infrastructure					
Residual effect	As above.						

- 5.5.75 Without mitigating policy, new development or land use change in the case of some camping sites resulting from Policies AS01, AS09, AS10 and AS11, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, has the potential to lead to surface or groundwater pollution, to be constructed in ways which increase surface water run-off from new built surfaces (and thus increase flood risk locally or downstream in other catchments), or to directly modify water bodies such as rivers and streams (e.g. to build along their banks). Also, any localised population increases will result in increased water consumption which places more pressure on water resources, and more pressure on wastewater treatment, which if not planned for, can go over capacity and affect water bodies into which discharges are eventually sent. This is a significant issue for the AONB, as Leighton Beck, the River Bela, River Keer, the Kent Estuary, Hawes Water SSSI and SAC, and Leighton Moss SSSI, SPA and Ramsar site suffer from eutrophication impacts of poor water quality. The main contributory factors are agricultural run-off and septic tank overflow.
- 5.5.76 However, Policies AS10 and AS12 aim to ensure sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) are used, that adequate wastewater treatment infrastructure is provided and that drainage solutions are used which ensure that surface water run-off and foul water do not reach aquifers in the AONB. These policies are expected to take cognisance of the fact that at Silverdale, septic tank discharges are affecting water quality at the Silverdale shore, requiring both prevention of any further impact, and a net improvement where feasible. Also, Policy AS11 is restrictive against new caravan sites, wooden chalets or lodges (including as replacements for lower-impact accommodation). Given the scale of development proposed, this policy alone is likely stringent enough to ensure there are no significant increases in flood risk, and that existing flood risk issues can be dealt with adequately so as not to place new residents at significant risk of flooding.

- 5.5.77 It is also relevant that South Lakeland and Lancaster City policies require the protection and enhancement of watercourses and wetlands in a general sense, and include robust flood risk management policies. These will further ensure that there are no residual effects on water resources, water quality or flood risk.
- 5.5.78 The scale of development proposed is unlikely to affect water resources (i.e. supply) significantly. Any cumulative effects with surrounding local authorities will be accommodated readily by the Water Resources Management Plan for the region (United Utilities).

Policy Recommendations for SA Water Quality Topic:

As per the SA Objective for housing, Policy AS08: Design could act as both a mitigating and enhancing policy for this SA Objective if it were to include aspects related to water efficiency.

Policy AS12 should be amended to more explicitly address the potential direct impacts on water bodies (physical modification), the potential for fluvial flood risk, as well as surface water flood risk. This should include a brief cross-reference to the NPPF for its sequential tests for fluvial flood risk, the need to address any existing fluvial or surface water flood risk issues on or in the vicinity of the site (including on any immediately supporting infrastructure) and also the need to avoid worsening surface water flood risk at any location. It should include a policy which protects water bodies generally, and has a presumption against the physical modification of any water body. This could include an expectation that water bodies will be protected by a buffer, ideally of green space, of an appropriate distance from any surface water body – this could be 8 m minimum (subject to local bylaws) to reflect Environment Agency guidance on risks to water bodies in similar applications. An upper range could also be included (e.g. 20 m) in order to ensure that the minimum is only used where a site is particularly constrained.

This change would lead to the potential for minor beneficial effects in the long term, by helping to ensure that new development has the potential to address and improve existing flood risk issues.

Residual effect with policy recommendations, if taken up:

		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Residual effect	Short / Medium Term	0	D	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	+	D	M	0	ID	H

SA of DPD Policies: Biodiversity and Geodiversity

- 5.5.79 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

11. To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.

- 5.5.80 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To protect and conserve habitats, species, geological and geomorphological sites, especially where these may be rare, declining, threatened or indigenous.
- To help ensure biodiversity sustainability by enhancing conditions wherever necessary to retain viability of the resource.
- To minimise adverse impacts on species and habitats through new development and human activity.
- To ensure and enhance continuity and connectivity of ecological networks such as river corridors, coastal habitats, uplands, woodlands and scrub to enable free passage of specific habitat dependent species.

- 5.5.81 Table 5-13 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for biodiversity and geodiversity, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-13: Summary of the Biodiversity and Geodiversity Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS04 Natural Environment	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation (permissive aspects) Proposed allocations	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects related to managing development) Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation (restrictive aspects) Policy AS12 Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	0	D/ID	M	0	ID	H
	Long Term	+	D/ID	H	+	D/ID	H
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.						

5.5.82 Without mitigating policy, new development resulting from Policies AS01, AS09, AS10 and AS11, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, has the potential to lead to a permanent loss of biodiversity and geodiversity via a variety of means, including:

- direct impacts on species (e.g. removal of trees and hedges with nesting birds);
- removal of habitat or geological sites / features from landtake;
- lost connectivity of habitat, leading to population fragmentation and the reduced genetic diversity or viability of populations, or even increased direct mortality (e.g. road crossings);
- lost access to or views of geological sites / features;
- recreational pressure, such as increased dog-walking and resulting disturbance by dogs of bird nests, or use of off-road cycles / vehicles in woodlands or other areas which have sensitive ground flora;
- emissions from buildings;
- light pollution / disturbance of species from outdoor lighting (e.g. security lighting);
- emissions from transport; and
- water run-off, which can carry pollution, can alter habitat (e.g. water-logging) or have flood risk implications, which in turn can harm habitat quality.

5.5.83 As described in paragraph 5.5.75, water pollution is a significant issue for Hawes Water SSSI and SAC, and Leighton Moss SSSI, SPA and Ramsar site, which suffer from eutrophication impacts of poor water quality. One of the main contributory factors is septic tank overflow.

- 5.5.84 Where biodiversity are lost, they can be difficult to replace, and when habitats are replaced, new ecosystems can take a long time to re-form. Similarly, important geological features cannot be replaced, and equivalent or even similar alternatives may not exist nearby, or even at all.

Summary of the Conclusion of the HRA:

The HRA Screening stage has considered the potential for 'in combination' / cumulative effects of the AONB DPD and other plans on European sites, including SPAs, SACs and Ramsar sites. It concludes that the AONB DPD will not have any significant adverse effect alone or in combination on these sites. The HRA Report is available separately and alongside the DPD and this SA Report.

- 5.5.85 The assessment of allocations (see Section 5.2 and Appendix D) identifies that a few sites have risks of major adverse effects without mitigation, due to being adjacent to an internationally designated SAC. However, given the size of the developments, this risk is actually far less. For the policy assessment, this is considered a potential minor adverse effect without mitigating policy, and it is considered, as the SAC extends beyond the AONB boundaries, to affect a wider area.
- 5.5.86 Policies AS01, AS02, AS04, AS05, AS10 and AS12 mitigate against these potential adverse effects. Policy AS05 in particular requires that development "conserve and enhance the AONB's biodiversity and geodiversity, avoid the fragmentation and isolation of or disturbance to wildlife, habitats and species. It will also help to develop green corridors, green networks and ecosystem services." The potential for new development at this small scale to lead to significant net biodiversity benefits is unknown, and it will depend upon localised opportunities for habitat improvement and creation.
- 5.5.87 It is expected that should any development proposals come forward during the DPD's plan period which are not allocations (but which must accord with Policy AS01 on scale and distribution of development), they are likely to be similar in size and location to those sites assessed, and similar considerations will apply. As a result, the residual effect of the AONB DPD on biodiversity and geodiversity is considered neutral / negligible in the short and medium term, and potentially minor beneficial in the long term as a result of habitat creation and development of green corridors / networks (which in turn can benefit ecosystem services). There are no policy recommendations at this stage.

SA of DPD Policies: Landscape, Seascape and Settlement Character and Quality

- 5.5.88 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:
- 12. To protect and enhance landscape, seascape and settlement character and quality.*
- 5.5.89 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:
- To ensure night skies are dark.
 - To promote high quality and sustainable design for buildings, spaces and the public realm sensitive to the locality.
 - To reduce exposure to noise disturbance.
 - To protect and enhance local landscape quality, local distinctiveness sense of place and character from unsympathetic development and changes in land management.
 - To retain rural nature of the AONB landscape and rural nature of the AONB settlements.
 - To maintain the remoteness and tranquillity of rural landscapes.
 - To encourage low-input and organic farming, with environmental stewardship styles of land management.
 - To sustain and extend tree cover, hedgerows, woodlands, and sustainable forestry.
 - To conserve and enhance seascape character.
 - To conserve settlement character.
 - To conserve and enhance landscape features such as drystone walls, in-field trees, limekilns, ponds etc.
 - To conserve views across, into and out of the AONB.

- To maintain open spaces.
- To maintain the mosaic of contrasting landscape character types.
- To encourage the appropriate re-use and improvement of brownfield sites.

5.5.90 Table 5-14 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for Landscape, Seascape and Settlement Character and Quality, with the assessment described thereafter. Note also that a separate landscape assessment has been undertaken for all the sites proposed in the DPD. The results of this assessment has been used to assist the SA.

Table 5-14: Summary of the Landscape / Seascape and Settlement Character / Quality Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS01 Development Strategy Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS07 Historic Environment Policy AS08 Design	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation (permissive aspects) Policy AS13 Energy and Communications Proposed allocations	Policy AS01 Development Strategy Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS06 Key Settlement Landscapes Policy AS07 Historic Environment Policy AS08 Design Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation (restrictive aspects)

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	+	D/ID	M	0	ID	M
	Long Term	+	D/ID	M	0	ID	M
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.						

5.5.91 There is a close, intrinsic link between landscape, seascape and settlement character and quality, and the historic environment and heritage assets. The assessment against SA Objective 16 presented further below should be considered alongside this section, which predicts that policies would have a significant beneficial effect on the historic environment from the short to long term. This effect would contribute towards other effects of the AONB DPD on landscape, seascape and settlement character and quality described below.

5.5.92 As an AONB, the entirety of the DPD's geographical coverage is highly sensitive to landscape and visual impacts. Without mitigating policy, new development resulting from Policies AS01, AS03 AS09, AS10, AS11 and AS13, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, has the potential for adverse effects on the AONB designation. The need for new housing and limited appropriate land space is an issue in the AONB in particular, given its nationally significant landscape designation. Changes in land use and new buildings can alter landscape and visual aspects, including within that nighttime lighting levels / darkness of the night sky, the quantity and quality of spaces between developments and of the public realm, noise (particularly from tourist, commercial or industrial

development), local distinctiveness / sense of place, the rural nature of an area or settlement, remoteness and tranquillity, vegetation cover (e.g. tree cover and hedgerows), and other landscape features such as drystone walls. The potential for visual impacts and loss of landscape character must be carefully managed by managing the location, scale and nature of development, and also through appropriate design, which should be informed by survey (e.g. analysis of views and surrounding architecture) and assessment.

5.5.93 Policies AS01, AS02, AS04 and AS08 not only aim to conserve the local landscape but to also enhance it, which could lead to net benefits within the AONB. Policies AS06 and AS07 also aim to conserve the landscape and visual amenity, AS06 by restricting all development in Key Settlement Landscapes, and AS07 by including provisions to protect and enhance historic landscape character. Policies AS01, AS02, AS04 and AS08 encourage the re-use of brownfield sites and that the design of new development takes landscape, seascape and visual effects into careful consideration. In particular, and though exceptions may be permitted under very special circumstances (as laid out in the policies):

- AS01: “A landscape capacity-led approach to development will be taken in the AONB”;
- AS01: “Development in the AONB will be permitted where it furthers the primary purpose of AONB designation . Development that prejudices this purpose will not be permitted.”
- AS02: “Proposals will not be permitted where they would have a significant adverse effect upon the character of the landscape or would harm the landscape quality, visual amenity, nature conservation interests, geodiversity interests or cultural heritage of the AONB.”
- AS02: “Development proposals will be supported where they... retain, integrate *and enhance* distinctive natural, semi-natural, cultural and historic features; and conserve *and enhance* the undeveloped nature of land on the coast and on the edge of and between settlements, maintaining settlement separation; and conserve *and enhance* visual amenity, views, tranquillity and the sense of space and place, avoiding the introduction of intrusive elements and compromise to the skyline;...”
- AS02: “avoid harm to the wider landscape, including preventing urbanisation and increases in noise and light pollution, reducing it where there is scope to do so”
- AS04: “Development proposals will not be permitted that would be likely to compromise the extent, value or integrity of... any natural environment features or assets of particular significance and value in the AONB or characteristic of the AONB, as described in the AONB Management Plan, including those that do not enjoy formal protected status”.

5.5.94 Further details and provisions of the policies above (and others) can be found in the draft AONB DPD. Also, Policy AS11 is restrictive against new caravan sites, wooden chalets or lodges (including as replacements for lower-impact accommodation).

5.5.95 The combined mitigating policies of the AONB DPD are expected to ensure there is no significant adverse effect on landscape, seascape or visual amenity, as they address all of the potential impact areas under landscape and visual impacts. Given the drive to enhance landscape aspects within policy alongside development, this leaves the potential for net beneficial effects. Although a low scale of development is proposed, there could be minor beneficial effects in the short to medium term if the brownfield sites are developed in this timeframe, as they currently detract from landscape/townscape and visual amenity. Also, cumulatively there could be a significant benefit to landscape and visual qualities in the AONB in long term. This is assessed with medium uncertainty, as it depends strongly upon both project-level design details (size, layout, materials, architectural style, etc.) and site-specific opportunities for landscape / visual improvements yet to be identified, and the extent to which these opportunities are taken by new development.

SA of DPD Policies: Land and Soil

5.5.96 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

13. To protect land and soil and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.

5.5.97 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To minimise the loss of greenfield sites, areas of open spaces and amenity, and productive agricultural land.

- To encourage development of brownfield land in sustainable locations.
- To ensure that the creation of contaminated land will avoided.
- To ensure the quantity and quality of soil resources and function is safeguarded for the future.

5.5.98 Table 5-15 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for land and soil, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-15: Summary of the Land and Soil Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS04 Natural Environment	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Proposed allocations	Policy AS01 Development Strategy Policy AS04 Natural Environment Policy AS12 Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	0	D	L	0	ID	M
	Long Term	0	D	M	0	ID	H
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.						

5.5.99 Without mitigating policy, new development resulting from Policies AS01, AS03, AS09 and AS10, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, has the potential to lead to loss of greenfield sites and soil. Soils can be contaminated through pollution which can be carried via water run-off.

5.5.100 Mitigating policies AS01 (aspects of it mitigate its own potential for impacts), AS04 and AS12 encourage the re-use of brownfield sites to minimise pressure on greenfield sites and soils, require the protection of aquifers from pollution (which can also benefit soils), and also aim to promote green infrastructure. Creation of green infrastructure within the AONB would help to mitigate any negative effects of greenfield development. Given the small scale of development proposed, there is little potential for net benefits, and the overall effect with mitigating policy is considered negligible in the short to long term.

SA of DPD Policies: Mineral Resources

5.5.101 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

14. To manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste and encourage recycling.

5.5.102 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To minimise the extraction, transport and use of primary minerals and encourage the use of recycled material.
- To promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction.
- Minimise waste and encourage the sustainable use of natural resources by reusing existing buildings where appropriate.

- Ensure new developments are designed to integrate recycling opportunities and facilities i.e. by having appropriate storage areas for recycling receptacles and proximity to recycling sites etc.

5.5.103 Table 5-16 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for mineral resources, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-16: Summary of the Mineral Resources Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective		Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective			Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects		
None – covered by South Lakeland and Lancaster City DPDs		Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Proposed allocations			Policy AS08 Energy and Communications		

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD without mitigation	Short / Medium Term	-	ID	L	-	ID	L
	Long Term	-	ID	H	-	ID	L
Mitigating or enhancing policy or other applicable plans / strategies		South Lakeland Core Strategy, Policy CS8.7 Sustainable construction, energy efficiency and renewable energy Lancaster City Development Management DPD, Policy DM36 Sustainable Design					
Residual effect	Short / Medium Term	-	ID	L	-	ID	L
	Long Term	-	ID	H	-	ID	L

5.5.104 New development resulting from Policies AS01, AS09 and AS10, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, will require the use of materials for construction and also operation (long-term maintenance, products used by new residents, etc.), at least some of which will be derived from raw materials. Both phases will also produce waste – construction and domestic waste – at least some of which is likely to be disposed of in landfill (even if as residual after combustion in an energy from waste plant). Although new development can aim to achieve all of the SA sub-objectives for SA Objective 14 on minerals, waste and recycling, there is likely to be a net negative impact of using raw materials and production of waste for disposal.

5.5.105 Without mitigating policy, it could be assumed that most or all of the material would be derived from raw materials. However, there is mitigating policy in place for this potential impact, though it is mainly in the South Lakeland and Lancaster City Local Plan documents, which will apply to AONB planning applications. The exception is that Policy AS08 indirectly supports the use of recycled or reused materials by promoting low carbon solutions. However, it is the sustainable construction and design policies of the two local plans which specifically require:

- High standards of sustainable design and construction, including Code for Sustainable Homes (now scrapped by the Government), whereby the relevant requirements have been transposed into the Building Regulations;
- Use of materials from a sustainable local source in new development;
- Adequate provision for separation and storage of waste for recycling; and

- The reuse of existing resources (including the conversion of existing buildings) where this would be 'fit for purpose'.

5.5.106 Policy in general is unlikely to eliminate the use of raw materials and production of waste, and indeed the AONB DPD advocates the selection of materials to preserve the character of the AONB primarily, which may reduce the extent to which recycled materials can be used in construction. This is considered a slight adverse effect, which is considered highly uncertain by the long term, as technologies and building methods may change over time, as well as progress to a 'zero disposal' product and waste culture.

Policy Recommendations for SA Topic 'Minerals':

There are no policy recommendations for SA topic 'Minerals'.

■

SA of DPD Policies: Heritage and the Community

5.5.107 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

15. To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense of local history.

5.5.108 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To promote a sense of community identity, a sense of place and sense of local history.
- To encourage social inclusiveness and cohesion, and help continue valued local traditions.
- To improve and broaden access to, and understanding of local heritage, historic sites, areas and buildings.
- To provide better opportunities for people to access and understand local heritage and to participate in cultural and leisure activities.

5.5.109 Table 5-17 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for heritage and the community, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-17: Summary of the Heritage and the Community Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS07 Historic Environment Policy AS08 Design	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS13 Energy and Communications Proposed allocations	Policy AS01 Development Strategy Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS07 Historic Environment Policy AS08 Design

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	+	D/ID	M	0	ID	M
	Long Term	+	D/ID	H	0	ID	H
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.						

5.5.110 Without mitigating policy, new development resulting from Policies AS01, AS03, AS09 AS10, AS11 and AS13 including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, can lead to the loss of heritage assets, effects on their historic setting, effects on access to heritage features or information about them, changes to the feel of a place / community and/or social changes within the local community (e.g. if linked with a particular need for new workers, and if new housing were not integrated well into existing communities).

5.5.111 However, Policies AS01, AS02, AS07 and AS08 not only aim to conserve heritage and the distinctive character of settlements, but to also enhance heritage and reinforce this character. This could lead to net benefits within the AONB. In particular, and though exceptions may be permitted under very special circumstances (as laid out in the policies):

- AS01: "Development proposals within the Small Villages will be permitted only where they:... reflect and reinforce the distinctive characters of the area's settlements";
- AS01: "Development proposals outside and beyond the edge of both the Local Service Centres and the Small Villages will be treated as exceptions and will be permitted only where they demonstrate:... an essential need for a rural location."
- AS02: "Proposals will not be permitted where they would have a significant adverse effect upon the character of the landscape or would harm the landscape quality, visual amenity, nature conservation interests, geodiversity interests or cultural heritage of the AONB."
- AS02: "Development proposals will be supported where they... respect the valued attributes of the relevant landscape character types and features identified in the AONB Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment; the Historic Landscape Character Assessment and other relevant evidence such as the Historic Designed Landscapes report... retain, integrate *and enhance* distinctive natural, semi-natural, cultural and historic features..."
- AS07: "all development in the AONB should take into account the unique heritage features and historic character of the area, including built, natural and cultural heritage features, and protect *and enhance* historic landscape character, locally important historic assets and their settings, and the distinctiveness of settlements".
- AS07: "Development proposals affecting designated and non-designated heritage assets, that are either identified on the relevant Council's Local List or which are discovered during the application process, will be supported provided that they:
 - protect and enhance the special architectural and historic interest of the asset. This may include schemes which specifically aim, or include measures to protect, restore, enhance, reveal, interpret, sensitively and imaginatively incorporate or record historic assets or features;
 - reflect local vernacular and the distinctive historic and settlement character through the design, style, scale, massing and materials used;
 - protect and enhance the character and setting of the asset and;
 - promote enjoyment, understanding and interpretation of the assets, as a means of maximising wider public benefits and in reinforcing the AONB's identity and sense of place."

- AS08: “Within the built environment of the AONB, high standards of design and construction will be required to conserve or enhance the layout of the built environment, distinctive settlement character and historic, cultural and architectural features”

5.5.112 Further details and provisions of the policies above (and others) can be found in the draft AONB DPD.

5.5.113 The combined mitigating policies of the AONB DPD are expected to ensure there is no significant adverse effect on community identity, social inclusiveness and cohesion, or access to / appreciate of local heritage. This leaves the potential for net beneficial effects from the short to long term.

Policy Recommendations for SA Topic ‘Heritage and the Community’:

Policy AS09 could include provision to encourage developments, including community facilities, that can bring demonstrable benefits to the sense of community identity, sense of place and sense of local history. This may include cultural, arts and leisure developments other than sport and active recreation, for example.

SA of DPD Policies: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets

5.5.114 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

16. To conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.

5.5.115 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To protect and enhance the historic environment, including heritage assets and their setting.
- To conserve and enhance historic landscape character and settlement character.
- To protect and enhance non-designated assets and landscapes.
- To sensitively conserve areas of high archaeological and historic landscape importance included historic designated landscapes.

5.5.116 Table 5-18 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for historic environment and heritage assets, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-18: Summary of the Historic Environment and Heritage Assets Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS07 Historic Environment Policy AS08 Design	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS03 Housing Provision Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Policy AS11 Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation Policy AS13 Energy and Communications Proposed allocations	Policy AS02 Landscape Policy AS07 Historic Environment Policy AS08 Design

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD without mitigation	Short / Medium Term	+	D/ID	M	0	ID	M

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
	Long Term	+	D/ID	H	0	ID	H
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					
Residual effect		As above.					

5.5.117 As for SA Objective 15, without mitigating policy, new development resulting from Policies AS01, AS03, AS09, AS10, AS11 and AS13, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations, can lead to the loss of heritage assets (including buried archaeology), effects on their historic setting, and effects on the historic landscape. The potential for loss of heritage assets must be carefully managed through appropriate survey and assessment. Changes in land use and new buildings in the vicinity of heritage assets can alter the context in which a heritage asset may be viewed, appreciated and studied. Often in the past, these changes have proven irreversible, as there is strong resistance to removing unsympathetic development once constructed. It may also be that historic setting can accommodate new development, if the design is sympathetic to the surrounding architecture, townscape, views and use of outdoor space in general. However, the UK in many places has a legacy of inconsiderate design, where modern architectural methods have affected the setting of heritage assets. Again, this can be effectively irreversible, as it may be many decades or even centuries before a site is redeveloped, such that the design can be changed.

5.5.118 However, as described above in Section 5.4.15 for SA Objective 15, Policies AS02, AS07 and AS08 again (as for SA Objective 15) aim to conserve and also enhance heritage. This could lead to net benefits within the AONB. The key provisions are listed in the previous section, and again exceptions may be permitted under very special circumstances (as laid out in the policies).

5.5.119 Further details and provisions of the policies above (and others) can be found in the draft AONB DPD.

5.5.120 The combined mitigating policies of the AONB DPD are expected to ensure there is no significant adverse effect on the historic environment. This leaves the potential for net beneficial effects from the short to long term.

SA of DPD Policies: Democratic Processes

5.5.121 As established and agreed at the SA scoping stage, the SA Objective for this topic is:

17. To increase the level of participation in democratic processes.

5.5.122 This is to be met via achieving the following sub-objectives:

- To encourage local people and community groups to become involved in decision-making about important aspects of the AONB.
- To identify members of society, including hard-to-reach groups that may require help to participate fully in the decision-making process.
- To help communities to understand the decision-making process, their opportunity to influence decisions and how decisions may impact on them.
- To respect the needs of all communities and future generations.

5.5.123 Table 5-19 below summarises the assessment of the AONB DPD on the SA Objective for democratic processes, with the assessment described thereafter.

Table 5-19: Summary of the Democratic Processes Assessment

Aspects of DPD that positively contribute to this objective	Aspects of DPD that could detract from this objective	Aspects of the DPD that could mitigate those negative aspects
Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development	Policy AS01 Development Strategy (aspects promoting development) Policy AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development Proposed allocations	Policy AS10 Infrastructure for New Development

		Assessment by Geography of Potential Effect (i.e. where experienced / received)					
		AONB-wide			Outside of AONB		
		Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty	Effect	Direct / Indirect	Un-certainty
Effect of the AONB DPD	Short / Medium Term	0	ID	H	0	ID	M
	Long Term	+	ID	H	0	ID	M
Additional mitigation from other plans, policies or procedures where necessary		Not necessary.					
Residual effect	As above.						

- 5.5.124 It is unlikely that new development on the scale proposed by the AONB DPD would significantly affect levels of involvement in decision-making. The SA has considered that, as discussed for other SA topics, there is potential for development to increase the local population such that local community facilities or services are taken over-capacity, and this could in theory have some relationship with public participation. For example, there could be an increased demand for use of town or village halls, or other any meeting spaces which may be available for use / hire. However, the impact on this relationship is considered insignificant.
- 5.5.125 It is relevant that all of the proposed residential allocations of the DPD are within 1 km of a place of worship, town or village hall, and thus have good access to these facilities.
- 5.5.126 Policy could reasonably expect applicants for new major developments to seek the involvement and participation of the local community in their proposals, such as in deciding what services and facilities may be needed. However, the AONB DPD does not include any major development proposals, and in fact excludes major developments, except in exceptional circumstances.
- 5.5.127 Alongside new development (Policies AS01 and AS09, including the AONB DPD proposed allocations), Policy AS10 could lead to improvements in the capacity of existing infrastructure, which in turn could include village halls / community meeting spaces or other facilities which aid in community involvement and participation, and prevent social exclusion. This is considered a slight beneficial effect of the AONB DPD in the long term, but is assessed with high uncertainty, as it depends very much on site and/or settlement-specific opportunities and how these opportunities might be seized through developer contributions.

Policy Recommendations for SA Topic ‘Democratic Processes’:

As for the SA Objective 4 on ‘Sustainable Access’, Policy AS10 could benefit from an additional provision that infrastructure requirements will account for the needs of the wider community, where relevant to that proposal. Such a provision will help ensure that any pre-existing shortfalls are not worsened by new development.

6 SA Monitoring Framework

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 This section provides an outline framework for monitoring the significant effects of implementing the AONB DPD. Monitoring is an ongoing process integral to the plan's implementation and can be used to:
- Determine the performance of the plan and its contribution to objectives and targets;
 - Identify the performance of mitigation measures;
 - Fill data gaps identified earlier in the SA process;
 - Identify undesirable sustainability effects to enable remedial action; and
 - Confirm whether sustainability predictions were accurate.
- 6.1.2 The SEA Regulations require that the plan is monitored to identify “unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage” in order to undertake appropriate remedial action, and guidance recommends that SA/SEA monitoring tests the actual significant effects of implementing the plan against those predicted through the assessment. Likewise, it is beneficial to check that the effects (including beneficial ones) occur as predicted by the SA.
- 6.1.3 Based on the assessment conducted on the options and identification of potential significant environmental effects, a monitoring framework has been recommended. Monitoring will be undertaken following adoption of the DPD.

6.2 Approach

- 6.2.1 The monitoring framework has been developed to measure the performance of the plan against changes in defined indicators that are linked to its implementation. These indicators have been developed based on the following:
- The objectives, targets and indicators that were developed for the SA Framework;
 - Features of the baseline that will indicate the effects of the plan;
 - The likely significant effects that were identified during the assessment; and
 - The mitigation measures that were proposed to offset or reduce significant adverse effects.
- 6.2.2 The monitoring framework has been designed to focus mainly on significant sustainability effects including those:
- That indicate a likely breach of international, national or local legislation, recognised guidelines or standards.
 - That may give rise to irreversible damage, with a view to identifying trends before such damage is caused.
 - Where there was uncertainty in the SA, and where monitoring would enable preventative or mitigation measures to be taken.
- 6.2.3 As well as measuring specific indicators linked to the implementation of the plan, contextual monitoring of social, environmental and economic change has been included – i.e. a regular review of baseline conditions in the borough. This enables the measurement of the overall effects of the plan.
- 6.2.4 There are numerous SA indicators available and it is not always possible to identify how a specific plan has impacted a receptor, for example housing provision is likely to be influenced by a number of actions and different plans. A thorough analysis of the data collated and the emerging trends will, therefore be important.
- 6.2.5 A fundamental aspect of developing the monitoring strategy is to link with existing monitoring programmes and to prevent duplication of other monitoring work that is already being undertaken. Consideration has, therefore, been given to the Performance Monitoring Framework that will be used to monitor delivery of the plan policies.

6.3 Proposed Monitoring Framework

- 6.3.1 Table 6-1 provides a framework for monitoring the effects of the plan and determining whether the predicted sustainability effects are realised. The framework is structured using the SA Objectives and includes the following elements:
- The potentially significant impact that needs to be monitored or the area of uncertainty;
 - A suitable monitoring indicator with a potential source for the data identified and
 - A target (where one has been devised).
- 6.3.2 The impacts predicted in the SA will not be realised until development occurs. The monitoring framework presented in Table 6-1 can then be updated to include targets as and when they are developed.

Table 6-1 SA Monitoring Framework

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicators	Targets (to be refined and developed further once the Plan is adopted)	Potential Data Sources
1. To ensure there is housing to meet local needs in a manner sensitive to the AONB.	Housing needs	No. new homes needed, including affordable	N/A	Housing Needs Survey (future updates)
	Affordable housing provision	Number of affordable homes (gross)	N/A	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
		Annual affordable housing completions	N/A	
	Improved housing standards	% Residents who think that for their area over the last 3 years affordable, decent housing has got better/stayed the same	Maintain / improve	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
2. To improve wellbeing, physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities.	Capacity of health and social care services.	% Residential development built within 30 minutes' public transport travel time of a range of key services and facilities.	All / maximum, no decline	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
		GP surgery - % able to get an appointment or speak with someone	100% presumed	NHS England GP Patient Survey
		GP surgery waiting times at surgery	100% less than 15 minutes	
	Relative access to open space, play areas and recreational space.	% population within 20 mins.' travel time of 3 different types of sports facility, of which at least one is quality assured	100% presumed	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
		Developer contributions towards / provision of new open space and play areas	N/A	Open Space, Sport & Recreation Assessments
	Uncertain effects – general health	% of people in the AONB reported as being in either 'very good, good or fair' health	Maintain / improve	Census
3. To improve the level of skills, education and training.	Uncertain effects – educational attainment	Pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grades A* - C including Mathematics and English	Maintain / improve	ONS
		Ofsted rating of schools in the AONB	100% Good or Outstanding	Ofsted

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicators	Targets (to be refined and developed further once the Plan is adopted)	Potential Data Sources
		No. and % of LSOAs in the AONB in the 30% most deprived nationally for 'Education, Skills and Training' domain	None	IMD (every 5 years)
4. To improve sustainable access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces	See SA Objective 2.			
5. To diversify and strengthen the local economy in a manner that is sensitive to the AONB.	Benefits to the economy	Total count of registered businesses in the AONB / number new businesses each year	Increase	ONS- Neighbourhood Statistics
		Total JSA Claimant Count in the 6 LSOAs covering the AONB	0 presumed	ONS- Neighbourhood Statistics
	Uncertain effects - agriculture	Total employment in farming	No decline	Defra
	Benefits to tourism or uncertain effects	Total employment in tourism (or related) businesses in AONBs	No decline	Natural England Protected Landscape Monitoring Framework Or potentially use: NOMIS / ONS
6. To retain and create jobs and ensure the workforce meets local needs.	See SA Objective 5			
7. To encourage economic inclusion and access to jobs.	Uncertain effects – economic inequality	No. and % of LSOAs in the AONB in the 30% most deprived nationally for 'Employment' domain	None	IMD (every 5 years)
		No. and % of LSOAs in the AONB in the 30% most deprived nationally for 'Income' domain	None	IMD (every 5 years)
8. To protect and improve air quality.	Uncertain effects – air quality problems	No. AQMAs within the AONB and along key strategic transport routes into / out of the AONB	0	Defra LAQM website

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicators	Targets (to be refined and developed further once the Plan is adopted)	Potential Data Sources
9. To limit and adapt to climate change and increase energy efficiency.	CO ₂ emissions	Local authority CO ₂ emissions data by end user	To decrease annual emissions	Defra (South Lakeland and Lancaster)
	Carbon-saving in development	No. net 'zero carbon' developments	N/A	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
		No. developments completed proposing or incorporating low-carbon or renewable energy technologies	N/A	
10. To protect and enhance water quality, resources and reduce the risk of flooding	Housing at risk of flooding	No. new developments approved in a flood risk zone	No greenfield sites No target for brownfield – account for in terms of remedying flood risk issues.	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
		No. new developments approved which remedy existing flood risk issues	Increase	
	Uncertain effects – water quality	WFD ecological and chemical status of water bodies	'Good' status	Environment Agency
	Uncertain effects – meeting Infrastructure requirements	No. of new developments in the AONB without mains sewerage	None	AONB infrastructure studies
11. To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.	Uncertain effects – status of designated sites	No. and area of SACs, SPAs, Ramsar sites, SSSIs, BHSs and LNRs	Maintain	Natural England / Magic.gov.uk
		Status of designated sites (e.g. via SSSI status, which overlap SACs and SPAs, and any BHS / LWS/ Country Wildlife Sites (CWS) survey reports)	100% positive management (presumed)	Natural England Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan Partnership
	Improved Local Biodiversity	Percentage of the planning approvals incorporating ecological enhancement measures and/or which has a net gain in biodiversity, .	100%	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
		The number of planning applications refused or withdrawn in part due to their lack of consideration of biodiversity impacts	Increase	

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicators	Targets (to be refined and developed further once the Plan is adopted)	Potential Data Sources
12. To protect and enhance landscape, seascape and settlement character and quality.	Uncertain effects – inappropriate development	No. developments approved as exceptions to the general protections of the AONB DPD (e.g. major developments meeting the exceptions tests), or against Council objection (approved at higher level)	None	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
		No. comments, positive, neutral or objections, on planning applications by AONB Unit	N/A	AONB Management Plan South Lakeland District Council Lancaster City Council
		The proportion of developments which maintain and enhance the quality of the countryside, coasts, estuaries and local landscape character.	Increase	
		% of applications responded to by the AONB Partnership approved against AONB advice without concerns being addressed	None	
		Status of landscape character types, including current threats	No threats from development	Arnside and Silverdale AONB Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit Lancashire Landscape Character Assessment and Strategy (plus AONB Partnership updates)
	Uncertain effects - tranquillity	Tranquillity of the AONB	Maintain / improve	CPRE
	Uncertain effects – dark skies	Dark skies within the AONB	Maintain / improve	CPRE
13. To protect land and soil and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.	Loss of greenfield land	Loss of greenfield land in hectares	0 hectares	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
		Percentage of new developments incorporating new green infrastructure or enhancement measures.	100%	
14. To manage mineral resources sustainably,	Raw materials and waste	Construction waste recycling achieved	Increase	Unknown

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicators	Targets (to be refined and developed further once the Plan is adopted)	Potential Data Sources
minimise waste and encourage recycling.		Household waste recycling and composting achieved	Increase	Cumbria Waste Plan monitoring Lancashire Waste Plan monitoring
15. To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense of local history.	Uncertain effects – inclusiveness	% Residents who think that for their area over the last 3 years race relations have got better/stayed the same	Increase	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
	Uncertain effects – satisfaction with community activities	% Residents who think that for their area over the past 3 years community activities have got better/stayed same	Increase	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
16. To conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	Uncertain effects – inappropriate development	No. developments approved against Historic England or local archaeological advice	None	AMRs for South Lakeland and Lancaster City, or a new AMR for the AONB
	Uncertain effects – general status	No. Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Registered Parks / Gardens on the “at risk” register	0	Historic England
		% of Conservation Areas for which there are up-to-date Management Plans	100%	South Lakeland and Lancaster City Councils Conservation Area Appraisals
17. To increase the level of participation in democratic processes.	Relative access to community facilities, including town / village halls.	% population within walking distance of a town or village hall	To maintain	Unknown

7 Next Steps

- 7.1.1 This SA Report along with the Non-Technical Summary will now be issued to the Secretary of State for consideration.

APPENDIX A

Baseline Data

The Sustainability Baseline and Key Sustainability Issues

This document presents the baseline data research conducted as part of the SA Scoping study for the AONB DPD conducted in 2015. It is recognised that more up-to-date data and information may be available – a comprehensive update will be conducted at an appropriate time, if needed to support planning policy development or changes. In the meantime, small, individual updates will be made (e.g. pursuant to consultation) where the new information is specifically identified or is material to the SA.

A.1 Population

The following baseline indicators have been used to identify key population trends and characteristics:

- Total population (2011 Census and AONB Management Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) 2014).
- Age structure of the population (2011 Census and AONB Management Plan SEA, 2014).
- Area of the AONB, key settlements and their populations (Lancaster City Council, South Lakeland District Council).
- Population density (ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics).
- Ethnic groups represented in the population (ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics).

The population of the Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is approximately 7,550 (assuming 96% of the Arnside and Beetham Ward and 82% of the Silverdale and Warton ward populations reside within the AONB). This represents a slight decrease in the population from 2009 of ca. 800 (2011 census, AONB Management Plan SEA, 2014). However, this trend is somewhat uncertain as the basis for these figures has altered between the two monitoring periods.

There appears to have been a shift towards an older population since the census in 2001, with a greater percentage of over 45s and a smaller percentage of 25-44 and 0-14 year olds. Table A.1.1 shows the age range of the population within the AONB.

Table A.1.1 Age Range of the Population (2014)

Age Range	% of AONB Population
0-4	3.3
5-14	8.8
15-24	7.6
25-44	15.7
45-64	32.2
65-74	16.7
75+	15.7

Source: AONB Management Plan SEA 2014

The table shows that the largest percentage age group is 45-64. The shift towards an older population is not unique to the area and is representative of the growing older population across the North West and nationwide. Nonetheless the demographic for the area is particularly skewed toward the elderly; the AONB has fewer children and younger people and a greater percentage of people over 65 than Cumbria, Lancashire or nationally.

The issue of a rising proportion of older people and corresponding reduction in those of 'working age' is particularly prevalent in South Lakeland where >30% of the population are over 60 (South Lakeland SA Scoping Report).

Key villages within the AONB include Storth/Sandside and Beetham to the north; Arnside to the west; Silverdale to the south west Yealand Redmayne to the east; Yealand Conyers to the south east and Warton to the south. These villages lie within the following wards: Arnside and Beetham, Silverdale and Warton. Table A.1.2 shows the populations of these wards.

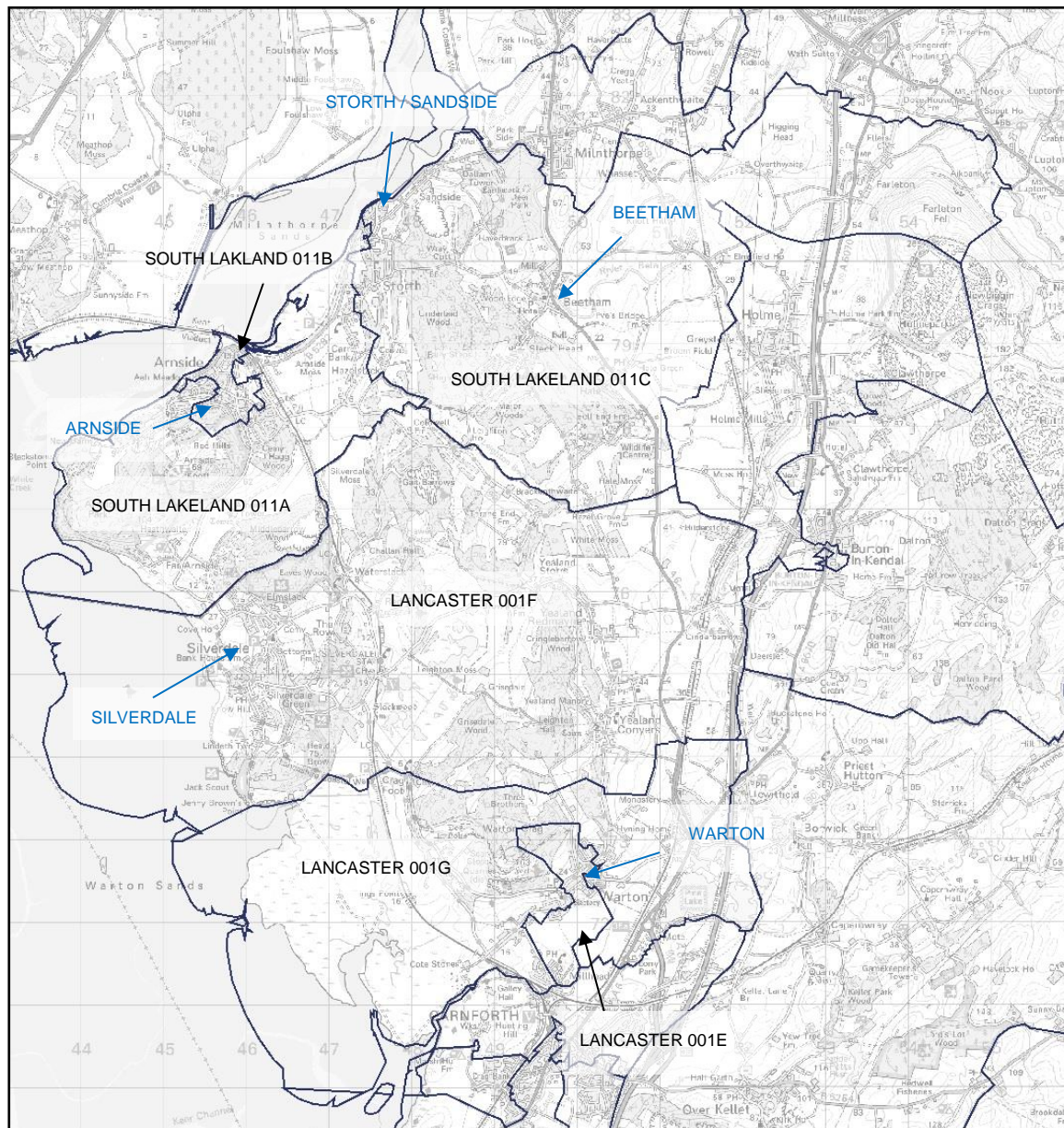
Table A.1.2 Population of Wards, AONB, Mid 2013 Estimate

Ward	Population
Arnside & Beetham	4,095
Silverdale	2,061
Warton	2,342

Source: ONS

The population density per hectare within Arnside and Beetham is 1.36, 0.75 in Silverdale and 1.35 in Warton.

Figure A.1.1 Locations of LSOAs, AONB



Source ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

The AONB is a largely rural area. The population density figures for the 6 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) which cover the AONB's area are provided in Table A.1.3 below.

SA of the Arnside & Silverdale AONB Publication Development Plan Document

Table A.1.3 Population Density (per ha) of 6 LSOAs, AONB (2001 & 2011)

	England ¹ Country	North West ¹ Region	Lancaster 001E ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer
Density (Number of Persons per Hectare) ¹ Persons Rate Mar11	4.1	5.0	0.7	9.9	0.8	1.6	18.5	0.8
All Usual Residents ¹ Persons Count Mar11	53,012,456	7,052,177	2,035	1,094	1,266	1,531	1,063	1,524
Area (Hectares) ¹ Areas Hectares Mar11	13,027,843	1,410,535	2,746	110	1,620	944	57	2,007
All People ¹ Persons Count Apr01	49,138,831	6,729,764	2,016	1,112	1,203	1,517	1,041	1,467
Density (Number of Persons per Hectare) ¹ Persons Rate Apr01	3.77	4.77	0.73	10.06	0.74	1.55	18.11	0.73

Source ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

Table A.1.4 Mean and Median ages for 2001 and 2011 of 6 LSOAs, AONB (2001 & 2011)

	England ¹ Country	North West ¹ Region	Lancaster 001E ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer
All Usual Residents ¹ Persons Count Mar11	53,012,456	7,052,177	2,035	1,094	1,266	1,531	1,063	1,524
Mean Age ¹ Persons Years Mar11	39.3	39.5	50.8	43.8	46.1	55.2	52.7	50.2
Median Age ¹ Persons Years Mar11	39	39	56	45	48	60	58	54
All People ¹ Persons Count Apr01	49,138,831	6,729,764	2,016	1,112	1,203	1,517	1,041	1,467
Mean age of population in the area ¹ Persons Years Apr01	38.60	38.61	48.56	40.42	43.94	52.63	50.10	48.52
Median age of population in the area ¹ Persons Years Apr01	37.00	38.00	52.00	39.00	46.00	56.00	53.00	52.00

Source ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

It can be seen from Table A.1.3 that the population density across the AONB varies greatly. This represents the contrast between very sparsely populated rural regions and the rural villages within the region. Although the majority of the LSOAs population density is well below the North West and national average, 5.0 and 4.1 respectively, the overall average, principally raised by Lancaster 001F and South Lakeland 011B, of 5.4 is higher than both areas.

Table A.1.4 shows provides an idea of the ethnic make-up within the AONB.

Table A.1.5 Ethnicity of 6 LSOAs, AONB (2011)

	Lancaster 001E ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer
White; English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British ¹ Persons Percentage Mar11	97.9	98.0	97.8	96.9	96.5	97.2

Source ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

It can be seen from Table A.1.4 that the area is predominantly made up of those who identify as White British. Compared to the North West and national averages of 87.1% and 79.8%, respectively, those who identify as White British across the 6 AONB LSOAs, averaged at 97.4%, is very high and indicates a low ethnic diversity within the region.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- There are no significant data gaps or uncertainties identified for this topic.

Key Issues and Opportunities

- The AONB has fewer children and younger people and a greater percentage of people over 65 than Cumbria, Lancashire or nationally.
- This is likely to have impacts on areas, such as: availability of health care provision, access to services, strain on public transport systems, labour force deficiencies, housing supply and need.

A.2 Education and Qualifications

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise levels of education and attainment in the AONB:

- Pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grades A* - C including Mathematics and English (ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics).
- Percentage of people aged 16-74 who have attained either a Level Four or Level Five qualification⁹ (ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics).
- Percentage of the population aged 16-74 with no qualifications (ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics).
- Location and number of educational establishments, libraries (Lancashire County Council MARIO (Maps and Related Information Online) (2015), South Lakeland District Council Web Mapping (2015).

Table A.2.1 shows the percentage of students within LSOAs which make up the AONB that achieved 5 A* - C by the end of KS4.

Table A.2.1 Pupils attaining 5 A* - C in LSOAs Covering the AONB (2012-13)

	Lancaster 001E Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C Super Output Area Lower Layer
All Pupils at the End of KS4 Achieving 5+ A* - C Including English and Mathematics ¹	80.8	x	68.4	x	62.5	x
Persons Percentage Sep12-Aug13						

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

From the LSOAs where data is available it can be seen that on average 70.6% of pupils had attained 5 A*-C by the end of KS4 in the AONB area. Compared to the regional and national averages of 59.9 and 60.6, respectively, this is a high level of academic attainment.

Table A.2.2 Level 4 and Above Qualification Attainment in 6 LSOAs Covering the AONB (2011)

	Lancaster 001E Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C Super Output Area Lower Layer
Highest Level of Qualification; Level 4 Qualifications and Above ¹	48.7	30.3	32.0	46.1	40.1	38.8
Persons Percentage Mar11						

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

⁹ First degree, higher degree, National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) levels 4 and 5, Higher National Certificate (HNC), Higher National Diploma (HND), Qualified Teacher Status, Qualified Medical Doctor, Qualified Dentist, Qualified Nurse, Midwife or Health Visitor

Table A.2.2 shows that across the AONB area the average number of people gaining a level 4 and above qualification is 39.3%. Compared to the regional and national averages of 24.4 and 27.4, respectively, this is a good level of higher qualification attainment for the area.

Table A.2.3 shows the percentage of students within LSOAs which make up the AONB that have no qualifications.

Table A.2.3 No Qualifications Attained in 6 LSOAs Covering the AONB (2011)

	Lancaster 001E ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C ¹ Super Output Area Lower Layer
No Qualifications ¹ Persons Percentage Mar11	13.9	18.7	20.7	14.3	15.9	17.6

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

Table A.2.3 shows that across the AONB area the average number of people who have no qualification is 16.9%. Compared to the regional and national averages of 24.8 and 22.8, respectively, this is a low level of people with no qualifications for the area.

The educational establishments within the AONB include:

- Storth CE Primary School
- Beetham C Of E Aided Primary School
- Arnsdale National School
- Yealand Church of England Primary School
- Warton Archbishop Hutton's Primary School
- Bleasdale Special Needs School
- Silverdale St John's Church of England Primary School
- There are two libraries within the boundary of the AONB, there is the Arnsdale Library and the Silverdale Library. (Lancashire County Council MARIO South Lakeland District Council Web Mapping (2015)).

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Percentage of employees receiving job-related training in the last 4 weeks to NVQ level 4 or higher.
- Percentage 16-18 year olds not in education or employment training.
- Number and location of establishments offering life-long learning opportunities.
- Number of wards with Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the bottom 10% most deprived for education, skills and training deprivation

Key Issues and Opportunities

- Educational attainment in the AONB is good compared to regional and national levels and should be maintained.
- Low level of people with no qualifications and a good level of people with higher qualification attainment for the AONB when compared with national data.
- Access to education should be maintained with growth in population within the AONB to ensure education provision continues to meet the needs of the local population.

A.3 Health

The following baseline data has been used to identify key trends:

- Health status of resident population (2011 Census and AONB Management Plan SEA, 2014)
- Distribution of GPs.
- Distribution of sports facilities.

At the time of the 2011 census 95.6% of people in the AONB reported being in either 'very good', 'good' or 'fair' health (Census 2011). This percentage is slightly above that in Cumbria and nationally (94% and 94.4% respectively) and significantly above that in Lancashire (75.2%). Comparisons cannot be made to the

previous Census report in 2009, where 66.6% of usually residents reported their health as being 'good', as the basis for the figures has changed. Nevertheless the health figures for the area are very good. 4.4% of the AONB were reported to be in 'bad' or 'very bad' health.

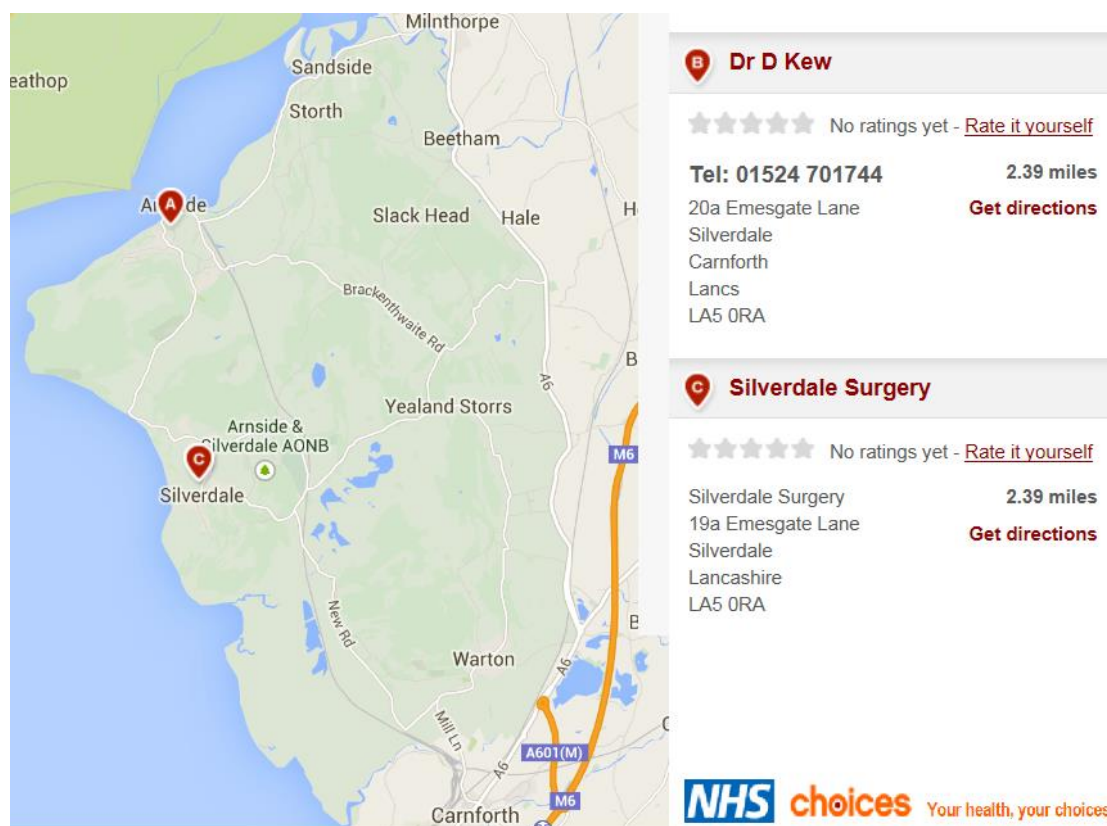
Table A.3.1 No Qualifications Attained in 6 LSOAs Covering the AONB (2011)

	England Country	North West Region	Lancaster 001E Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C Super Output Area Lower Layer
Very Good Health ¹ Persons Percentage Mar11	47.2	46.5	46.5	44.2	46.2	38.5	43.0	45.6
Good Health ¹ Persons Percentage Mar11	34.2	32.8	34.1	36.4	35.0	40.1	33.0	35.9
Fair Health ¹ Persons Percentage Mar11	13.1	13.9	14.9	15.2	13.0	17.6	19.0	14.3
Bad Health ¹ Persons Percentage Mar11	4.2	5.3	3.1	3.1	4.5	3.1	3.9	3.3
Very Bad Health ¹ Persons Percentage Mar11	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.3	0.7	1.1	0.9

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

As discussed previously, the area has an ageing population which brings with it associated health pressures. This coupled with the AONB's rural setting, put inevitable strain on local health services. In South Lakeland, for example, approximately a third of households have 1 or more persons with a limiting long-term illness (South Lakeland SA Scoping Report). A burgeoning older population is likely to cause similar pressures in the AONB area.

Figure A.3.1 GP Locations within Arnside & Silverdale AONB boundary



Source: NHS Choices

Figure A.4.2 shows there are two GP surgeries within the AONB boundary. These are Silverdale Surgery and Arnside Surgery (DR D Kew above). There are further GP Practices in Carnforth and Milnthorpe which are located just outside the AONB boundary.

There is a cricket club at Silverdale and a tennis club at Arnside. There is a golf course and golf club in Silverdale as well as the Holgates Caravan Park which has a leisure centre and gymnasium on site. Another gymnasium is also located next to Washington Pub and Arnside Bowling Club is at the memorial fields in Arnside. There is another leisure centre within the AONB which is the Fell End Holiday Park located just south of Slack Head. A recreation ground is located in Arnside which provides opportunity for local football and cricket clubs to play. There is also the Arnside Bowling Club which play at the memorial fields in Milnthorpe. There are no dedicated gyms within the AONB boundary.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties:

- Number of LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived for health deprivation and disability
- Life expectancy at birth for males and females for the period 2008 – 2010 (Lancashire Area Profiles, www.lancashire.gov.uk).
- The relationship between life expectancy and inequality.
- Percentage of population with a long-term limiting illness.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities:

- Overall health in the area is very good
- The percentage of people reported to be in 'very good', 'good' or 'fair' health is slightly above that in Cumbria and nationally and significantly above that in Lancashire.
- A growing older population is likely to increase pressure on local health provisions. Coupled with the rural nature of the AONB this could potentially become a difficult issue to tackle – it is a problem experienced more widely in South Lakeland, for example.
- Access to doctors' surgeries and dentists within the rural areas is more limited and could be improved. This is particularly important for the AONB's elderly population.
- The rural nature of the AONB could mean healthcare issues may become a difficult to tackle logistically.
- There are opportunities to further promote access to outdoor recreational pursuits in open areas within the AONB to benefit the health of the local population.
- There are also opportunities to further promote walking and cycling across the AONB.

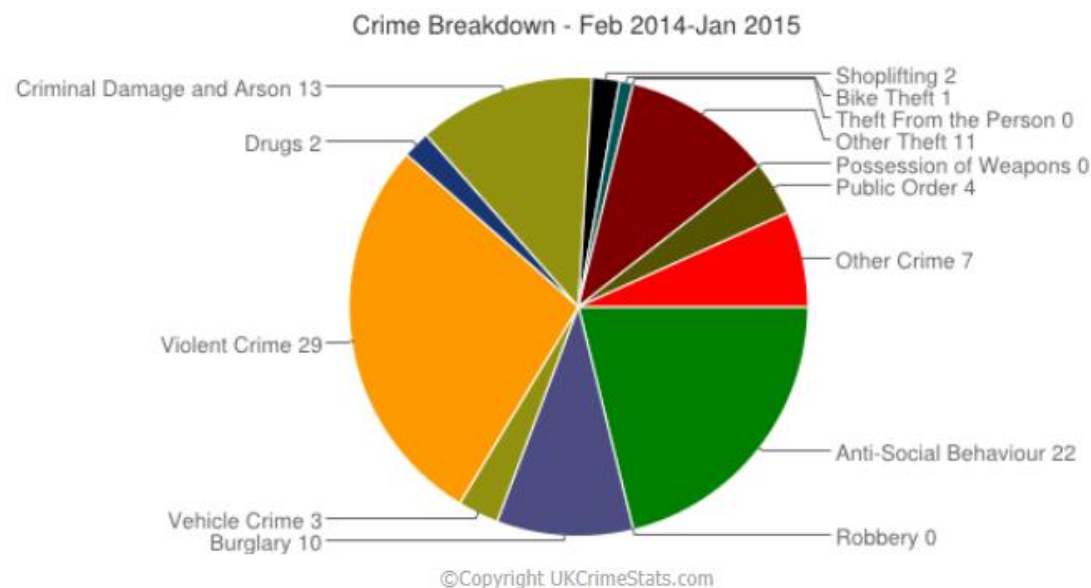
A.4 Crime

The following baseline data has been identified:

- Crime Breakdown detailing number of offences forward level within the AONB.

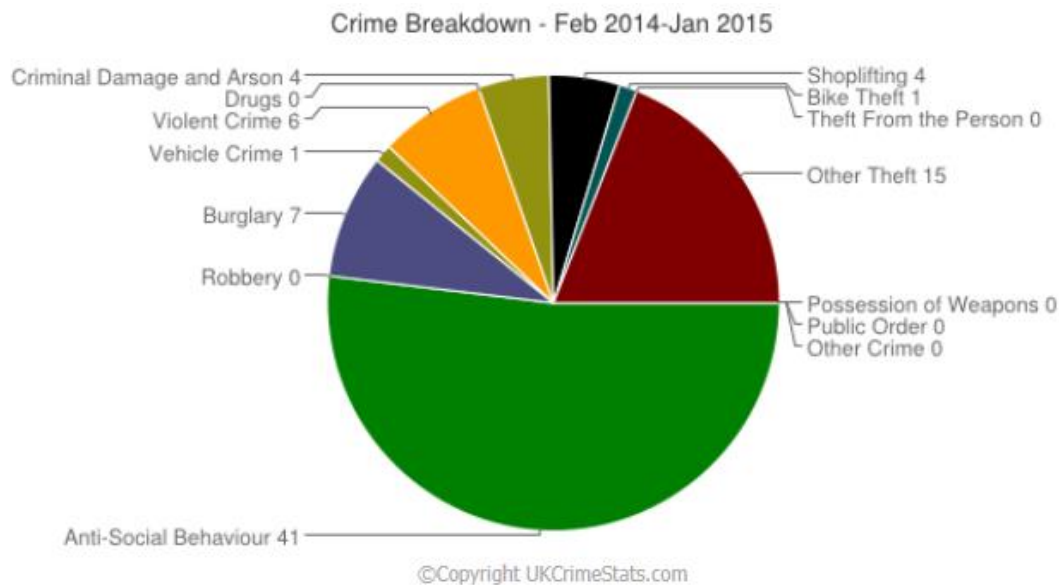
Figure A.4.1, A.4.2 and A.4.3 show the crime breakdown for Arnside and Beetham, Silverdale and Warton from February 2014 to January 2015.

Figure A.4.1 Crime Breakdown for Arnside and Beetham



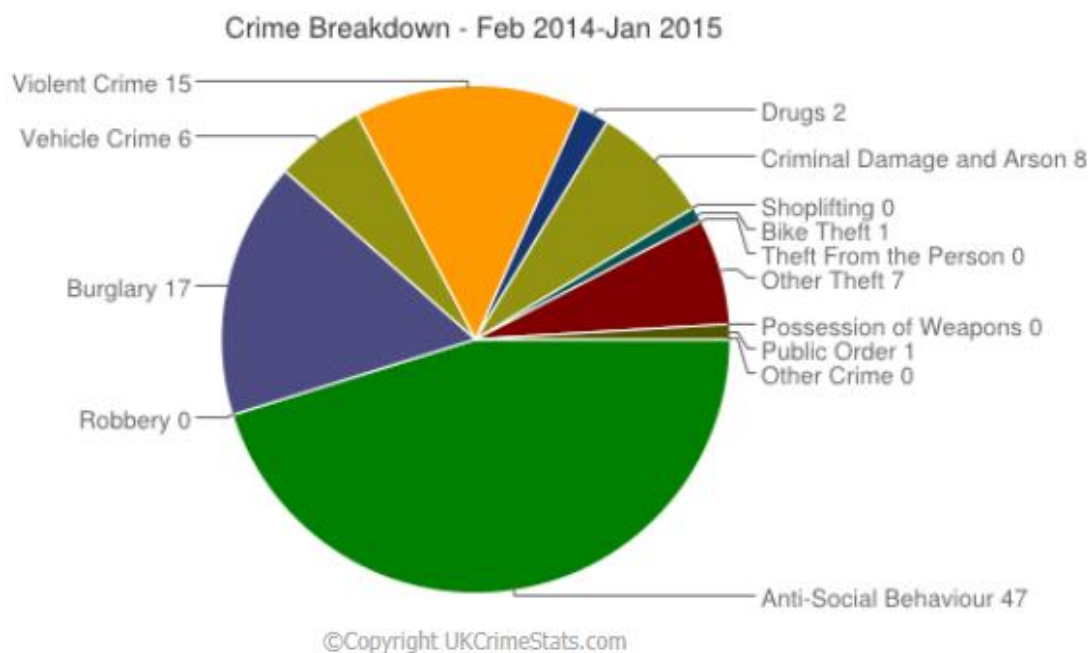
Source: UK Crime Stats

Figure A.4.2 Crime Breakdown for Silverdale



Source: UK Crime Stats

Figure A.4.3 Crime Breakdown for Warton



Source: UK Crime Stats

The figures show that the most prevalent form of crime in Silverdale and Warton in the last year was anti-social behaviour with 41 and 47 cases respectively. In Arnsdale and Beetham there were 22 cases of anti-social behaviour.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Number and distribution of LSOAs in the bottom 10% for crime deprivation.
- Crime rates compared with regional levels of crime.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- Crime levels in the AONB are lower than national and regional levels for the AONB.
- Anti-social behaviour makes up the largest proportion of offences within the AONB. Further work is needed to reduce such problems.

- Although incidences of crime and disorder are not high in the AONB, its rural nature means that there is a need to ensure that access routes, footpaths etc. are well marked and not unduly isolated to reduce opportunities for crime.
- Communities should be safe working and living environments.

A.5 Water

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the water environment in the AONB:

- Distribution of areas at risk of fluvial flooding (Environment Agency Flood Map).
- River catchment areas.
- Bathing water quality (Environment Agency¹⁰, www.lancaster.gov.uk and AONB Management Plan SEA 2014).

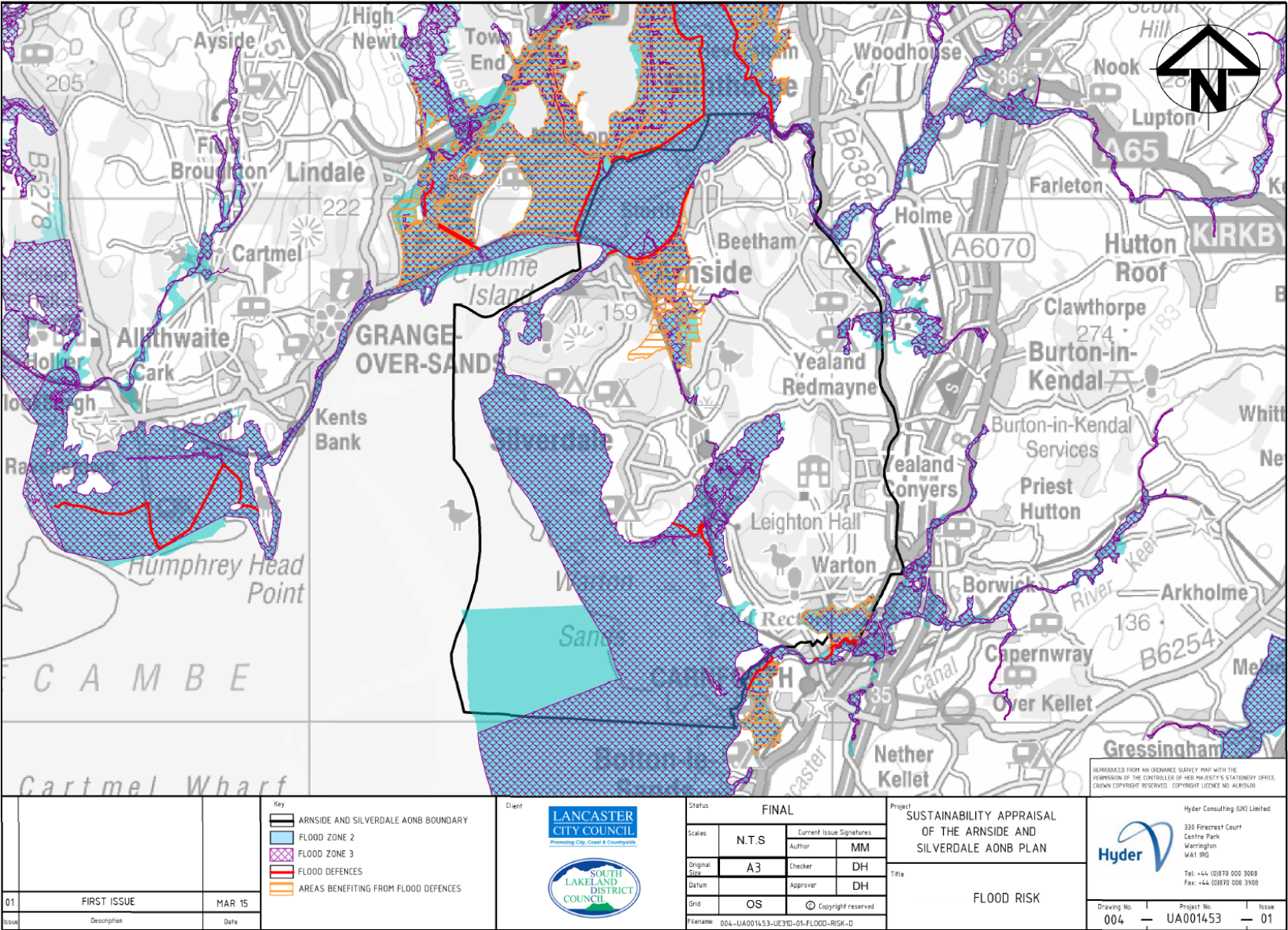
Within Arnside & Silverdale AONB, particularly within the Hawes Water and Leighton Moss catchments, agricultural diffuse pollution and septic tank outflows continue to contribute to poor water quality and eutrophication. The water quality in Leighton Beck has not yet been fully established as comprehensive monitoring has only recently commenced. It is likely however to be subject to the same types of pollution as Hawes Water and Leighton Moss. Only 6.1% of the length of river within the AONB (8.493km) has 'high' or 'good' status (Environment Agency). The single water body, Hawes Water, has 'moderate' status. There are no standing waters (lakes and SSSI ditches) with 'high' or 'good' status and there is one with moderate status. There is also one transitional water body with 'bad' status.

Abstraction from ground and surface water is not extensive within the AONB. Abstraction licensing strategies for South Cumbria and Lune and Wyre, Feb 2013, indicate that there is water available for licensing within the AONB area generally. However, there is no water available from Hawes Water and restricted water available from the River Bela. Licensing strategies remain unchanged since 2004, indicating no particular or increasing pressure on water resources in the AONB area. Both of the groundwater water bodies in the area are classified as being in 'good' condition. Overall, water resources are not considered to be an issue within the AONB (Environment Agency and AONB Management Plan SEA2014).

Fluvial flood risk is low within the Arnside & Silverdale AONB. Coastal flooding is a potential risk in certain low lying areas of the AONB. The current and future risk from tidal flooding is also likely to become exacerbated by climate change. It can be seen on figure A.5.1 that the area contains a number of areas at risk of flooding, from both rivers and sea. The issue of coastal flooding and salt water inundation of the low lying mosses within the AONB is cross cutting with climatic factors.

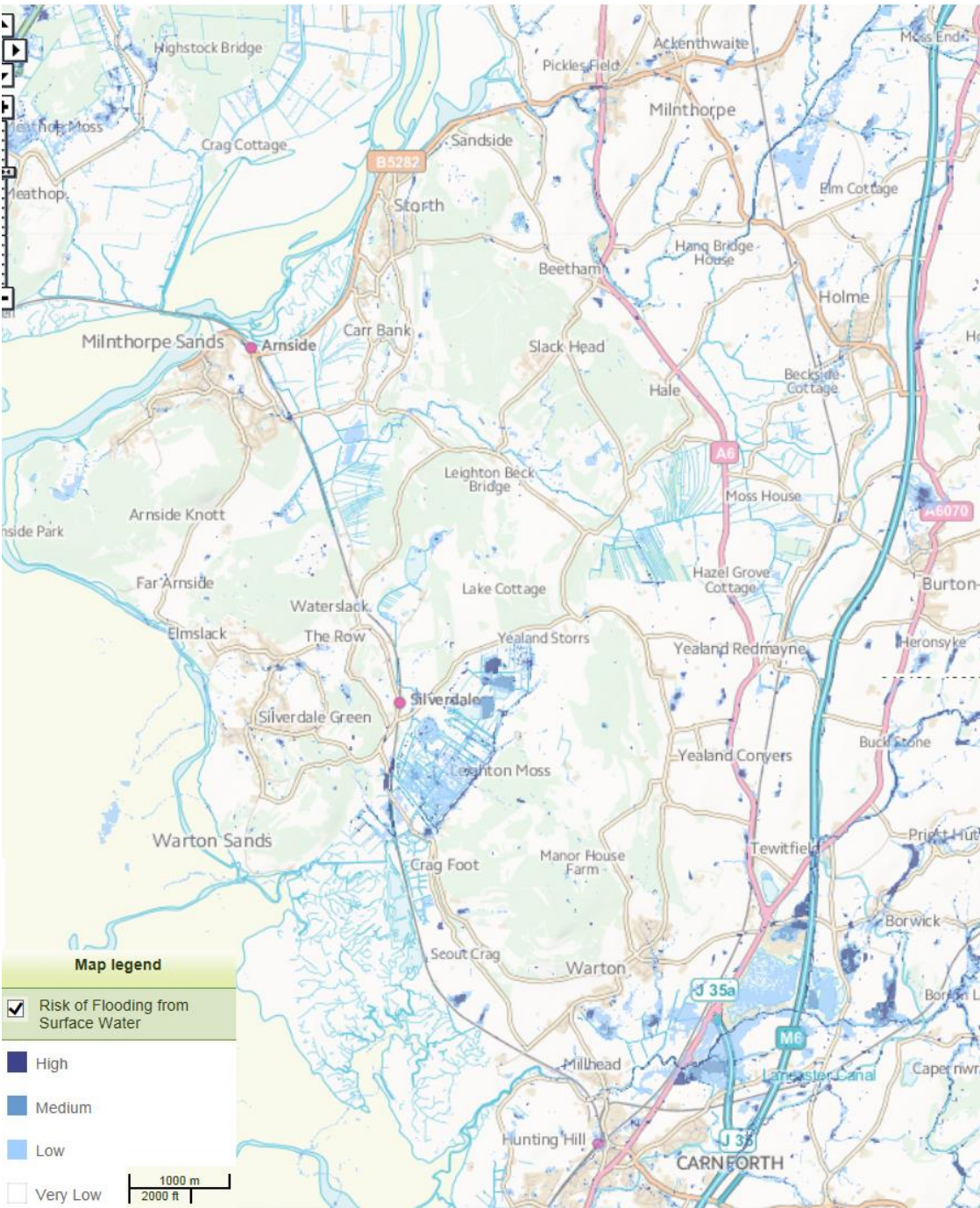
Figure A.5.2, which follows Figure A.5.1, shows the surface water flooding risk within the AONB in relation to the main settlements. Surface water flooding is what happens when rainwater does not drain away through the normal drainage systems or soak into the ground, but lies on or flows over the ground instead. From Figure A.5.2, it can be seen that there is a large area of Leighton Moss which is to the south east of Silverdale which is at risk from surface water flooding. Leighton Moss is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is a wetland area where the soil is saturated with water. Parts of this area include moderate amounts of medium risk and some concentrated areas of high risk. There are also some areas to the south east of Warton and some small pockets around Arnside which register high levels of risk. Areas at high risk of flooding have a greater chance of flooding than 1 in 30 (3.3%). Areas at medium risk of flooding have a chance of flooding of between 1 in 100 (1%) and 1 in 30 (3.3%). Both medium and high risk levels of flooding can be difficult to predict, much more so than river or sea flooding.

¹⁰ http://maps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/wiybyController?x=347500.0&y=461500.0&topic=coastalwaters&ep=map&scale=3&location=Lancaster,%20Lancashire&lang=_e&layerGroups=default&textonly=off#x=345463&y=464027&lg=1,&scale=4



Source: Environment Agency

Figure A.5.2 Risk of Flooding from Surface Water within Arnside & Silverdale AONB



Source: Environment Agency

A number of water bodies are monitored within the AONB by the Environment Agency, the results are presented within Table A.5.1 below (Environment Agency). Two of the waterbodies were recorded having Bad overall water quality in 2016 with only one of the six waterbodies recorded as having a Good overall water quality in 2016.

Table A.5.1 Overall water quality of waterbodies within the AONB monitored by the Environment Agency.

Water Body	Overall Water Quality (Cycle 1 (2009))		
River Waterbodies			

Water Body	Overall Water Quality (Cycle 1 (2009))		
Leighton Beck	Moderate	Bad	Good (by 2027)
Leighton Moss and The Pool	Good (2013)	Moderate	Good (by 2027)
Lake Waterbodies			
Hawes Water	Moderate	Moderate	Good (by 2015)
Groundwater Waterbodies			
South Cumbria Lower Palaeozoic and Carboniferous Aquifers	Good	Poor	Good (by 2027)
Lune and Wyre Carboniferous Aquifers	Poor	Good	Good (by 2015)
Transitional and Coastal Waterbodies			
Kent	Moderate	Bad	Good (by 2015)

Figure A.5.3 Bathing Water Quality at Morecambe Bay

Date Gaps and Uncertainties

- Occurrence of coastal Flooding events.
- Daily domestic water use.
- Number of planning applications granted permission contrary to Environment Agency advice.
- Number of new developments incorporating Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- Poor water quality, particularly in Hawes Water and Leighton Moss catchments, are an issue in the AONB. Opportunities should be sought to tackle the main contributory factors, agricultural run-off and septic tank overflow, to try and improve the areas water quality.
- Coastal flooding poses a risk to the area however risk of fluvial flooding is low. Appropriate upland 'soft' management techniques should be undertaken together with any necessary 'hard' management to ensure the area is adequately safeguarded from the risk of flooding – particularly with increased flood risks associated with modern day climate change.
- Opportunities should be sought to tackle the main contributory factors to poor water quality. These include agricultural run-off and septic tank overflow.
- New developments and households within the AONB should also be encouraged to minimise water use and to re-use rainwater where possible i.e. grey water recycling systems.

- When considering additional housing in Silverdale, the issue of septic tanks and impact on water quality in the estuary should be considered and the potential connection to mains sewerage.
- Areas at risk from flooding should be protected from development that would increase that risk. New developments should be encouraged to use green infrastructure such as SuDS to manage runoff and further reduce flood risk.
- Bathing water quality at the two monitoring locations continues to meet the required standard. There is potential to improve this further to achieve the 'guideline' quality certification.
- There has been no change in licensing strategies indicating that there is no particular or increasing pressure on water resources in AONB area.

A.6 Soil and Land Quality

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the soil and land quality conditions across the AONB:

- Distribution of best and most versatile agricultural land (Lancashire Area Profiles, www.lancashire.gov.uk and www.magic.gov.uk).
- Soil types within the AONB (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014)
- Total number of farm holdings within the AONB (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014)
- Land use within the AONB (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014)
- Farm size and livestock numbers (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014)
- Environmental Stewardship Agreements (Natural England Framework for Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes 2014)
- Number of geological SSSIs and Local geological/geodiversity sites (LGS). (Natural England Framework for Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes 2014)
- Woodland management and forestry techniques (AONB Management Plan SEA (2014))

Carboniferous Limestone bedrock underlies the Arnside & Silverdale AONB and unifies its character. There are 16 Limestone Pavement Orders within the AONB which protect limestone pavements, covering nearly 16% of the area. Many of these sites are also SSSIs and five form part of the Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC.

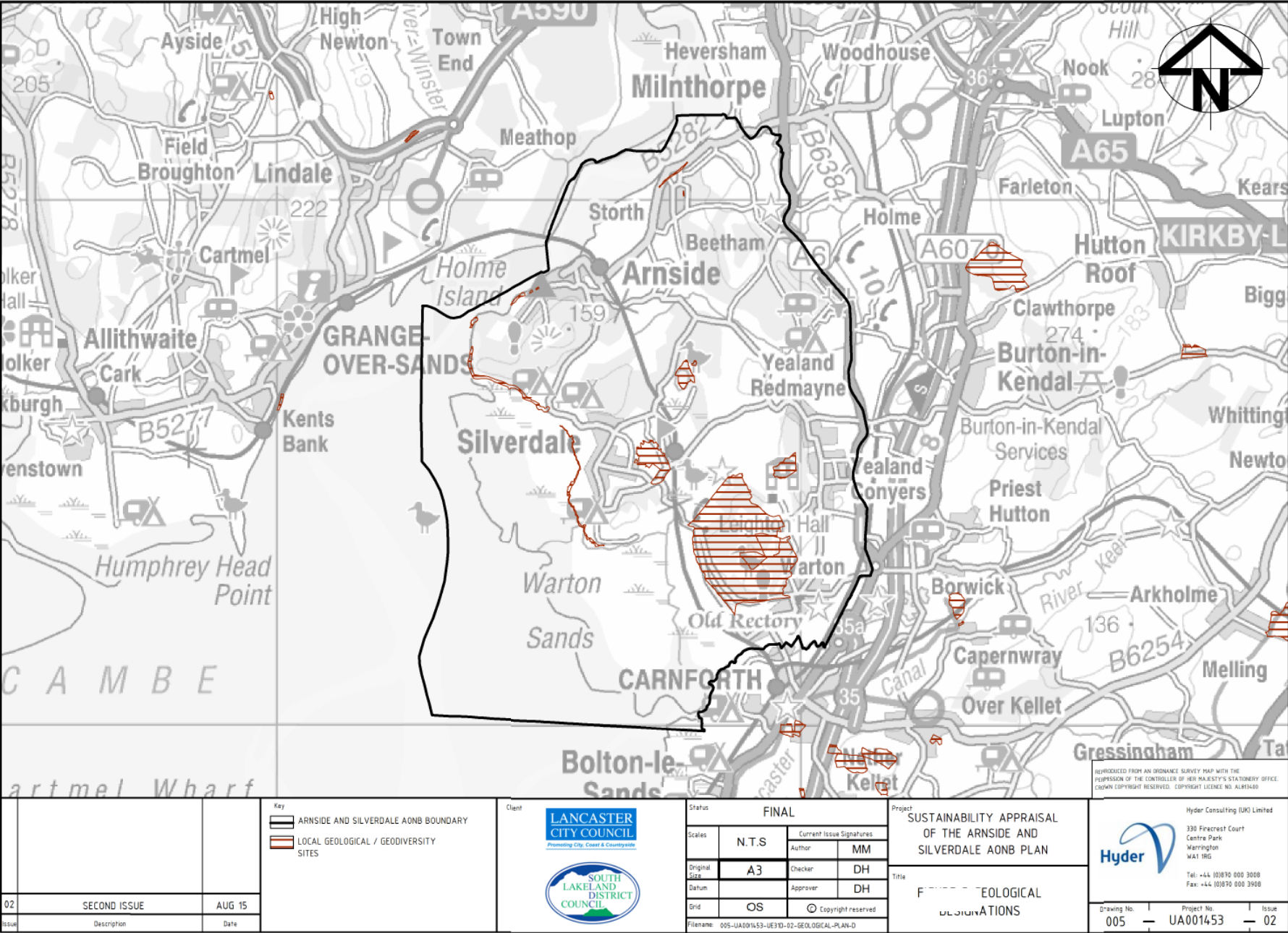
Two SSSIs are of particular geological interest – Trowbarrow Quarry of which 100% of the 7.46 ha area is in favourable condition, and Hale Moss Caves of which 100% of the 22.38 ha has been assessed and declared in favourable condition. Trowbarrow Quarry has geological features of interest including faults, folds, fossils and apparent paleo-karst. Hale Moss Caves are also of high geological interest due to the systems of small caves which developed in the steep cliff-like limestone bluffs. These once formed the margin of the Hale Moss Polje lake and provide Britain's only examples of the feature.

There are also seven LGSs which cover 9.8% of the terrestrial AONB and 429 ha. These are shown in Figure A.6.1 on the following page. All the LGSs are in good condition or are under positive management.

Features of geological interest which also contribute to the landscape character of the AONB are the low limestone cliffs along the coast, solution hollows (or dolines) in the limestone, sea caves, erratic boulders and Carboniferous limestone fossil assemblages.

Soils within the AONB are generally thin and free draining. Permanent pasture, particularly on species rich limestone grassland, provides effective erosion control, often on vulnerable sites where the depth of soil is very shallow and, being present over limestone, are prone to drought. Peaty soils are present under the low lying mosses such as Arnside Moss, Silverdale Moss, Hale Moss and Leighton Moss. Some of these deep peat soils are more or less permanently waterlogged. Others are drained by open ditches, although flooding still occurs periodically.

Woodland is a key component of the Arnside & Silverdale landscape, covering around a third of the terrestrial AONB. Semi-natural ancient woodland is very important in the area and the AONB has 45 plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS). Much of the woodland is on difficult to manage and sensitive sites, in particular limestone pavement. (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014)



Agricultural Land Classification within the AONB identifies 32% of the terrestrial AONB as Grade 3 (good/moderate), 40% as Grade 4 (poor), 23% as Grade 5 (very poor) and 5% as non-agricultural. There is no Grade 1 (excellent) or Grade 2 (very good) agricultural land within the AONB. A lack of high quality agricultural soils is reflective of the surrounding and constituent AONB areas. Both South Lakeland and Lancaster have low levels of high grade agricultural land. This deficiency can be seen in figure A.6.2.

The total number of farm holdings within the AONB is 43 and there has been an apparent decline in numbers since 2000. There are 22 grazing livestock (LFA) farms and 13 grazing livestock (lowland) farms there has also been a decline in dairy farms since 2000. Land use within the AONB includes 1305 ha total farmed area; 2547 ha permanent grass; 100 ha temporary grass and 125 ha woodland. The total farmed area has increased by 38% since 2000 and grass remains the majority of land use.

Table A.6.1 shows farm sizes within the AONB.

Table A.6.1 Farm Sizes in Hectares (ha)

<5	>=5 and <20	>=20 and <50	>=50 and <100	>=100
6	14	6	7	10

Table A.6.1 shows that the majority of farms are within 5-20 ha and over 100 ha in size. There has been an increase in the number of large farms over 100 ha and a significant shift away from small holdings (<5 ha) (Defra Census 2010).

Table A.6.2 shows livestock numbers within the AONB.

Table A.6.2 Livestock Numbers

Total Cattle	Beef Herd	Dairy Herd	Total Sheep	Poultry	Horses
2935	177	568	12157	296	82

Table A.6.2 shows that there is a large number of sheep within the AONB. There has been an increase in cattle numbers of 7% and an increase in sheep numbers of 42% since 2000 (Defra Agricultural Census 2010).

The length of permissive linear access provided under existing Environmental Stewardship Agreements (ESAs) is 4015m and the area of permissive open access provided under existing ESAs is 18 ha (Natural England Framework for Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes, 2013).

Table A.6.3 Area managed under agri-environment agreements

Aspect measured	Area (ha)	
	2013	2014
AONB GIS area	7,587	7,587
UAA area (% of AONB area)	3,616 (58%)	3,616 (57%)
Environmental Stewardship Scheme	(mutually exclusive areas)	
Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship	838	947
Entry Level Stewardship	475	342
Higher Level Stewardship	595	588
Organic Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship	88	86
Organic Entry Level Stewardship	99	99
Grand Total (% of AONB area)	2,095 (28%)	2,062 (27%)

Source: Natural England Framework for Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes

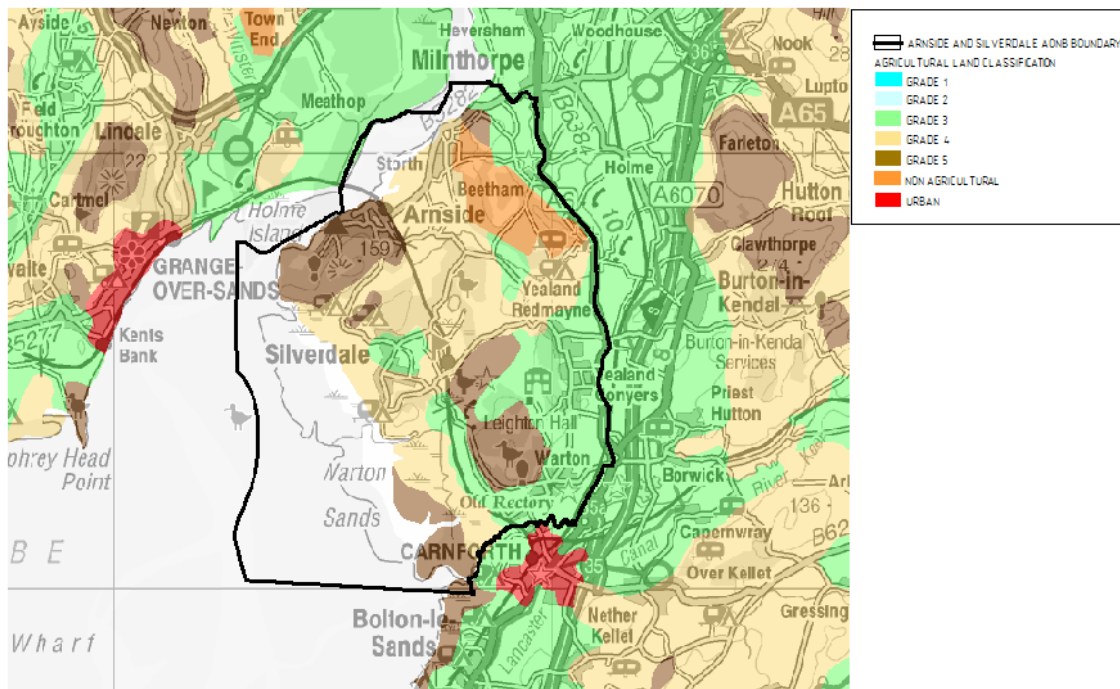
Table A.6.4 Total count of ES agreements

Scheme Type	2013 (count)	2014 (count)
Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship	16	18
Entry Level Stewardship	12	11
Higher Level Stewardship	2	2
Organic Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship	2	2
Organic Entry Level Stewardship	1	1
Grand Total	33	34

Source: Natural England Framework for Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes

The total area managed under agri-environment agreements is 2062ha (2014) which is a slight decline from the area under agri-environment agreements in 2013, at 2095. This area comprises of 34 agreements, which is up from 33 in 2013. 46% of this is under Entry Level and Higher Level Stewardship up from 40% in 2013. (Natural England Framework for Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes)

Figure A.6.2 Agricultural Land Classification



Source: Natural England

Projected increases in winter rainfall and drier summers may increase the susceptibility of soils. Increases in applications of pesticides and fertilisers have potential impacts on soils, water courses and biodiversity; the adverse impacts on watercourses are discussed in the previous section. Agri-environment payments help to minimise these risks.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Key sources of Contaminated Land
- Distribution of areas known to have been subject to significant subsidence
- Area of previously developed vacant land, vacant buildings and derelict land and buildings.
- Area of land currently in use but with planning allocation/permission for redevelopment and with other known redevelopment potential.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- The area contains a number of important geological and SSSI designations, particularly its limestone pavements which are offered protection under limestone pavement orders, of which there are 16 within the AONB. Opportunities should be sought to conserve and enhance these important sites/resource for the area.
- Woodlands cover approximately a third of the area of the AONB. Diseases such as Chalara dieback (Ash Dieback) are not present within the AONB but as ash woodlands are the dominant woodland type within the AONB this is a key issue which should be observed.
- High synthetic fertiliser/pesticide/herbicide etc. application rates can cause detrimental impacts on soils and surrounding watercourses. Although this is a problem in the area manure spreading is much more prevalent and can lead to manure run-off from farm fields and pollution to nearby water courses. To protect the soils, and the surrounding landscape, application of substances should be regulated and minimised wherever possible. The Code of Good Agricultural Practice (CoGAP) states techniques for minimising odour and ammonia losses and should be followed. The use of Agri-environment payments to help minimise these adverse impacts/risk should be maximised.
- Two SSSI designations are of geological interest within the AONB together with LGS. These designated sites are all in positive or favourable condition.

- The Agricultural Land Classification within the AONB states no Grade 1 or Grade 2 soils are present. Permeant pasture provides effective erosion control often on vulnerable sites.
- Climate change is causing more severe droughts and more extreme rainfall events. To protect the AONB's soils from adversely suffering from either or both of the impacts of these effects active management should be undertaken to protect the landscape.
- Opportunities should be sought to protect and enhance important sites designations and resources for the area.
- Where previously developed sites exist, the aim should be to continue to remediate and re-use them, although this decision should be made on a site-by-site basis as some brownfield sites may now have developed significant biodiversity interests.

A.7 Air Quality

The following baseline indicators have been used to identify environmental conditions and key trends:

- Number and distribution of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) (Air Quality Archive¹¹)

Air quality affects the state of the natural environment and has implications for human health. The Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 place a duty on local authorities to review and assess air quality for seven pollutants and ensure that standards and objectives laid down for each will be met. There are no AQMAs within the AONB designation and therefore air quality monitoring is not carried out within the AONB by either South Lakeland District Council or Lancaster City Council. Air quality is not considered to be a current issue within the AONB.

Across the surrounding areas the air quality overall is of high quality. The pockets of poorer air quality in, for example, Lancaster and South Lakeland are principally around areas of high traffic congestion. With the Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB being much more rural this is very unlikely to be an issue.

Across England, combined air quality scores are monitored for all LSOAs using data derived from the National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory. The indicator uses measures of emissions of four main pollutants (benzene, NO₂, sulphuric dioxide and PM₁₀). Modelled estimates of the annual mean concentrations for each of the pollutants in each LSOA were then derived and compared to World Health Organisation Guidelines for pollutants that represent 'safe' concentrations to produce an overall quality score. Values greater than 1.0 constitute an 'unsafe' concentration and values of less than 1.0 indicate that the pollutant is below the objective set and is, therefore, 'safe'. The scores for each pollutant are then added to derive an overall score for the LSOA. Table A.7.1 presents the results for the LSOAs within the AONB.

Table A.7.1 Combined Air Quality Indicator Scores for 2010

Ward	LSOA	Air Quality Score
Warton	Lancaster 001E	0.48
Silverdale	Lancaster 001F	0.51
Warton	Lancaster 001G	0.52
Arnsdale & Beetham	South Lakeland 011A	0.46
Arnsdale & Beetham	South Lakeland 011B	0.46
Arnsdale & Beetham	South Lakeland 011C	0.52

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

The information in Table A.7.1 above shows that all of the LSOAs within the AONB have scores of between 0.46 and 0.52 which means the pollutants are below objectives set and are 'safe'.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

There are no significant data gaps or uncertainties identified for this topic.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- Air quality across the AONB and the surrounding region is good with pollutants below objectives set and classified as 'safe'. This is not likely to change given the size of any future development.
- AQMAs are not in place across the AONB due to air quality not being an issue.
- Effects on European sites from air pollution should be considered to ensure development does not adversely impact these designations.

¹¹ http://www.airquality.co.uk/laqm/laqm.php?action=submit&map_name=nweng&la_id=142

A.8 Energy and Climate Change

The following baseline indicators have been used:

- Predicted local impacts of Climate Change (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014)

Predicted changes to the climate have the potential to impact on many aspects of the AONB, including biodiversity, agriculture, forestry, human health and the historic environment. It is recognised that the full extent of the impacts will not be apparent in the short term. Predicted changes include a possible mean increase in summer temperatures of 2-4°C, milder winters, changes in rainfall distribution and seasonality, more extremes of weather and sea level rise.

The main impacts on the biodiversity of the AONB are expected to be changes in species ranges, and species abundance and timings of biological events as a result of increases in temperature, the impact of extreme weather events such as flooding, drought and storms and loss of inter-tidal habitat as a result of sea level rise. Flight times of butterflies are already thought to be altering in the AONB. Temperature changes and more extreme weather conditions could in the long term affect farming and forestry, changing the balance between arable and pastoral farming, influencing crops grown and stock kept. Tree species may alter over time as temperatures and rainfall patterns alter, affecting the forestry and woodland management practices of the area.

Impacts on the historic environment may include the increased likelihood of damage to foundations of both historic buildings and agricultural boundary walls through winter waterlogging and heavier rain events and new pest species which may affect the integrity of individual sites.

Although the impacts of climate change are anticipated to be varied and wide-ranging, exacerbation of current flood risk poses probably the greatest risk to the area. In South Lakeland, for example, 1.2% of the areas housing stock is at a greater than a 1 in 100 year risk of flood risk from river flooding – the highest categorisation bar being a functional flood plain (South Lakeland SA Scoping Report).

The Bittern Countryside Community Interest Company (BCCIC) is funding a Low Carbon Initiative, delivering a series of photo-voltaic projects for community buildings and Fact Sheets to raise awareness of the issues around energy resources, which will help lead to reductions in carbon emissions and positive benefits to air and climate (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014).

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Annual average domestic gas and electricity consumption per consumer.
- Annual gas and electricity consumption in the commercial/industrial sector.
- Applications for renewable energy developments.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- Predicted climate changes has the potential to impact on many aspects of the AONB including biodiversity, agriculture, forestry human health and the historic environment.
- Climate change could lead to potential changes in species ranges and abundance as well as timing of biological events due to an increase in temperature.
- Loss of intertidal habitat as a result of sea level rises could present a constraining issue for species.
- Temperature changes could affect farming and forestry in the longer term.
- Damage may be more likely to the historic environment due to waterlogging and new pest species which affect the integrity of recognised sites.
- Reducing the carbon footprint through energy conservation and efficiency and the promotion of appropriate renewable energy sources should be a priority for the AONB.
- To increase the production of energy from low carbon and appropriate renewable sources
- New developments should be encouraged to include sustainable design principles.
- Reducing motorised road transport on the AONB's roads and encouraging more sustainable modes of transport would contribute to reducing the effects of climate change.
- Due care must be given to the conservation of biodiversity, landscape and heritage resources when identifying sites for renewable energy projects.
- Green infrastructure is important and delivers a number of multifunctional benefits – Note this is a cross-cutting issue.

A.9 Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise conditions within and surrounding the AONB:

- Number and distribution of designated sites including Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Ramsar sites, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), National Nature Reserves (NNRs) Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014)
- Condition of SSSIs (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014).
- Priority Habitats within the AONB and the condition (Natural England, 2014).
- Areas of woodland, including ancient woodland (Natural England, 2014).

The Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB is a nationally and regionally important core biodiversity resource which contains an unusually wide range of habitat types within a small area, creating a mosaic which is home to an outstanding variety of wildlife; over 100 species included on the list of England's priority species (S41 NERC Act) are known to occur regularly within the AONB.

Large areas of the AONB are of international importance. There are four Natura 2000 sites: two SACs - Morecambe Bay and Morecambe Bay Pavements and two SPAs - Morecambe Bay and Leighton Moss. The latter two are also Ramsar sites. The AONB is within a Nature Improvement Area (NIA) which is Morecambe Bay Limestones and Wetlands NIA. There are also many sites of national importance. There are 19 SSSIs (two of which are designated for geological reasons) which cover 54% of the whole AONB and 4026 ha and one NNR. In 2013, 64.2% of SSSIs were in favourable condition with 35.2% in recovering condition which shows an improving trend since 2009 when a total of 73% were in favourable or recovering condition. LNRs are of local importance, but their protection is afforded via national legislation – there are three LNRs: Trowbarrow Quarry, Warton Crag and Warton Crag Quarry. All of the LNRs are also covered by other designations, either as SSSIs or LWSs (see below).

The above sites are shown in Figure A.9.1 on the following page.

There are 64 Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs) in the AONB, which cover 20% of the terrestrial AONB area and 888 ha. There is currently no information on the condition of 55% of LWSs in Lancashire. Of the remainder of the LWSs, 14% are currently recorded as being in positive management.

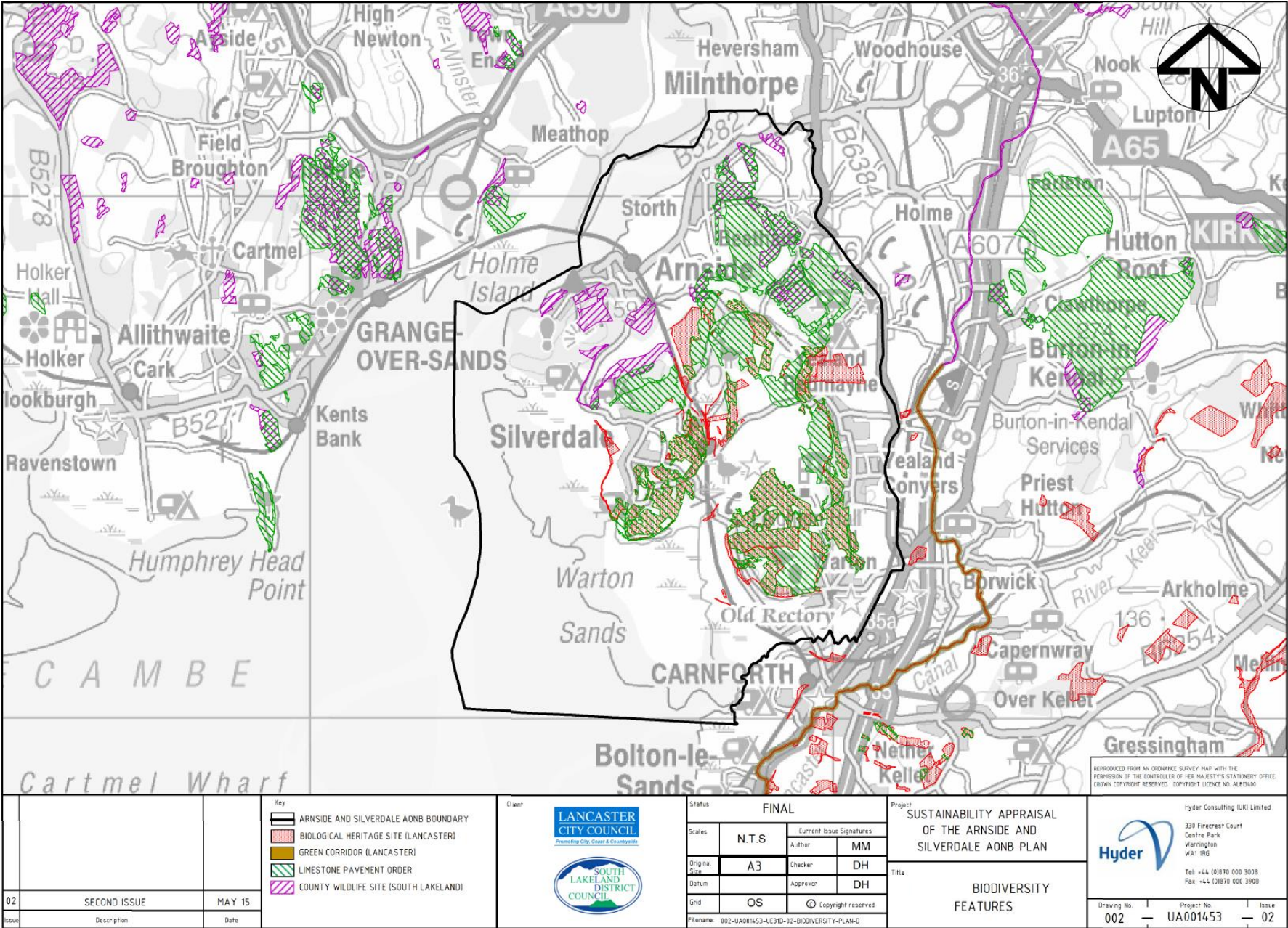
The LWSs are shown in Figure A.9.2 which follows Figure A.9.1 (see next 2 pages).

Priority habitats within the AONB are:

- Deciduous woodland
- Lowland wood pastures and parkland
- Traditional orchards
- Lowland heath
- Lowland meadows
- Lowland calcareous grassland
- Purple moor grass and rush pasture
- Lowland fen
- Reedbed
- Coastal and flood plain grazing marsh
- Coastal saltmarsh
- Maritime cliffs and slopes
- Mudflats
- Limestone pavement
- Hedgerows
- Oligotrophic lakes
- Ponds
- Rivers
- Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats
- Estuarine rocky habitats
- Wet woodland



Figure A.9.2 Biodiversity Features



A 2009 hedgerow survey identified that there is 105.4 km of hedgerow within the AONB.

Woodlands cover around a third of the terrestrial AONB. Active woodland management has increased over recent years but 46% of the total woodland area is currently unmanaged. The total area of woodland is 1552 ha which 35.5% of the terrestrial AONB. This includes 1360 ha broadleaved; 67 ha conifer and 97 ha mixed. The area of Ancient Woodland and Ancient, Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) and Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) within the AONB is shown in table A.9.1 (Natural England).

Table A.9.1 Area of Ancient Woodland and Ancient and Semi-Natural Woodland within AONB

	Area in ha	% Cover of Terrestrial
Ancient Woodland	660	15
ASNW	451	10
PAWS	209	4.8

Source: Natural England Framework for Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes

The table shows that Ancient Woodland cover 660 ha of the AONB, 15% of which is terrestrial. Ancient Woodland cover 9% of the total AONB.

Diseases such as Chalara dieback (Ash Dieback) are not present within the AONB but as ash woodlands are the dominant woodland type within the AONB this is a key issue which should be observed.

Of the woodland area within SSSIs, 44% is currently in favourable condition with 99% in favourable or recovering condition. Limestone grasslands make up nearly 20% of the terrestrial SSSI area within the AONB, with 58% in favourable condition and 99% in favourable or recovering condition.

Of the calcareous grassland within the AONB, 58% are in favourable condition and 99% are in favourable condition.

Of the freshwater wetlands within the AONB (fen, marsh and swamp) 5% are in favourable condition. A Diffuse Water Pollution Plan is in place which will address issues including diffuse agricultural pollution and lead to improvements in habitat condition.

There is anecdotal evidence that a number of invasive non-native species (INNS) are now present within the AONB such as Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam. Monitoring and recording will be essential to ensure that the presence of INNS within the AONB remains limited and their spread is effectively controlled.

Surrounding the AONB are an abundance of important landscape designations home to a wide variety of important species and habitats. Lancaster District, for example, has approximately three quarters of its area covered by protected designations.

All Accessible Natural Environment (ANE) land including LNRs and NNRs, Forestry Commission and Woodland Trust Land accounts for 20% of the total AONB which is 1553 ha. This compares to 17% for all ANE land as a percentage of protected landscape area for all AONBs (Natural England Protected Landscape Monitoring Framework).

Landscape designation type and distribution can be seen on the constraints plan.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Information on condition of LWSs.
- Data on tranquillity for the AONB.
- Key Priority species, and characteristic/notable species present.
- Area and connectivity of wildlife corridors and ecological networks.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- The AONB's natural environment is central to its character and designation. Conserving and enhancing it is paramount to the AONB's future.
- There is a large percentage of nationally and locally protected areas, species and habitats present within the AONB.
- There are four Natura 2000 sites: two SACs - Morecambe Bay and Morecambe Bay Pavements and two SPAs - Morecambe Bay and Leighton Moss. The latter two are also Ramsar sites
- There are 19 SSSIs (two of which are designated for geological reasons) which cover 54% of the whole AONB and 4026 ha; one NNR; three LNRs; and 64 Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs) which cover 20% of the terrestrial AONB and 888 ha.

- Woodlands cover around a third of the terrestrial AONB. Active woodland management has increased over recent years but 46% of the total woodland area is currently unmanaged. The area also contains a large number of other priority habitats.
- Diseases such as Chalara dieback (Ash Dieback) are not present within the AONB but as ash woodlands are the dominant woodland type within the AONB this is a key issue which should be observed.
- To continue the increase of the area's woodland that is in a favourable or improving condition.
- To continue the increase of the area's limestone grassland that is in a favourable or improving condition.
- There are large areas with high quality natural and biodiverse environments in the AONB that should be conserved and enhanced.
- Opportunities should be sought to develop robust ecological networks through habitat enhancement, expansion and the creation of buffer zones, linear corridors to link habitats. This will lead to improved species diversity and make the area more resilient to climate change allowing for greater movement of species within ecological corridors.
- The high quality of the environment provides opportunity to develop recreation and tourism in the AONB, although care should be taken to ensure that development is appropriate and does not adversely affect biodiversity resources.
- The condition of a number of SSSIs should be improved and opportunities should be sought to deliver biodiversity enhancements where possible, for example by improving the connectivity between designated sites and areas of open space.
- Opportunities should be sought to promote land management schemes where possible as these can lead to a number of environmental benefits and enhancements.
- Efforts should be made to maintain the increase in the number of SSSI's in favourable or unfavourable recovering position, with an overall aim of this being at 100%.

A.10 Cultural Heritage

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the cultural heritage baseline:

- Number of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments (SMs), Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014).
- Number of designated assets on Historic England risk register (At Risk Register, Historic England 2015).
- Historic designed landscapes (Arnside and Silverdale AONB Historic Designed Landscape Research Report, Bennis and Thurnhill, 2013)

Distinctive features of the cultural, archaeological and built heritage of the AONB make the area distinctive, reflecting the strong agricultural and industrial heritage. Scheduled monuments, listed buildings and a registered park and garden are all present within the AONB. Three conservation areas exist in the AONB, these are Warton, Beetham and the Yealands.

The designated heritage assets of the AONB are shown in Figure A.10.1 at the end of this section.

The cultural, archaeological and historic heritage of the AONB is one of the special qualities of the area and is integral to its character. The features that make the area distinctive reflect the strong agricultural and industrial heritage of the AONB and many are cross cutting with the special landscape of the AONB such as field boundaries (drystone walls and hedges), settlements (the layout of villages and hamlets and the building traditions of the area), designed landscapes, ancient woodlands, walls within woodland, traditionally coppiced woodland, orchards, limekilns and quarries.

Historic designed landscapes at Leighton Hall, Hazelwood Hall and Hynning Park are of significance and the registered parkland at Dallam Park is nationally important. Dallam is the only designated historic landscape within the AONB and is listed on English Heritage's National Register of Parks and Gardens. A research study by Bennis and Dyke in 2013 covered 63 sites within the AONB and categorised each site according to its level of historic importance.

11 sites are categorised as Level A sites, which are of exceptional interest and quality. Six of these sites are; Ashton (Beetham), Bleasdale House (Silverdale), Hazlewood (Silverdale), The Hynning (Warton), Leighton Hall (Carnforth) and Ridgeway Park (Silverdale), these six sites compare favourably with those on English Heritage's National Register of Parks and Gardens. The other five sites in this Level A category are also of national/regional significance and they are; Ash Meadow (Arnside), Beachwood (Arnside), Challan Hall (Silverdale), Cove House (Silverdale) and Woodlands (Silverdale).

Category Level B sites are of particular importance and of local and/or regional significance include nine grouped sites. These include; The Promenade (Arnsdale), High Knott Road (Arnsdale) and Cove Road (Silverdale). These are all extremely important in providing strong visual features in the landscape and are significant contributors to regional and local identity. Other Category B sites include Yealand Manor (Yealand Conyers), Wood Close (Arnsdale), Windyridge (Silverdale) and St Oswald's Vicarage (Warton).

Sites in category Level C have gardens which are locally valuable in enhancing local character and identity. These sites include; The Birks (Arnsdale), Friend's Meeting House (Yealand), Mount Lindeth (Silverdale), Stankelt Road (Silverdale), The Shieling (Silverdale), The Tower (Silverdale), and West Lindeth (Silverdale).

Stoneycroft (Arnsdale) has been recorded however it is designated as 'not rated'. It is an example of where much of the original landscape has been lost to later development and the site is a primary example of a villa that has lost its setting and context.

Listed within the AONB are 655 Historic Environment Records including 10 Scheduled Monuments, 114 Listed Buildings, one Registered Park and Garden and many non-statutory archaeological sites. There are three Conservation Areas – Warton, Beetham and the Yealands. Up to date Conservation Area Appraisals (CAA) are available for Beetham and Warton. Table A.10.1 shows the Grades of Listed Buildings within the AONB.

Table A.10.1 Listed Building Grade

Grade	Number
I	6
II*	10
II	98

There are four sites in the AONB which are on the Historic England 'at risk' register (2015), including one Grade II Listed Building two Grade II* Listed Buildings. All four sites are listed as Scheduled Monuments. Progress has been made at Beetham Hall which is in generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems but Arnsdale Tower and Hazelslack Tower are in 'very bad' condition. The Iron Age fort on Warton Crag are in generally unsatisfactory condition with major localised problems (State of the AONB Report, 2013).

Pressures for development within the AONB are ongoing and there is continuing risk of damage to the rich archaeological resource and traditional character of settlements and individual buildings.

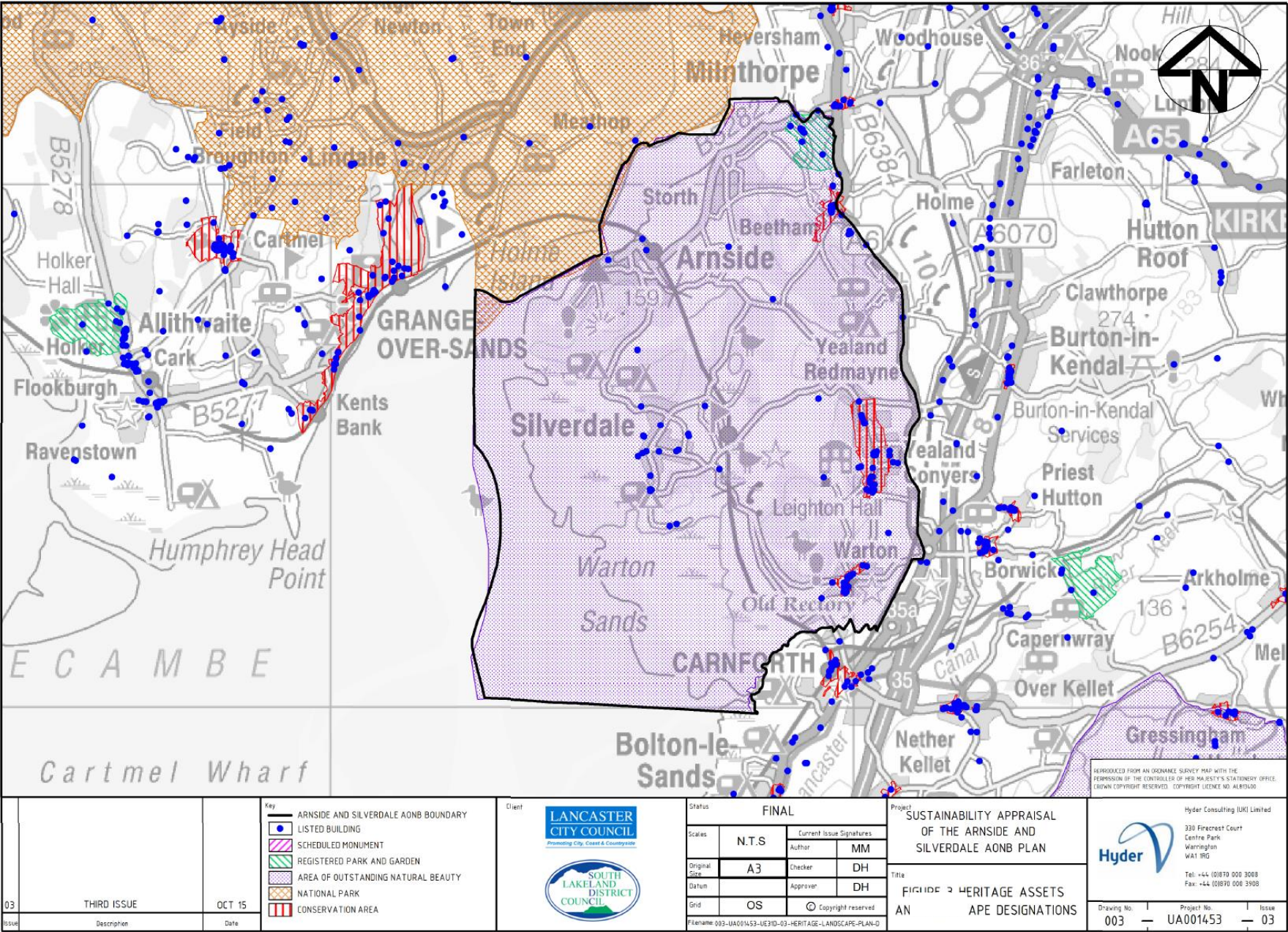
Cultural heritage assets make an important contribution to the diverse and distinctive character of the North West region. Between them Lancaster District and South Lakeland, for example, contain more than 15,000 listed buildings and over a 100 Scheduled monuments.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

None identifiedKey Issues and Opportunities

- Cultural heritage assets and their setting should be appropriately conserved and enhanced where appropriate. Conservation or restoration efforts should continue to return the cultural assets within the AONB which are currently on the 'at risk register' back to better conditions so that they can continue to add to the areas cultural diversity and value.
- Parkland, designed landscapes and gardens within the AONB are at risk. Harm to the historic environment can be reduced through good land management and planning policies and decisions that take full account of the significance of the asset and its setting.
- In addition to protecting statutory sites it is important to ensure that the wider historic landscape is protected and also non-designated heritage and archaeological resources.

Figure A.10.1 Heritage Assets and Landscape Designations



A.11 Landscape

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the existing conditions:

- Landscape characterisation (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014; Arnside & Silverdale AONB Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment).
- Agri-environment scheme coverage (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014)
- Areas disturbed by noise and visual intrusion (CPRE 2007)
- Morecambe Bay Limestones National Character Area (Natural England, 2015)

The Arnside & Silverdale AONB has a very distinctive landscape character which is made up of an intimate diverse mosaic of contrasting landscape types. There are improved agricultural pastures and intensively managed farmland with large semi-natural areas including inter-tidal sands and mudflats, saltmarshes and lagoons, coastal mosses and limestone pastures, species-rich limestone grasslands, limestone pavements, cliffs and escarpments and extensively wooded limestone hills. Its scenic qualities include the rarity and distinctiveness of its Carboniferous Limestone and the estuarine setting of the AONB.

The seascape of the AONB is also very important. Morecambe Bay is the largest intertidal area in the UK where four estuaries meet in a horseshoe-shaped Bay of a spectacular scale and grandeur. Coastal saltmarsh and intertidal flats partly lie within the AONB but also extend westwards over a huge area of mud and sand - a kaleidoscope of water and light; sea and sky; sound, texture and colour. The coast is dominated by open skies that create an ever-changing backdrop: clear blue skies; swift-blown clouds on a windy day; blackening clouds before a storm; shafts of light shining through a gap in the cloud cover; or vivid sunsets which fill the sky and reflect on the shallow waters of the mudflats. Shining sandbanks, mudflats and constantly changing channels are alive with the evocative calls of curlews and flocks of waders and wildfowl keeping time with the ebb and flow of the tide (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014).

Spectacular views over Morecambe Bay and towards the Lake District to the west and north, and towards the Yorkshire Dales and the Forest of Bowland to the east and south, give the area an impressive setting. The small-scale yet complex nature of the landforms gives an intimate feeling within valleys and woodlands which contrasts with the open nature and expansive views from higher ground and along the coast

People have significantly influenced the AONB landscape in many ways, through settlement, quarrying and land management, and in particular, farming. The landscape comprises numerous individual features (sites, monuments and buildings) as well as broad patterns of field systems, settlements and woodlands. The form and layout of villages and hamlets in the area also contributes to the character and quality of the local landscape and there are strong vernacular traditions in the area including the design, construction and detailing of individual buildings. This style dates back to medieval times when some of the earliest stone buildings were built. Stoney buildings such as Hazelslack Tower, Arnside Tower, Leighton Hall and Beetham Hall. A strong local tradition of date stones, small 'fire windows', hood mouldings constructed over windows and 'slobbered masonry' used to weatherproof limestone rubble-wall buildings can be seen to be continued to be used by later generations. This has developed a key characteristic of local building styles within the AONB.

The earliest settlements, at Warton, Yealand Redmayne, Beetham and Hale, have a distinctive historic character, retaining a medieval linear form with a characteristic 'main street' that is still clearly evident.

Important features characteristic of the AONB landscape include: natural limestone features – limestone pavements, low coastal cliffs, solution hollows, erratic boulders, historic field patterns (particularly in the vicinity of Beetham, Hale, the Yealands and Warton), distinctive field boundaries, in particular dry stone walls and hedgerows, limestone kilns and ponds, walls within woodlands, mature infield, boundary and parkland trees, areas of traditionally coppiced woodland and areas of species-rich grassland such as hay meadows.

The Morecambe Bay Limestones National Character Area profile contains three areas of designated landscape. These are Lake District National Park, The Arnside & Silverdale AONB and the Forest of Bowland AONB. Arnside and Silverdale AONB covers 5,858 ha (15 per cent) of this NCA (Natural England 2015). These can be seen in Figure A.10.1 in the previous section.

The NCA is characterised by flat lowlands broken up by steep limestone escarpments many of which include exposures of limestone pavement. This landform owes its origins to two distinct geological processes. The limestone escarpments were formed by volcanic uplift associated with the periphery of the Lake District volcanic zone. These have been worn by glacial processes leaving exposed rocks with patches of glacial till. Below the escarpments the landform is depositional including areas of drumlin fields, both fluvial and estuarine sediments, interspersed with raised peat bogs.

Agri-environment agreements support conservation and enhancement of the landscape and may include for conservation of specific landscape features such as in-field trees or hedgerows. Agri-environment agreements within the AONB cover 2095 ha, 40% of the terrestrial area of the AONB (under 33 agreements). 40% of the 2095 ha is in Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship (ELS, HLS), 28% is in HLS and 9% in organic ELS and HLS.

The tranquillity of the AONB is one of its key features. According to CPRE (2006), the west of the AONB, along the coast, can be regarded as 'most tranquil' becoming slightly less tranquil towards the east and the A6.

Data on the percentage of the protected landscape that is relatively tranquil for its area was not available at the time of writing for the AONB however data from CPRE in 2007 revealed that 21.97% of Cumbria and 57.73% of Lancashire were disturbed by noise and visual intrusion.

Further data sourced from CPRE investigates areas disturbed by noise or visually. An Intrusion map was developed from this disturbance. Figures for this disturbance are presented below in Table A.11.1

Table A.11.1 National and North West calculations of areas disturbed by noise and visual intrusion

Region	Region Area (km ²)	Early 1960s	Early 1990s	2007	Percentage change 1960s – 1990s	Percentage change 1990s – 2007
		Disturbed area (km ²)	Disturbed area (km ²)	Disturbed area (km ²)		
North West	14922.52	4548.54	6185.73	7245.02	35.99%	17.12%
England TOTAL	132942.50	33934.00	53925.17	66339.54	58.91	23.02

The figures in Table A.11.1 show that although the area disturbed by either noise or visual intrusions has increased. For the North west the percentage change for this increase is 35.99% and 17.12% for the change between 1960s and 1990s and the change between 1990s and 2007 respectively. This is less than that for the percentage change for the total area of England which is 58.91 for the change between 1960s and 1990s and 23.02 for the change between the 1990s and 2007.

There are increasing pressures in the local area for renewable energy developments, particularly wind turbines and wind farms located on land adjoining the AONB which forms the setting of the designated landscape. These developments have the potential to negatively impact on views out from and the setting of the AONB. There is also ongoing pressure for other forms of development such as housing and tourism developments which have the potential to adversely affect landscape quality if not sited and designed appropriately.

Increasing visitor numbers and cars and changing recreational activities have the potential to lead to a decline in the tranquillity of parts of the AONB (AONB Management Plan SEA, 2014).

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Further information regarding tranquillity from CPRE
- Information regarding dark skies from CPRE
- Information regarding views out of the AONB
- Settlement character studies

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- The landscape character of the AONB has been influenced by man in many ways such as through settlement, quarrying, land management and farming, sustainable development of settlements and resource management must be made a priority to reduce the impact on landscape character.
- Protect and enhance the distinctive landscape character that combines a highly diverse mosaic of high-quality and contrasting landscape types such as; improved agricultural pastures; intensively managed farmland; with large semi-natural areas; low limestone hills; woodlands; wetlands and mosses; pastures; limestone pavements; coastal cliffs and intertidal flats. This will help to create a coherent and resilient

ecological network, retain a sense of place and maintain the strong relationship between the landscape and its underlying geology.

- Increased activity, noise and light pollution associated with some developments has the potential to adversely affect the tranquillity.
- It is important for landscape character and quality to be maintained and where possible restored and enhanced. The use and creation of new Agri-environment schemes should be encouraged as one way to aid the protection and enhancement of the areas landscape.
- Features important to the landscape and which give the AONB its local distinctiveness should be conserved, restored and enhanced.
- There are many outstanding and special scenic qualities within the AONB including the dramatic views over Morecambe Bay. But future development could impact these views and the setting of the AONB negatively and so locations for development should consider carefully the implications visually on the landscape. Pressures from development can lead to a decline in the landscape character of the AONB.
- The AONB's high quality landscape is an important resource for attracting visitors and enhancing the quality of life for residents. However an increase in visitor numbers which would bring more cars and recreational activities to the AONB may also lead to a decline in the tranquillity of the AONB.
- The distinctive settlement character is an identified special quality of the AONB for example the linear structure of Warton and the Yealands, the open dispersed nature of Silverdale. Development within the AONB should be complimentary of this where possible and thus conserve the distinctive character and special quality of the AONB.
- Views into, across, within and out of the AONB are very important and are one of the AONB's special qualities. Therefore they should be conserved and enhanced where possible.
- The setting of the AONB is also a very important feature and the landscape and seascape are both key landscape elements which help create this setting.

A.12 Minerals and Waste

- The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the existing conditions:
- Active Quarries (Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, 2009 and Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan, 2012)
- Recycling centres (Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, 2009 and Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan, 2012).

There is one household recycling centre which is in Carnforth at the south eastern edge of the Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB boundary. There are additionally small recycling points within the villages for example located in Arnsdale. There is currently one active quarry within the AONB at Sandside, which is due to close in 2020. No further mineral extraction is planned within the AONB (Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, 2009 and Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan, 2012).

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Levels of fly-tipping
- Amount of household waste collected per head
- Household waste recycling and composting achieved
- Volume of waste produced – total and sub-divided by sector.
- Data regarding the use of recycled and secondary materials in the construction industry.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- Sandside Quarry is the only remaining active limestone quarry within the AONB, and is due for closure in 2020.
- No new mineral developments are planned within the AONB
- It will be important to ensure that appropriate restoration plans are in place following cessation of working at Sandside Quarry.
- There are no active landfill sites within the AONB and no new waste developments are planned.
- There is one household waste recycling centre within the AONB which is located in Carnforth. There are additionally small recycling points within the villages for example located in Arnsdale.

A.13 Transportation

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the existing conditions across the AONB:

- Public Rights of Way (PRoW), bridleways and footpaths (Lancaster City Council)
- Travel to work method statistics (ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics)
- Distribution of major transport systems – roads, airports, ports, rail etc (MAGIC maps)

There are 12.2km of bridleways, 90.5km of footpaths and 7.2km of byways and 17.7km of permissive paths within the AONB (Lancaster City Council).

Open access land is land which is mapped as 'open country' (mountain, moor, heath and down) or registered common land. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW Act) normally gives a public right of access to this land. There is 1,140 ha of open access land (with inaccessible land removed) which accounts for 15% of the total AONB. This compares to 14% of open access land as a percentage of the protected area for all AONBs (Natural England Protected Landscape Monitoring Framework 2013).

The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 enables the creation of an England Coast Path, a continuous, signed and managed route around the coast plus areas of spreading room. It is anticipated that work on the England Coast Path which will pass through the Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB will commence in 2015/2016.

The Morecambe Bay cycleway opened in June 2015 and is a fantastic new cycle way around Morecambe Bay. The Bay Cycle Way connects, signs and improves 130km of relatively flat cycle routes around the Bay. It is a new, family-friendly, long distance route, suitable for entry-level touring cyclists and is no. 700 on the National Cycle Network (NCN). The route runs from Walney, near Barrow, to Glasson, south of Lancaster.

The National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 6 runs through the area between Warton, Yealand Conyers and Milnthorpe. Parts of the Lancashire Cycleway and Cumbria Cycleway also pass through the AONB.

The road network within the AONB consists of local single carriageway roads with no 'A' classified road present and no motorway 'M' classified roads present. The A6 however does run along the eastern boundary of the AONB providing an important link to the M6 to the south and the A590 to the north.

There are two rail links within the AONB. These are Arnsdale railway station and Silverdale railway station. These stations connect to a rail line running north to south through the middle of the AONB. This provides connections to the TransPennine Express Ulverston Stations in the north west which lead onto Barrow. To the south there is a link to the TransPennine Express Carnforth railway station which provides links to Preston, Lancaster and Manchester to the south.

There are no seaports or airports found within the AONB boundary. The nearest seaport is in Heysham, Morecambe which is 14km to the south west. The nearest airport is Walney Island Airport which is circa 26km to the west. There are larger airports circa 100km to the south which are Manchester and Liverpool and there is Glasgow which is circa 250km to the north.

Table A.13.1 shows the method of travel to work used by residents of the 6 LSOAs which cover the AONB area.

Table A.13.1 Travel to Work Method in the 6 LSOAs, AONB (2011)

	Lancaster 001E ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer
All Usual Residents Aged 16 to 74 ⁺ Persons Count Mar11	1,460	813	920	1,110	680	1,082
Work Mainly at or From Home ⁺ Persons Count Mar11	118	28	46	64	48	93
Train ⁺ Persons Count Mar11	39	13	9	27	25	15
Bus, Minibus or Coach ⁺ Persons Count Mar11	15	14	10	3	4	3
Motorcycle, Scooter or Moped ⁺ Persons Count Mar11	7	4	7	4	5	1
Driving a Car or Van ⁺ Persons Count Mar11	574	396	449	452	239	464
Passenger in a Car or Van ⁺ Persons Count Mar11	32	36	18	20	14	19
Bicycle ⁺ Persons Count Mar11	7	10	17	9	7	11
On Foot ⁺ Persons Count Mar11	56	46	27	66	51	57

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

Table A.13.2 Car Ownership in the 6 LSOAs, AONB (2011)

	England ⁺ Country	North West ⁺ Region	Lancaster 001E ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C ⁺ Super Output Area Lower Layer
All Households ⁺ Households Count Mar11	22,063,368	3,009,549	941	523	543	752	508	668
All Cars or Vans in the Area ⁺ Vehicles Count Mar11	25,696,833	3,296,604	1,471	679	816	1,119	616	1,067
No Cars or Vans in Household ⁺ Households Percentage Mar11	25.8	28.0	8.5	16.4	12.2	8.1	20.3	7.2
1 Car or Van in Household ⁺ Households Percentage Mar11	42.2	42.5	39.7	47.4	41.1	49.6	48.0	42.1
2 Cars or Vans in Household ⁺ Households Percentage Mar11	24.7	23.5	41.4	27.9	35.4	33.0	25.4	38.2
3 Cars or Vans in Household ⁺ Households Percentage Mar11	5.5	4.6	8.4	6.3	8.7	6.6	4.1	9.7
4 or More Cars or Vans in Household ⁺ Households Percentage Mar11	1.9	1.4	1.9	1.9	2.8	2.7	2.2	2.8

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

It can be seen from Table A.13.1 that the dominant method for travelling to work across the AONB is by car. Other popular modes of travel include journey by train, on foot and working from home.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

There are no significant data gaps or uncertainties identified for this topic.

Key Issues and Opportunities

- The dominant travel to work method across the AONB is by car. Better facilities to encourage more sustainable transport use would be beneficial to the area. This could include enhanced car parking at stations to encourage train use. Locations will have to be appropriate to ensure no adverse effect on landscape character.
- A greater integration of transport could be promoted linking rail and buses with cycling routes and allowing for combining modes of transport for the public. This would be a significant opportunity for residents of the AONB.
- The Silverdale shuttle should be retained and promoted to enable the residents access rail links. Linkages between Arnside & Silverdale could be further improved for residents wishing to travel.
- Maintaining good rail links is also a key issue. The direct link from the AONB to Manchester airport and with centres such as Preston and Manchester and the west coast mainline to London. Rail is an important mode for visitors and residents. There is a good percentage of open access land in the AONB which can be used by visitors and residents to access/explore the countryside via PRoW and other paths. This access should be maintained and improved if possible to continue providing the public with opportunities to explore the special scenic qualities of the AONB.

With much of the area being rural, access to public transport can be difficult for some and is reflected in the lower use of people utilising these methods to travel to work.

The Morecambe Bay cycleway and the potential link across the viaduct are key opportunities.

- Enhancing sustainable coastal access is an opportunity together with the maintenance of PRoW and other paths.

A.14 Economy

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise economic conditions across the AONB:

- Total employment in farming (AONB Management Plan 2014).
- Forestry employment (AONB Management Plan 2014)
- Total employment in tourism businesses in AONBs (Natural England Protected Landscape Monitoring Framework)
- Total JSA Claimant Count in the 6 LSOAs covering the AONB (ONS- Neighbourhood Statistics)
- Employment by sector (ONS- Neighbourhood Statistics)

As of 2010 Most of the commercial farm holdings within the AONB were between 5 and 20ha² and the total number of holdings in the AONB was 43. There is an increase in the number of large farms which are greater than 100ha since 2000 with a significant shift away from small holdings under 5ha. Farms are predominantly used for grazing livestock such as beef and dairy cattle and sheep however the number of dairy farm holdings has declined over recent years. The ownership of farmland within the AONB is changing, in 2000 35% of the farmed area was rented rather than owned but this figure has been rising and as of 2010 was 49% (AONB Management Plan 2014).

The employment in the farming community in the AONB is steadily declining. Numbers have decreased by nearly 19% between 2000 and 2010. In 2010 29% of those in farming were full time farmers with 45% part time and the remainder being casual workers. While numbers in farming are decreasing the ratio between full time, part time and casual workers has not changed over the ten year period (AONB Management Plan 2014).

There is widespread uptake of environmental stewardship on land in the AONB. Areas are targeted for entry into Higher Level Stewardship (HLS). However the funding for both environmental and farming stewardship payments in the future is not certain and is currently expected to continue a downward trend (AONB Management Plan SEA 2014).

Forestry also supports the local economy with over one third of the terrestrial AONB being woodland of which much of it is under managed. Managing the woodland produces timber, coppice and woodfuel products whilst also supporting the local economy and creating jobs. The potential for growth of the local woodfuel economy is present.

Woodlands also play an important role in recreation and tourism, supporting the visitor economy providing places for people to take up leisure activities. Farming too has supported tourism over the years by diversifying so that it encompasses a range of non-agricultural activities. These include equestrian users and the provision of holiday accommodation campsites and other facilities associated with recreation and rural tourism.

Tourism businesses account for 14% of all businesses within the AONB. This includes 7.2% in accommodation and transport, and 6.6% in food and beverage and culture and leisure businesses. This is percentage is above that for tourism businesses out of all businesses for all AONBs (12.4%) and lower than that for National Parks (27.3%) (Natural England Protected Landscape Monitoring Framework). There are currently three Green Tourism Business Scheme members within the AONB. The Green Tourism Business Scheme recognises places to stay and visit that are taking action to support the local area and the wider environment.

Within the AONB total employment in tourism business is 330 which accounts for 19.6%. This is higher than the percentage total employment in tourism businesses in AONBs - 17.3% and National Parks – 19.2% (Natural England Protected Landscape Monitoring Framework).

Appropriate forms of tourism in the AONB are those based on the area's special qualities and their appreciation including quiet outdoor recreation (such as walking, cycling, horse riding, fishing and climbing), wildlife and nature, heritage and cultural tourism. Key attractions include RSPB Leighton Moss, Leighton Hall and the Cross Bay Walks (AONB Environmental Management Plan SEA 2014).

Table A.14.1 shows that the agricultural forestry and fishing industries within the AONB employs 3.7% of the population where as for the North West and England its 0.7 and 0.8 respectively. This shows that agriculture, forestry and fishing is important within the AONB. However the majority of people in the AONB work in the wholesale and retail trade at 13.2% and in education with 13.8% of the working population. 12.3% of the population work in human health and social work activities.

Table A.14.1 Employment Industry in the 6 LSOAs, AONB (2011)

Industry	South Lakeland 011C	South Lakeland 011B	South Lakeland 011A	Lancaster 001G	Lancaster 001F	Lancaster 001E	Soth Lakeland	Lancaster	North West	England
All Usual Residents Aged 16 to 74 in Employment (Persons)	667	402	656	588	552	856	51,672	62,832	3,228,744	25,162,721
A Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (Persons)1	3.7	0.7	0.9	2.6	0.9	2	2.9	1.6	0.7	0.8
B Mining and Quarrying (Persons)1	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2
C Manufacturing (Persons)1	6.3	7.7	6.9	6.5	6.7	5	9	6	10.3	8.8
D Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply (Persons)1	1.2	0.7	1.1	2	2.7	2.2	0.6	2.6	0.6	0.6
E Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities (Persons)1	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.7
F Construction (Persons)1	8.5	8	9.5	8.7	10.1	7.5	8.5	7.2	7.4	7.7
G Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motor Cycles (Persons)1	13.2	14.2	11.7	12.8	15.2	13.9	17.3	15.2	16.7	15.9
H Transport and Storage (Persons)1	2.2	2	2.9	6	6.9	3.9	3.1	4.7	5	5
I Accommodation and Food Service Activities (Persons)1	9.1	10	7.9	4.9	5.6	6.7	11.9	7.3	5.9	5.6
J Information and Communication (Persons)1	2.1	4	2.7	1.7	3.3	2.5	1.9	2.3	2.9	4.1
K Financial and Insurance Activities (Persons)1	1.8	2	1.4	2.4	1.3	2.2	1.7	2	3.5	4.4
L Real Estate Activities (Persons)1	1.2	2.2	1.4	1	2	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.4	1.5
M Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (Persons)1	8.8	5.2	5.2	4.8	3.6	9.1	5.2	4	5.6	6.7
N Administrative and Support Service Activities (Persons)1	4.6	3.2	3.5	3.9	5.4	3	3.7	4.1	4.9	4.9
O Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security (Persons)1	4.6	4.5	6.6	4.6	2.5	5	4	5.3	6	5.9
P Education (Persons)1	13.8	14.9	16.8	15.1	14.1	15.4	10.9	14.6	9.7	9.9
Q Human Health and Social Work Activities (Persons)1	12.3	14.4	16	16	13.9	14.6	11.5	16.1	13.9	12.4
R, S, T, U Other (Persons)1 *	4.9	5.2	4.7	5.8	4.7	4.9	5.6	4.9	4.6	5

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

Table A.14.2 shows the JSA claimant count for the 6 LSOAs which cover the AONB.

Table A.14.2 JSA Claimant Count in the 6 LSOAs covering the AONB

	Lancaster 001E Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001F Super Output Area Lower Layer	Lancaster 001G Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011A Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011B Super Output Area Lower Layer	South Lakeland 011C Super Output Area Lower Layer
Total ^{1 2} Persons Count Aug12	10	5	10	5	0	10
Job Seekers ^{1 3} Persons Percentage Aug10	4%	4%	1	2	1	1
All People of Working Age Claiming a Key Benefit ^{1 3} Persons Percentage Aug10	15%	19%	6	11	8	7
Jobseekers Allowance Claimants; Total ^{2 4} Persons Count Aug10	..	..	10	20	5	5
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance Claimants; Aged 60 and Over ^{2 4} Persons Count Aug09	..	..	10	5	5	10

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

It can be seen from table A.14.2 that there are very low numbers of the overall AONB population claiming JSA and indicates a healthy local economy.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

When collating baseline data for this topic area, difficulties were identified in obtaining information about inward investment in the AONB and research and development opportunities. Specific data requirements are:

- Location of key industries and major employers.
- Economic activity rate. Employment by occupation.
- Number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived for employment deprivation
- Visitor numbers and tourist revenue data
- GVA per capita for key sectors.
- Number and value of inward investment projects.
- Number of rural diversification schemes implemented.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- The AONB area has low JSA claimant numbers and this suggests a strong local economy, however, much local employment is in the tourism industry and many people travel out of the AONB to work.
- Many people commute to places of work outside of the AONB which enables them to bring money back into the AONB economy but doesn't support the growth of local jobs.
- Tourism is an important business sector in the area and further opportunities should be sought to utilise the areas environmental and cultural assets to build on this. However this needs to be in a sustainable way which is sympathetic to the landscape character and the communities within the AONB.
- Farming is a very important part of the economy in the AONB. Farms predominantly graze livestock such as beef and dairy cattle, and sheep. Although dairy farming is declining farms are diversifying and are now supporting tourism by providing a range of non- agricultural activities. Opportunities for activities to further drive the economy behind farming should be sustainable and considerate to the special qualities of the AONB.
- As well as being a key driver in the economy farming also has an integral role in conserving and enhancing the landscape.
- Land is widely targeted for environmental stewardship and Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) in the AONB however trends show this is declining. This is likely to increase pressure on the profitability of farms. Increasing fuel prices and changing markets can add additional pressure.
- Supporting local small business development by making land allocations for employment purposes in a way that does not significantly adversely affect the landscape character.
- Woodlands also play an important role in the recreation and tourism economy by providing places for people to take up leisure activities.
- There is also a developing local wood fuel economy and interest in wood products from forestry is rising within the AONB.
- Supporting the farming community within the AONB, although it may be relatively small, is an important aspect because this supports the rest of the economy such as the visitor economy and attracting people to live there.
- The railway and the stations at Arnside & Silverdale are important economic drivers.
- The railway also offers opportunities for people to visit the AONB and then connect to walking or cycling experiences.
- There are opportunities to capitalise upon the AONB's environmental and cultural assets and to develop the tourist industry. This must be done appropriately such as quiet tourism that takes into account the special qualities of the AONB.
- There is a desire to support local small business development by making land allocations for employment purposes in a way that does not significantly adversely affect the landscape character.

A.15 Deprivation and Living Environment

The following baseline data has been identified:

- Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived in the Index of Multiple Deprivation (Indices of Deprivation, 2015 and ONS).
- Percentage of working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) (NOMIS, Cumbria Observatory)
- Location of key local services such as schools, banks, libraries and shops. (Lancashire County Council MARIO (Maps And Related Information Online) (2015), South Lakeland District Council Web Mapping (2015)).

Table A.15.1 shows the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) ranks for the 6 LSOAs which cover the AONB area.

Table A.15.1 IMD ranks of the 6 LSOAs Covering the AONB (2015)

	South Lakeland 011A LSOA	South Lakeland 011B LSOA	South Lakeland 011C LSOA	Lancaster 001G LSOA	Lancaster 001F LSOA	Lancaster 001E LSOA
Rank of Index of Multiple Deprivation Score	30,645	26,962	25,245	22,101	19,463	28,383

Source: ONS – Neighbourhood Statistics

There are 32,844 LSOAs in England. The IMD ranks shown in Table A.13.1 show that the overall deprivation for the AONB area is low, with none of the 6 LSOAs in the bottom 10% for overall deprivation.

As of February 2015, the JSA claimant rate for Silverdale was 0.3% and 0.7% for Warton (NOMIS). The sample size for Arnsdale and Beetham was too small for a reliable estimate to be made however in July 2014 the rate for Arnsdale and Beetham was 0.4% (Cumbria Observatory).

There is one Dentist in the AONB (MARIO & South Lakeland Web Mapping), this is located in Arnsdale and is the Arnsdale Dental Practice and is located km to the south of Arnsdale centre. There are a total of seven schools within the AONB. There are two schools in Silverdale; Silverdale St John's Church of England Primary School and Bleasdale School. In Warton there is one school which is the Warton Archbishop Hutton's Primary School. There is also one school in Yealand which is the Yealand Church of England Primary School. In Arnsdale there is the Arnsdale National Church of England School and there is one school in Beetham which is the Beetham Church of England School. Finally there is the Storth Church of England School in Storth (Lancashire County Council MARIO, South Lakeland District Council Web Mapping (2015)).

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Distribution of local services including schools, banks, libraries, shops etc.
- Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived for living environment.
- Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% of most deprived in terms of barriers to housing and services provision.
- Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived for income deprivation.
- Average gross weekly pay.
- Percentage of residents who are very or fairly satisfied with the area they live in.
- Percentage of residents who feel that the Councils keep them informed.
- Percentage of residents who believe that the AONB is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well

- Number of community action groups
- Number of Information and communication technologies (ICT) schemes implemented in the AONB.
- Number of homes with broadband internet access.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- The overall deprivation across the AONB is relatively low. Engaging with local residents and making sure that they feel the Councils keep them well informed will be essential in creating vibrant communities.
- There may be scope in the future to more actively involve the local community in decision-making which will also enable the Councils to understand the needs and desires of the residents which in the long-term could help contribute to the establishment of more sustainable communities.
- Local services should be retained and developed or enhanced to support community life and the local tourism industry.
- Opportunities should be sought to drive up wages where possible.

A.16 Housing

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the status of housing across the District:

- Average house prices of the AONB (Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB DPD Viability Study, Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Council, 2016)
- Ratio of relative housing affordability to income (Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB Management Plan SEA 2014)

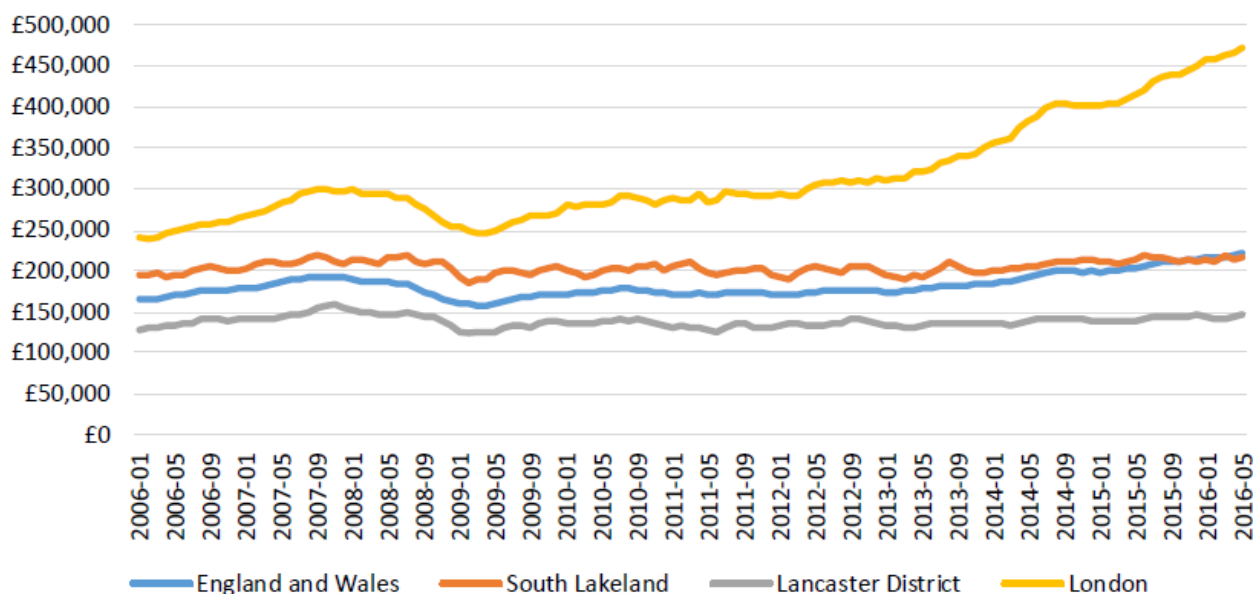
Table A.15.1 shows the mean and median house price relative to income for the 3 wards within the AONB and compares this against the two local authorities and national data.

Table A.15.1 IMD ranks of the 6 LSOAs Covering the AONB (2010)

	Ward			Cumbria	Lancashire	National
	Arnsdale and Beetham	Silverdale	Warton			
Mean house price to household income	7.9	n/a	n/a	5.1	n/a	5.9
Median house price to household income	9.1	n/a	n/a	5.6	n/a	6.1

Table A.15.1 above shows that for Arnsdale and Beetham the mean and medium household price when matched with relative household income is 7.9 and 9.1 times more respectively. This is 2 and 3 times more for the mean and median respectively when compared with National data. When compared with the two districts of Cumbria the mean and the median household price to household income is 2.8 and 3.5 times more.

Figure A-16.1 Average House Prices in GBP



In October 2016, the average house price for SLDC is 114th (out of 347) at £234,75925 and LCC is rather lower at 257th at £154,278. To set this in context, the Council at the middle of the rank (174). It is relevant to note that the median price is a little lower than the mean in SLDC at £195,000 and at £133,000 in LCC. The average house price for Silverdale ward in 2013 was £214,747 and £196,471 in Warton. The mean house price in Arnside and Beetham was in 2013 was £272,588 and the median house price was £243,590.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Data for house price affordability for Silverdale and Warton is not complete.
- Number of affordable housing completions in rural areas.
- Number of people accepted as homeless who are successfully re-housed.
- Dwelling Stock by Tenure (Source: Department for Communities and Local Government: Dwelling Stock by Tenure and Condition, 2008 and Lancashire Profiles, www.lancashire.gov.uk).
- Percentage of new dwellings built on previously developed land.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

- The diversity of housing stock as it has been indicated there is a preference for smaller homes within the area.
- House prices within the AONB are above average and this reflects the desirable nature of the area as a place to live. However it also means that house prices are often beyond the financial reach of local people.
- Housing allocations should be made to meet affordable housing needs of the local population in a way that does not significantly adversely affect the landscape character. Sheltered housing needs for the elderly should be met, this is a particular issue due to the ageing population.
- Given its attractive rural character, a number of properties are owned as second homes. This affects local affordability and availability of homes for local people.

A.17 Transboundary Issues

The AONB itself is transboundary in that the AONB extent straddles the boundary between two local authorities, Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Council.

For many authorities, the geographical scale of particular baseline issues means that they relate closely to neighbouring authorities. For example, housing provision and prices, employment migration and commuting, service provision and education can all result in flows of people across Local Authority boundaries. In order to help to characterise the baseline further, some of these key 'transboundary' issues have been identified below.

- Waste disposal is a significant strategic issue for the AONB due to there being no waste disposal/landfill sites being located within the boundary. The nearest landfill site to the AONB with Lancaster district is located in Preston. The vast majority of South Lakeland's waste goes to a mechanical and biological treatment plant (MBT plant) in Barrow in Furness and a small percentage goes to landfill at Bennett Bank, also in Barrow.
- The economy of the AONB which largely includes tourism relies on attracting visitors from across various regions into the AONB.
- Transboundary effects occur on the AONB's road network due to any out-commuting to Lancaster District or South Lakeland either for employment, education or retail purposes.
- The AONB borders the Morecambe Bay Natura 2000 site which also borders a number of other coastal local authorities in the North West. Ensuring against pollution of the Bay and the adjoining wetland system is a key issue for the AONB. Authorities need to work together to ensure against adverse in-combination effects upon the site.

APPENDIX B

Review of other relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

Table B-1 List of Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

International and European Level
Aarhus Convention (1998)
Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)
Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979)
Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)
Copenhagen Accord United Nations Climate Change Conference (2009)
EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (2012)
EU Directive on public access to environmental information (2003/4/EC) (2003)
EU Flood Directive: Assessment and Management of Flood Risks (2007) (2007/60/EC)
EU Seventh Environment Programme to 2020 (2014)
EU Soil Framework Directive (2006)
European Employment Strategy (2002)
European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention) (2000)
European Spatial Development Perspective (1999)
European Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)
Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Adopted December 1997)
Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC) (2008)
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (1971)
Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Statement of Principles for the Sustainable Management of Forests and Agenda 21 (1992)
Second European Climate Change Programme (2005)
The Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) (1979)
The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention) (1985)
The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valetta Convention) (1992)
The Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) (1992)
The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)
The Waste Framework Directive, (2008/98/EC) (2008)
The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) (2000)
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1994)
UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)
World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg (2002)
National Level
A Strategy for England's Trees, Woodlands and Forests (2007)
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services, Defra (2011)

Business Plan 2012-2015, Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) (2012)
Business Plan 2012-2015, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) (2012)
Choosing Health: Making Healthier Choices Easier (White Paper) Department of Health, (2004)
Circular on the Protection of World Heritage Sites, CLG 07/2009 2 (2009)
Climate Change – The UK Programme 2006: Tomorrow's Climate Today's Challenge
Climate Change Act (2008)
Code for Sustainable Homes, CLG (2009)
Conservation Principle, Policy and Guidance, English Heritage (2008)
Conserving Biodiversity – The UK Approach (2007)
Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) (2000)
Draft Heritage Protection Bill (2008)
Energy White Paper: Our Energy Future: Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade and Industry (2003)
Flood and Water Management Act (2010)
Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England (2008)
Game Plan: A Strategy for Delivering Government's Sport and Physical Activity Objectives Social Exclusion Unit, DCMS (2002)
Government Forestry and Woodlands Policy Statement (2013)
Government Tourism Policy, DCMS (2011)
Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England (2010)
Health Effects of Climate Change in the UK 2012 – An update of the Department of Health Report /2002
Healthy lives, healthy people: Improving outcomes and supporting transparency, Department for Health (2012)
Heritage at Risk Strategy, 2011-2015, English Heritage (2012)
Local Transport White Paper (2011)
Localism Act (2011)
Mainstreaming sustainable development – The Government's vision and what this means in practice, Defra (2011)
Making Space for Water: Taking Forward a New Government Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (2005)
Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009)
National Planning Policy Framework (2012)
National Policy Statements for Energy, Transport, Water, Waste Water and Waste Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act (2013)
Natural England Designations Strategy (2012)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Area) Act (1990)
Protection of Wrecks Act (1973)
Research and Archaeology in North West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England Volume 2 Strategy (2007)
Rural Statement (2012)
Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England,(Defra (2011)
Secure and Sustainable Buildings Act (2004)
Securing the Future – UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy, Defra (2005)
State of the Countryside Report, Commission for Rural Communities (2010)
Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change

Sustainable Energy Act (2003)
Sustainable Tourism in England: A Framework for Action, DCMS (2009)
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007)
The Carbon Plan, DECC (2011)
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) (as amended)
The Invasive Non-Native Species Framework Strategy for Great Britain, Defra (2008)
The Natural Choice, the Natural Environment White Paper, Defra (2012)
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006)
The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (1994)
UK Geodiversity Action Plan (2009)
UK Low Carbon Transition Plan – National Strategy for Climate Change and Energy (2009)
UK Marine Policy Statement (2011)
UK Marine Strategy Part 1 & 2 (2012, 2014)
UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)
Waste Strategy for England (2007)
Water for Life, the Water White Paper, Defra (2011)
Water for People and the Environment: Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales (2009)
Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) (1981)
Working for a Healthier Tomorrow – Dame Carol Black’s Review of the health of Britain’s working age population (2008)
World Class Places: The Government’s Strategy for Improving Quality of Place (2009)
Regional Level
Action for Sustainability – North West Regional Sustainable Development Framework (2005)
Green Infrastructure Prospectus, Natural Economy Northwest (2010)
Green Infrastructure Strategies, Natural England (2008)
Heritage Counts 2013 – The State of the North West’s Historic Environment, Historic England (2013)
North West River Basin Management Plan (2009) (Update due)
State of the Natural Environment in the North West, Natural England (2009)
Streets for All: North West Manual, English Heritage (2005)
The North West Green Infrastructure Guide (2007)
Local Level
A geodiversity Action Plan for Lancashire, Lancashire RIGS, (2004)
A Landscape Strategy for Lancashire, Lancashire County Council Environment Directorate (2000)
Arnsdale & Silverdale Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment (2015) (in development)
Blackpool and Lancashire Visitor Economy Strategy 2006-2016
Cumbria Climate Change Strategy 2008-2012
Cumbria County Council Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document (2007)
Cumbria Countryside Access Strategy 2014-2019
Cumbria Destination Management Plan 2014-2016
Cumbria Draft Local Transport Plan 3 (2011-2026)

Cumbria Economic Strategy 2009-2019
Cumbria Freshwater Biosecurity Plan, 2011 – 2015 (2011)
Cumbria Historic Landscape Characterisation Programme (2009)
Cumbria Housing Strategy 2001-2015(for other housing evidence documents see http://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/housing/housing-strategy-policy/)
Cumbria Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2007 – 2020
Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit (2011)
Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan (2012)
Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan Spring 2015 (Consultation Draft)
Cumbria Renewable Energy Capacity and Deployment study (2011)
Cumbria Sustainability Strategy (updated 2006)
Delivering Cumbria's Transport Needs Implementation Plan 2012-2015
Draft Lancaster District Highways and Transport Masterplan (2015)
Green Infrastructure to Combat Climate Change. A Framework for Action in Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside (2011)
Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (2009)
Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Site Allocations and Development Management Document (2009)
Kent Leven Catchment Flood Management Plan, Summary Report (2009)
Lancashire Economic Strategy (2010)
Lancashire Environment Strategy 2005 - 2010
Lancashire Geodiversity Action Plan 2010, GeoLancashire
Lancashire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2009)
Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation Programme (2002)
Lancashire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2006)
Lancaster City Council Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2014)
Lancaster Corporate Plan 2015-2018 (2015)
Lancaster Cultural Heritage Strategy (2011)
Lancaster District Community Infrastructure Levy: Economic Viability Assessment Final Report (2012)
Lancaster District Employment Land Review 2015
Lancaster District Local Plan 2004
The Local Plan for Lancaster District Development Management Document 2011 – 2031 (2014)
Lancaster District Open Space Study (PPG17 Study) (2010 refresh)
Lancaster District Tourism Strategy (2008)
Lancaster Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2007)
Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Energy Development in Lancashire (2005)
Local Geodiversity Action Plan for Cumbria, Cumbria RIGS (2009)
Local Transport Plan 2011- 2021, A Strategy for Lancashire (2011)
Lune and Wyre Abstraction Licensing Strategy (2013)
Lune Catchment Flood Management Plan, Summary Report (2009)
Morecambe Bay EMS Management Scheme and Action Plan and Regulation 35 conservation advice for MB EMSMS
Morecambe Bay Limestones NCA 20

Morecambe Bay Shoreline Management Plan 2 (2014)
Morecambe Coast and Lune Estuary NCA 31
Moving Cumbria Forward, Cumbria Transport Plan Strategy 2011-2026
Planning guidance for renewable energy – Lancashire (2011)
Replacement Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan 2001 - 2016
Route Utilisation Strategies for Lancashire and Cumbria (Network Rail, 2010)
South Cumbria Abstraction Licensing Strategy (2013)
South Lakeland Community Strategy 2008 – 2028
South Lakeland Economic Growth Strategy (2014)
South Lakeland Employment and Housing Land Search Study (2009)
South Lakeland Local Plan (Saved Policies) (2006)
South Lakeland Local Plan – Core Strategy (2010)
South Lakeland Local Plan - Land Allocations Document and maps (2013)
South Lakeland SHLAA (2009)
South Lakeland Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2007)
The Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB Management Plan 2014-19 (2014)
The Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan, Cumbria Biodiversity Partnership (2001)
The Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan, Lancashire Biodiversity Partnership (2001)
The Lancashire Climate Change Strategy 2009-2020
The Tourism Strategy for Cumbria 2008-2018

Table B-2 Sustainability Themes linked to SA Objectives

Themes relevant to SA of Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
Environmental							
Protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity,	Convention on Biological Diversity; Rio Declaration on Environment and Development; Bohn Convention; Bern Convention; The Habitats Directive; The Birds Directive; Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance; The Water Framework Directive; Marine Strategy Framework Directive; EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020	Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended); The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations; The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act; ‘The Natural Choice’, the Natural Environment White Paper; Water for Life, the Water White Paper; Biodiversity 2020; Natural England Designations Strategy; UK Marine Strategy Part 1&2; UK Marine Policy Statement; UK Biodiversity Action Plan; State of the Natural Environment in the North West; UK Geodiversity Action Plan; The Invasive Non-Native Species Framework Strategy for Great Britain; Conserving Biodiversity – The UK Approach	The Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan; The Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan; Cumbria Freshwater Biosecurity Plan; Local Geodiversity Action Plan for Cumbria; Lancashire Geodiversity Action Plan; The AONB Management Plan	The AONB DPD should include policies that support the protection and enhancement of its unique biodiversity, which includes over 100 of England’s priority species. There should also be conservation of the geodiversity which includes 7 local geological sites. This should also provide conservation of the areas rare and precious habitats and habitat connectivity, ecological networks and Water quality	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that seek to conserve or enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.	Biodiversity, Geodiversity, Flora and Fauna	11,13
Protect and enhance fauna and flora	Convention on Biological Diversity; Rio Declaration on Environment and Development; Bohn Convention; Bern	Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended); The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations; The Natural Environment	The Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan; The Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan; Cumbria	The AONB DPD should include policies that support the protection of flora	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	11, 12

Themes relevant to SA of Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
	Convention; The Habitats Directive; The Birds Directive; Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance; The Water Framework Directive; Marine Strategy Framework Directive; EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020	and Rural Communities Act; 'The Natural Choice', the Natural Environment White Paper; Water for Life, the Water White Paper; Biodiversity 2020; Natural England Designations Strategy; UK Marine Strategy Part 1&2; UK Marine Policy Statement; UK Biodiversity Action Plan; State of the Natural Environment in the North West; UK Geodiversity Action Plan; The Invasive Non-Native Species Framework Strategy for Great Britain; A Strategy for England's Trees, Woodlands and Forests; Conserving Biodiversity – The UK Approach;	Freshwater Biosecurity Plan; The AONB Management Plan	and fauna. Some of which is outstandingly rich, with many rare or uncommon species including those known only within the local area.	targets that seek to conserve or enhance flora and fauna.		
Protect the water environment and protect people and properties from flood risk	The Water Framework Directive; EU Flood Directive; Marine Strategy Framework Directive; Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance	Flood and Water Management Act; Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England; Making Space for Water Taking Forward a New Government Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management; Marine and Coastal Access Act; UK Marine Strategy Part 1 & 2; UK Marine Policy	Kent Leven Catchment Flood Management Plan; Lune Catchment Flood Management Plan; Morecambe Bay Shoreline Management Plan 2 ; South Lakeland Strategic Flood Risk Assessment; South Cumbria Abstraction Licensing Strategy; Lune and Wyre	The AONB DPD should include policies that address water quality, flood risk and coastal erosion. This should include the conservation of the largest intertidal area in the UK (Morecambe	The SA Framework needs to include objectives, targets and indicators that address water quality and flood risk.	Water,	10, 11

Themes relevant to SA of Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
		Statement; National Planning Policy Framework Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act; Water for Life, the Water White Paper; Water for People and the Environment: A Strategy for England and Wales; North West River Basin Management Plan;	Abstraction Licensing Strategy, Cumbria Freshwater Biosecurity Plan, The AONB Management Plan	Bay) where five estuaries meet. The AONB DPD should also seek to incorporate climate change adaptation measures such as the use of sustainable drainage features.			
Encourage the use of more sustainable forms of transport and reduce the need and desire to travel by car	Copenhagen Accord United Nations Climate Change Conference; Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change; Second European Climate Change Programme; UN Framework Convention on Climate Change	Countryside and Rights of Way Act; Energy White Paper: Our Energy Future: Creating a Low Carbon Economy; Health Effects of Climate Change; Local Transport White Paper; National Planning Policy Framework; The Carbon Plan; Sustainable Energy Act; UK Low Carbon Transition Plan;	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan; Cumbria Countryside Access Strategy; Lancashire Rights of Way Improvement Plan; Lancashire Local Transport Plan 2011-2021; Cumbria Draft Local Transport Plan 3; Cumbria Transport Plan Strategy; Moving Cumbria Forward, Cumbria Transport Plan Strategy; ; Delivering Cumbria's Transport Needs Implementation Plan; Draft Lancaster District Highways and Transport Masterplan; South Lakeland Community Strategy;	The AONB DPD should include policies that encourage sustainable and efficient patterns of movement whilst being sympathetic to and conserving the special qualities of the AONB.	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that encourage sustainable transport and reduce the reliance on vehicle use	Population Human Health Climate Change	2, 4, 9

Themes relevant to SA of Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
			The AONB Management Plan				
Address the causes of climate change, protect air quality and increase resilience and maximise the positive benefits for communities, landscape and the natural environment	Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change; Rio Declaration on Environment and Development; Copenhagen Accord United Nations Climate Change Conference; European Sustainable Development Strategy; UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development; EU Seventh Environment Action Programme; Second European Climate Change Programme	Climate Change Act; Climate Change – The UK Programme; Energy White Paper; Health Effects of Climate Change in the UK; Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change; Sustainable Energy Act; The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; The Carbon Plan; UK Low Carbon Transition Plan; UK Renewable Energy Strategy; National Planning Policy Framework; Code for Sustainable Homes; Mainstreaming sustainable development – The Government's vision and what this means in practice; Securing the Future – UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy;	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan; Cumbria Renewable Energy Capacity and Deployment study; Lancashire planning guidance for renewable energy; Cumbria Sustainability Strategy; Cumbria Climate Change Strategy; The Lancashire Climate Change Strategy; Green Infrastructure to Combat Climate Change; The AONB Management Plan	The AONB DPD should include policies that protect the standard of air quality reduce climate change whilst protecting and enhancing the special qualities of the AONB in particular its landscape, views and settlement character.	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that address air quality and climate change issues.	Climate Change Air Quality	9
Protect and reduce the consumption of natural resources including fossil	The Waste Framework Directive; European Sustainable Development Strategy; Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development;	Code For Sustainable Homes; Future Water, The Government's Water Strategy for England; Government Forestry and Woodlands Policy	Abstraction Licensing Strategy (Lune and Wyre) an south Cumbria); South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District	The AONB DPD should include policies that seek to reduce the consumption of natural	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that	Sustainable Resource Use and Waste Management	8, 9, 12, 13

Themes relevant to SA of Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
fuels, minerals, land take and water and achieve more sustainable waste management	Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Statement of Principles for the Sustainable Management of Forests;	Statement; Mainstreaming Sustainable Development; Safeguarding our Soils; Secure and Sustainable Buildings Act; Securing the Future – UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy; The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland Wales and Northern Ireland; UK Renewable Energy Strategy; Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales; The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act; The Natural Choice', The Natural Environment White Paper; Waste Strategy for England;	Local Plan; Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan; Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Site Allocations and Development Management Document;; Cumbria Sustainability Strategy; Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan; Cumbria County Council Wind Energy SPD; Cumbria Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy; The AONB Management Plan	resources. Opportunities for recycling, sustainable waste management and reuse should also be encouraged.	seek to minimise the use of natural resources and encourage sustainable waste management.	Air Quality	
Conserve soil resources and maintain their quality	European Sustainable Development Strategy; EU Soil Framework Directive	National Planning Policy Framework; Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England; State of the Natural Environment in the North West; The Natural Environment White Paper	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan, The AONB Management Plan	The AONB DPD should seek to ensure soil resources are protected.	The SA Framework should include objectives with a focus on the protection of soil resources.	Soils and Geology	13
Conserve and enhance the local character and distinctiveness and maintain cultural heritage	European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention); European Spatial Development Perspective; The Convention for the Protection of the	Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act; Circular on the Protection of World Heritage Sites; Conservation Principle, Policy and Guidance; Draft Heritage Protection	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan; Lancaster Cultural Heritage Strategy;; Lancashire Historic Landscape	The AONB DPD should include policies that seek to conserve and enhance local landscape character	The SA Framework should include objectives that seek to protect local distinctiveness	Cultural Heritage Landscape	12, 15, 16

Themes relevant to SA of Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
and historic landscape character	Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention); The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valette Convention); UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	Bill; Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England; Heritage at Risk Strategy; Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Area) Act; National Planning Policy Framework; Protection of Wrecks Act; An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England; The State of the North West's Historic Environment; Streets for All: North West Manual	Characterisation Programme; Cumbria Historic Landscape Characterisation Programme; The AONB Management Plan	distinctiveness which include settlements created during the last 800 years. The AONB DPD should also conserve and enhance the high valued historic environment and cultural heritage which offers a 'time-depth' into the AONBs industrial past	and conserve cultural heritage features and designations.		
Conserve and enhance landscape and seascape character and features	European Landscape Convention; European Spatial Development Perspective; Marine Strategy Framework Directive; RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat	National Planning Policy Framework; The Natural Choice', the Natural Environment White Paper; Natural England Designations Strategy; State of the Natural Environment in the North West; Rural Statement;; World Class Places: The Government's Strategy for Improving Quality of Place; UK Marine Policy Statement; The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act;	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan; Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit; A Landscape Strategy for Lancashire; Arnsdale & Silverdale Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment; Morecambe Bay Limestones National Character Area; Morecambe Coast and Lune Estuary NCA 31; Morecambe Bay Limestones NCA 20; Landscape Sensitivity	The AONB DPD should include policies that seek to protect and enhance both the outstanding landscape and seascape character. This should include protecting the spectacular views offered over Morecambe Bay and across towards the Lake District, Forest of Bowland and the Yorkshire Dales	The SA Framework should include objectives that seek to protect and enhance both landscape and seascape character.	Landscape Seascape	12 , 13

Themes relevant to SA of Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
			to Wind Energy Development in Lancashire; South Lakeland Community Strategy; Lancaster Corporate Plan; Morecambe Bay Shoreline Management Plan 2; Lancashire Green Infrastructure Strategy, The AONB Management Plan				
Social							
Provide access to good quality and affordable housing to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent and affordable home		National Planning Policy Framework; Code for Sustainable Homes	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan; Lancaster City Council SHLAA; Cumbria Housing Strategy; South Lakeland SHLAA; South Lakeland Employment and Housing Land Search Study; The AONB Management Plan; South Lakeland Local Plan – Land Allocations	The AONB DPD should include policies that seek to provide housing that meets local community needs prioritising affordable housing whilst being sympathetic to the special qualities of the AONBs landscape and distinctive settlement character	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that seek relate to local housing needs.	Population	1

Themes relevant to SA of Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
Promote the social and economic well-being of all communities	EU Seventh Environment Programme to 2020	The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act; Countryside and Rights of Way Act; National Planning Policy Framework; State of the Countryside report 2010; Rural Statement; Business Plan 2012-2015 (DCMS); Working for a Healthier Tomorrow; Government	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan, Lancaster Corporate Plan; The AONB Management Plan	The AONB DPD should include policies that seek to promote social and economic well-being for all communities. This should build upon the already established strong community and culture within the AONB.	The SA Framework should include objectives that seek to promote social and economic well-being for all communities	Population Human Health Economy	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 15, 17
Promote healthy lifestyles and vibrant, safe and cohesive communities	EU Seventh Environment Programme to 2020; European Spatial Development Perspective	Business Plan 2012-2015 (DCMS); Choosing Health: Making Healthier Choices Easier (White Paper); Countryside and Rights of Way Act; Game Plan: A Strategy for Delivering Government's Sport and Physical Activity Objectives; Government; National Planning Policy Framework; Healthy lives, healthy people: Improving outcomes and supporting transparency; The Natural Environment and Rural Communities; Localism Act; Rural Statement	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan; Cumbria Countryside Access Strategy; Lancashire Rights of Way Improvement Plan; South Lakeland Community Strategy; Lancaster Corporate Plan; The AONB Management Plan	The AONB DPD should seek to promote healthy and active lifestyles. It should also seek to support the creation of vibrant, safe and cohesive communities such as the strong community and culture already existent within the AONB. This is a community which provides opportunity for people to actively get involved in	The SA framework should include social objectives, indicators and targets that seek to benefit healthy lifestyles and the local community.	Population, Human Health	2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 15, 17

Themes relevant to SA of Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
				the AONBs conservation.			
Economic							
Promote a strong tourist economy, sensitively capitalising on environmental, heritage, and leisure assets and ensuring the benefits are experienced locally.	EU Seventh Environment Programme to 2020	Business Plan 2012-2015 (DCMS); Government Tourism Policy; Sustainable Tourism in England: A Framework for Action, Rural Statement, The Natural Environment and Rural communities act; Streets for All: North West Manual, English Heritage; World Class Places: The Government's Strategy for Improving Quality of Place	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan; The Tourism Strategy for Cumbria; Lancaster District Tourism Strategy; Blackpool and Lancashire Visitor Economy Strategy; The AONB Management Plan	There are significant opportunities to develop the area as a nature tourism destination because of its variety and abundance of wildlife The AONB DPD should seek to promote sustainable tourism which conserves or enhances the special qualities of the AONB.	The SA Framework should include reference to promoting a sustainable tourist economy within the AONB.	Population, Cultural Heritage, Economy Landscape,	2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 15, 16
Promote the development of an economy that supports social and environmental objectives	EU Seventh Environment Programme to 2020; European Spatial Development Perspective	DCMS Business Plan; Securing the Future – UK government Sustainable Development Strategy	Cumbria Economic Strategy; Cumbria Sustainability Strategy; Lancashire Economic Strategy; South Lakeland Economic Growth Strategy; Blackpool and Lancashire Visitor Economy Strategy; The AONB Management Plan	The AONB DPD should support economic development that supports social and environmental objectives. This should take into account many of the special qualities which	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets relating to economic growth and development which supports social and	Population	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 17

Themes relevant to SA of Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD	Source					Main SA Topics	Relevant SA Objective
	International	National / Regional	Local	Implications For the AONB DPD	Implications for the SA		
				encompass the designations within the AONB for its environmental diversity and distinctiveness.	environmental objectives.		
Provide training and employment opportunities	The European Employment Strategy; Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development	National Planning Policy Framework; Working for a Healthier Tomorrow	South Lakeland Local Plan; Lancaster District Local Plan; South Lakeland Employment and Housing Land Search Study; Lancaster District Employment Land Review 2015; The AONB Management Plan	The AONB DPD should seek to provide opportunities for training and employment within the local economy making use of the assets available.	The SA Framework should include SA Objectives, indicators and targets that relate to training and employment.	Population	3, 5, 6, 7

APPENDIX C

SA scoping consultation comments

APPENDIX D

Site Assessment Criteria

Obj. No.	SA Objective	Criterion Area / Sub-Topic	Criteria for Assessment		Timing and Uncertainty	
1	To ensure there is housing to meet all needs.	Housing	++	Site provides new homes (15 or more = major beneficial; it is expected that this quantity will ensure meeting a range of housing needs, including affordable and a mix of tenures).	ST	L
			+	Site provides new homes (fewer than 15 = minor beneficial; it is expected to help meet specific housing needs, e.g. affordable).	ST	L
			+	Site provides replacement or refurbishment of existing poor-quality homes.	ST	L
			+	Site is not a housing allocation.	ST	L
			○	Site promotes use of a small area of housing land (<0.5 ha) for a different land use with no other replacement.	N/A	N/A
			-	Site promotes use of a large area of housing land (.0.5 ha) identified to meet need for a different land use with no other replacement.	ST	L
			--	Site provides new homes (15 or more = major beneficial; it is expected that this quantity will ensure meeting a range of housing needs, including affordable and a mix of tenures).	ST	L
2	To improve wellbeing, physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities.	Health inequalities	++	Site achieves at least 1 major positive impact under relevant health criteria (see other impacts) in an area of high health deprivation (IMD <20% most deprived for 'health and disability').	M-LT	M
			++	Site achieves 2 or more minor positive impacts under relevant health criteria (see other impacts) in an area of high health deprivation (IMD <20% most deprived for 'health and disability').	M-LT	M
			+	Site achieves at least 1 major positive impact below in an area of moderate health deprivation (IMD 20-40% most deprives for 'health and disability').	M-LT	M
			+	Site achieves 2 or more minor positive impacts under relevant health criteria (see other impacts) in an area of moderate health deprivation (IMD 20-40% most deprived for 'health and disability').	M-LT	M
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities.	N/A	L
			-	Site would have at least 1 major negative impact under relevant health criteria (see other impacts) in an area of moderate health deprivation (IMD 20-40% most deprives for 'health and disability').	M-LT	M
			-	Site would have 2 or more minor negative impacts under relevant health criteria (see other impacts) in an area of moderate health deprivation (IMD 20-40% most deprived for 'health and disability').	M-LT	M
			--	Site would have 2 or more minor positive impacts under relevant health criteria (see other impacts) in an area of high health deprivation (IMD <20% most deprived for 'health and disability').	M-LT	M
			--	Site would have at least 1 major negative impact under relevant health criteria (see other impacts) in an area of high health deprivation (IMD <20% most deprived for 'health and disability').	M-LT	M
		Access to health services	++	Site is within 1 km of a GP surgery.	ST	M
			++	Site provides a new healthcare facility.	S-MT	L
			+	Site is between 1 km and 4 km of a GP surgery.	ST	M
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to GP surgeries.	N/A	M
			-	Site is located more than 4 km from a GP surgery.	ST	M

Obj. No.	SA Objective	Criterion Area / Sub-Topic	Criteria for Assessment		Timing and Uncertainty	
			-	Site is likely to put pressure on the capacity of existing healthcare facilities.	S-MT	H
			--	Site would lead to a loss of an existing healthcare facility without replacement.	S-LT	L
		Active lifestyles	++	Site provides a significant new active transport facility available to existing residents, such as PROW connection or cycle path.	S-LT	L
			++	Site provides a significant new recreational facility available to existing residents, such as new open space or play area.	S-LT	M
			+	Site provides a significant new active transport facility such as PROW, but in effect it will only be available/accessible to new residents at the site.	S-LT	L
			+	Site provides a significant new recreational facility such as open space or play area, but in effect it will only be available/accessible to new residents at the site.	S-LT	L
			+	Site will lead to improvement (e.g. improved management) to a recreational / active transport facility available to existing residents, such as PROW connection, cycle path or open space.	S-LT	L
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity.	N/A	M
			-	Site would adversely affect an existing active transport facility, such as via diversion of a PROW.	S-LT	L
			-	Site would adversely affect access (additional journey of 500 m +) for existing residents to the countryside or open coast.	S-LT	L
			-	Site would adversely affect an existing recreational facility, such as partial loss of an open space.	S-LT	L
			--	Site would lead to a loss of an existing recreational facility, such as an entire area of open space.	S-LT	M
			--	Site would lead to a loss of an existing active transport facility, such as significant section of PROW or cycle path.	S-LT	M
		Crime and safety	++	Site is a greenfield site within an area of high crime (IMD <20% most deprived for 'crime').	M-LT	H
			+	Site is a greenfield site within an area of moderate crime (IMD 20-40% most deprived for 'crime').	M-LT	H
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.	N/A	M
			-	Site is currently vacant/unused and in an area of moderate crime (IMD 20-40% most deprived for 'crime') - development may discourage crime or anti-social behaviour.	M-LT	H
			--	Site is currently vacant/unused and in an area of high crime (IMD <20% most deprived for 'crime') - development will discourage crime or anti-social behaviour.	M-LT	H
3	To improve the level of skills, education and training.	Proximity to educational facilities	++	Site provides a new school or other educational facility.	M-LT	L
			++	Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.	M-LT	M
			++	Site is located within 1 km of a secondary school or other further educational facility.	M-LT	M
			+	Site is located within 1 km of a primary school.	M-LT	M
			+	Site is located within 2 km of a secondary school or other further educational facility.	M-LT	M
			+	Site is not in proximity to a secondary school or further educational facility, but within 500 m of a frequent bus service / stop or railway station.	M-LT	M
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on participation or attainment in education.	N/A	M
			-	Educational facilities are most accessible to the site by car.	M-LT	M
			-	Site is likely to put pressure on the capacity of existing educational facilities.	M-LT	H
			--	Site would lead to a loss of an existing educational facility without replacement.	S-LT	L

Obj. No.	SA Objective	Criterion Area / Sub-Topic	Criteria for Assessment		Timing and Uncertainty	
		Access to natural spaces	+	Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.	S-LT	M
			+	Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of a designated nature conservation site, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.	S-LT	M
			+	Site is located within 1 km of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.	S-LT	M
			+	Site is located within 1 km of a designated nature conservation site, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.	S-LT	M
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of access to environmental education.	N/A	M
			-	Site would adversely affect access (additional journey of 500 m +) for existing residents to the countryside, open coast or designated nature conservation sites, which may harm opportunities for environmental education.	S-LT	M
			-	Site is assessed as having minor negative effects on designated nature conservation sites (see SA Objective 11), which may harm opportunities for environmental education.	M-LT	H
			--	Site is assessed as having major negative effects on designated nature conservation sites (see SA Objective 11), which may harm opportunities for environmental education.	M-LT	H
4	To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces	Bus / train access	++	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station.	S-LT	M
			++	Site provides a new public transport option for existing residents, e.g. a new bus route serving the existing community or new rail stop.	S-LT	L
			+	Site is within 1 km of a bus service / stop or railway station.	S-LT	M
			+	Site provides a new access (e.g. a new stop) to a frequent bus service, but only beneficial to new residents at the site.	S-LT	L
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to public transport services.	N/A	M
			-	Access from the site to services and facilities is predominately by car.	M-LT	M
			--	Site would harm others' access to public transport, such as by diverting footpaths, removing information access or moving bus stops / stations.	S-LT	M
		Highways access	++	Site would resolve an existing highway safety or capacity issue.	S-MT	L
			+	Site would contribute to highways improvements which would benefit access.	S-MT	L
			+	Site will enhance access to new/ existing facilities, e.g. new parking, wheelchair accessibility, etc.	S-MT	L
			○	Site would have adequate highways access or is easily provided.	N/A	M
			-	Site has a potential highways access issue, such as poor passing or visibility (e.g. long, single-track lanes), road quality, or along a highly congested route.	S-MT	L
			--	It is unlikely that safe site access can be secured without substantial highway works.	S-MT	L
		Proximity to community services and buildings	++	Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre.	M-LT	M
			++	Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall.	M-LT	M
			+	Site is within 1 km of a local or key service centre.	M-LT	M
			+	Site is within 1 km of a place of worship, town or village hall.	M-LT	M
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to community buildings or community cohesiveness.	N/A	M
			-	Local or key service centres, and community buildings such as town or village halls, are more than 1 km away.	M-LT	M
			--	Site would harm others' access to town or village halls, or to local or key service centres, such as by diverting roads,	M-LT	M

Obj. No.	SA Objective	Criterion Area / Sub-Topic	Criteria for Assessment		Timing and Uncertainty	
		Access to cultural and leisure facilities		footpaths, removing information access or moving bus stops / stations.		
			++	Site would create a new cultural or leisure facility, such as a theatre, sport / recreation centre, library, museum, etc..	M-LT	L
			+	Site is within 1km of a cultural or leisure facility, such as a theatre, sport / recreation centre, museum, etc..	M-LT	M
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to other cultural or leisure facilities.	N/A	M
			--	Site would lead to the loss of a cultural or leisure facility with no replacement, such as a theatre, sport facility, library or museum.	M-LT	L
		Access to open and green space	++	Site is located within 500 m of the countryside or open coast.	S-LT	M
			+	Site is located within 1 km of the countryside or open coast.	S-LT	M
			++	Site would create a new area of open space.	S-LT	L
			++	Site is within 500 m of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).	S-LT	M
			+	Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues.	S-LT	M
			+	Site is within 1 km of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).	S-LT	M
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to the countryside, historic environment or open space.	N/A	M
			-	Site would adversely affect access (additional journey of 500 m +) for existing residents to the countryside, open coast, open space or designated historic assets.	S-LT	L
			-	Site would affect the quality or capacity of existing open space, including partial loss of an area of open space.	S-LT	L
			-	Site is assessed as having minor negative effects on designated historic assets (see SA Objective 16).	S-LT	L
			--	Site is assessed as having major negative effects on designated historic assets (see SA Objective 16).	S-LT	L
			--	Site would cause the loss of an entire area of open space with no replacement.	S-LT	L
5	To diversify and strengthen the local economy and retain and create jobs, encouraging economic inclusion	General economy	++	Site is an employment site over one hectare in size.	S-LT	L
			++	Site will provide a new tourist attraction, which will not detrimentally affect any others in the area.	S-LT	M
			+	Site will enhance access provisions to new/ existing facilities e.g. new parking, wheelchair users, etc.	ST	L
			+	Site is an employment site under one hectare in size.	S-LT	L
			+	Site will improve access to an employment site.	ST	L
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on economic conditions or competitiveness.	N/A	M
			-	Site is a housing site which will lead to the loss of an active or potentially viable employment site of under 1 hectare size with no replacement.	S-LT	L
			-	Site could have impacts on a tourist attraction or facility, including historic feature (see SA Objective 16).	S-LT	M
			--	Site could lead to the loss of a key tourist attraction or facility.	S-LT	M
			--	Site is a housing site which will lead to the loss of an active or potentially viable employment site of over one hectare in size with no replacement.	S-LT	L
6	To retain and create jobs and ensure the workforce	Job creation	++	Site is a large employment site (1 ha +).	S-LT	H
			+	Site is a small employment site (<1 ha).	S-LT	H
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on the variety of employment opportunity.	S-LT	H
			-	Site is a housing site which will lead to the loss of a small, active or potentially viable employment site (<1 ha).	S-LT	H

Obj. No.	SA Objective	Criterion Area / Sub-Topic	Criteria for Assessment		Timing and Uncertainty	
	meets local needs.		--	Site is a housing site which will lead to the loss of a large, active or potentially viable employment site (1 ha+).	S-LT	H
7	To encourage economic inclusion and access to jobs.	Access to jobs	++	Site is a housing site located within 1 km of local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s)).	S-LT	L
			++	Site is an employment site located within 1 km from a residential area.	S-LT	L
			++	Site is an employment site in the area of the highest employment or income deprivation in the authority.	S-LT	L
			+	Site is an employment site located 1-4 km away from of the area the highest employment or income deprivation in the authority.	S-LT	L
			+	Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s)).	S-LT	L
			+	Site is an employment site located 1-4 km from a residential area.	S-LT	L
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to jobs, or the equitable distribution of employment opportunities.	N/A	L
			-	Site is an employment site located 4-6 km away from the area of highest employment or income deprivation in the authority.	S-LT	L
			--	Site is an employment site located 6 km or more away from the area of highest employment or income deprivation in the authority.	S-LT	L
			-	Site results in the loss of an employment site located 1-4km from a residential area without replacement.	S-LT	L
			--	Site results in the loss of an employment site within 1km from a residential area without replacement.	S-LT	L
			--	Site results in the loss of an employment site within 1km from a residential area without replacement.	S-LT	L
8	To protect and improve air quality	Air quality	+	Site has potential to result in fewer emissions to air, e.g. from vehicles or businesses.	M-LT	M
			○	Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.	N/A	M
			-	Site has the potential to increase emissions in an area already potentially near to statutory limits, e.g. along an existing congested road.	M-LT	M
9	To limit and adapt to climate change and increase energy efficiency.	Sustainable transport and GHG emissions	++	Site located adjacent to sustainable transport opportunities.	S-LT	L
			++	Site located adjacent to jobs/services.	S-LT	L
			+	Site located within 1 km of sustainable transport opportunities.	S-LT	L
			+	Site located within 1 km of jobs/services.	S-LT	L
			○	Site has limited potential to significantly change sustainable transport uptake.	S-LT	L
			-	Site located in areas inaccessible to a range of services/places and no on-site services provided.	S-LT	L
			--	Site would require complete dependence on the use of private cars.	S-LT	L
		Energy efficiency and renewables	++	Site proposes to be an exemplar of energy efficiency, sustainable design and/or renewable energy, or will export renewable energy to the grid.	S-LT	L
			+	Site proposes to use high standards of energy efficiency, sustainable design and/or renewable energy, but will not export renewable energy to the grid.	S-LT	L
			○	Site has limited potential to significantly change average energy efficiency in the borough.	S-LT	L
			-	Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown.	S-LT	L
			--	Clear constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures.	S-LT	L
		Green infrastructure provision –	++	Significant green infrastructure proposed on a large brownfield site (>0.4 ha) - likely to benefit climate change adaptation, providing major localised benefits in particular.	S-LT	L

Obj. No.	SA Objective	Criterion Area / Sub-Topic	Criteria for Assessment		Timing and Uncertainty	
		climate change adaptation	+	Limited green infrastructure proposed on a large brownfield site (>0.4 ha) - likely to benefit climate change adaptation.	S-LT	L
			+	Significant green infrastructure proposed on a large greenfield site (>0.4 ha) - likely to benefit climate change adaptation.	S-LT	L
			○	Limited green infrastructure proposed on a large greenfield site (>0.4 ha) - not likely to alter climate change adaptation significantly.	S-LT	L
			-	No green infrastructure proposed on a large brownfield site (>0.4 ha) - this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.	S-LT	L
			-	Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.	S-LT	L
			--	No green infrastructure proposed on a large greenfield site (>0.4 ha) - if none provided, this could make the site significantly more susceptible to climate impacts.	S-LT	L
10	To protect and enhance water quality, resources and reduce the risk of flooding	Water quality - surface water	++	Site will remediate an area with water body, e.g. a heavily polluted stream or pond.	S-MT	L
			+	Site will remediate potentially contaminated land adjacent to a water body, or containing a water body.	S-MT	L
			○	No water bodies within 100 m of the site.	N/A	N/A
			-	Site is within 100 m of a water body, but none adjacent or within the site.	S-MT	L
			--	There are water bodies within the site.	S-MT	L
			--	Site is adjacent to a water body.	S-MT	L
		Water quality - groundwater	○	Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone.	N/A	L
			-	Site is within the 'outer' groundwater Source Protection Zone.	S-MT	L
			--	Site is within the 'inner' groundwater Source Protection Zone.	S-MT	L
		Water infrastructure	○	Site has adequate water and sewerage infrastructure, or will be readily provided alongside the development.	N/A	L
			-	Site requires some upgrading to water or sewerage infrastructure or alternative solutions required (such as a septic tank).	S-MT	L
			--	Site has a major water or sewerage infrastructure constraint - liaison with the water company required, and site may not be able to go ahead.	S-MT	L
		Flood risk - fluvial	++	Site will include flood risk management measures in EA Flood Zone 3 (high risk) which will benefit other sites or infrastructure (e.g. roads).	S-LT	L
			+	Site will include flood risk management measures in EA Flood Zone 2 (moderate risk) which will benefit other sites or infrastructure (e.g. roads).	S-LT	L
			○	Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk.	N/A	M
			-	Site is within EA Flood Zone 2 - moderate risk.	S-LT	M
			--	Site is within EA Flood Zone 3 - high risk.	S-LT	M
		Flood risk - surface water	++	Site will include flood risk management measures in an area of high surface water flood risk which will benefit other sites or infrastructure (e.g. roads).	S-LT	L
			+	Site will include flood risk management measures in an area of medium surface water flood risk which will benefit other sites or infrastructure (e.g. roads).	S-LT	L
			○	Site is not at risk of surface water flooding.	N/A	M
			-	Site is in an area of medium surface water flood risk.	S-LT	M
			--	Site is in an area of high surface water flood risk.	S-LT	M
11	To protect and enhance biodiversity	Designated nature and geological conservation	○	Site is not in close proximity to a designated nature conservation site.	S-LT	M
			-	Within 500m of an SBI / LWS (not adjacent) - local wildlife designation.	S-LT	L

Obj. No.	SA Objective	Criterion Area / Sub-Topic	Criteria for Assessment	Timing and Uncertainty	
	and geodiversity.		- Within 500m of an SGI / LGS (not adjacent) - local geological designation.	S-LT	L
			- Within 500m of an LNR (not adjacent).	S-LT	L
			- Within 500m of an NNR (not adjacent).	S-LT	L
			- Within 500m of a SSSI (not adjacent).	S-LT	L
			- Within 500m of an SPA (not adjacent).	S-LT	L
			- Within 500m of an SAC (not adjacent).	S-LT	L
			- Within 500m of a Ramsar Site (not adjacent).	S-LT	L
			-- Adjacent to an SBI / LWS - local wildlife designation.	S-LT	L
			-- Adjacent to an SGI / LGS - local geological designation.	S-LT	L
			-- Adjacent to an LNR.	S-LT	L
			-- Adjacent to an NNR.	S-LT	L
			-- Adjacent to a SSSI.	S-LT	L
			-- Adjacent to an SPA.	S-LT	L
			-- Adjacent to an SAC.	S-LT	L
			-- Adjacent to a Ramsar Site.	S-LT	L
		Species and other habitats	++ Site will create a priority habitat in an appropriate location, such as a new wetland area as part of a wider network of wetlands.	S-LT	H
			○ Site is at low risk of affecting protected or priority species.	S-MT	H
			- Site can affect priority or protected species, as it is agricultural (e.g. breeding birds) or contains existing structures (e.g. bats).	S-MT	H
			- Site can affect priority or protected species, as it contains woodland (not including ancient woodland).	S-MT	H
			- Site can affect priority or protected species, as it contains or is adjacent to non-priority habitat (e.g. fragmented heath, grass moorland or 'additional habitat' as ID'd by Natural England).	S-MT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to ancient woodland.	S-MT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to coastal priority habitat (e.g. saltmarsh).	S-MT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to grassland priority habitat (e.g. grazing marsh, calcareous, etc.).	S-MT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to heathland.	S-MT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to limestone pavements.	S-MT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to priority wetland (e.g. lowland raised bog, reedbeds).	S-MT	H
		Habitat connectivity	++ Site will create green infrastructure which restores a habitat linkage which has been lost.	S-LT	M
			+ Site will create green infrastructure which contributes to a wider green / wildlife corridor.	S-LT	M
			○ Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.	S-LT	M
			- Site will reduce habitat connectivity, such as by increasing distances between habitats or agricultural areas in any direction (north-south, east-west, etc.).	S-LT	M
			-- Site will sever the connection between two areas of habitat, with no alternative linkage or path around the site.	S-LT	M
		Green infrastructure provision	++ Significant green infrastructure proposed on a large brownfield site (>0.4 ha).	S-LT	L
			+ Limited green infrastructure proposed on a large brownfield site (>0.4 ha).	S-LT	L
			+ Significant green infrastructure proposed on a large greenfield site (>0.4 ha).	S-LT	L
			○ Limited green infrastructure proposed on a large greenfield site (>0.4 ha).	S-LT	L
			- No green infrastructure proposed on a large brownfield site (>0.4 ha).	S-LT	L
			- Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.	S-LT	L
			-- No green infrastructure proposed on a large greenfield site (>0.4 ha).	S-LT	L

Obj. No.	SA Objective	Criterion Area / Sub-Topic	Criteria for Assessment		Timing and Uncertainty	
12	To protect and enhance landscape and townscape character and quality.	Landscape and townscape	++	Site is likely to have a major positive effect on local landscape character.	S-LT	H
			+	Site is likely to have a minor positive effect on local landscape character.	S-LT	H
			○	Site is likely to have a neutral effect on local landscape character.	N/A	H
			-	Site is likely to have a negative effect on local landscape character.	S-LT	H
		Visual amenity	++	Site is likely to have a major positive effect on visual amenity.	S-LT	H
			+	Site is likely to have a minor positive effect on visual amenity.	S-LT	H
			○	Site is likely to have a neutral effect on visual amenity.	S-LT	H
			-	Site is likely to have a negative effect on visual amenity.	S-LT	H
13	To protect land and soil and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.	Soil and contaminated land	++	Site is on brownfield land and actively promotes remediation.	S-LT	L
			+	Site is on brownfield land.	S-LT	L
			○	Although on greenfield land, the site is small (<0.4 ha) and in a sustainable location.	S-LT	L
			-	Site is a small greenfield site (<0.4 ha).	S-LT	L
			--	Site is a large greenfield site (>0.4 ha).	S-LT	L
			--	Site is located on best and most versatile agricultural land (Grades 1, 2 or 3 - where 3 could be sub-grade 3a, which is best and most versatile).	S-LT	L
14	To manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste and encourage recycling.	Natural resources and waste	-	Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.	S-LT	L
			--	Site is a designated minerals safeguarding area or contains viable minerals for extraction, which may be sterilised.	S-LT	L
15	To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense of local history.	Community identify and cultural heritage	++	Site is within an existing community which contains notable heritage assets.	S-LT	M
			+	Site is within an existing community with no notable heritage assets or on the edge of an existing community.	S-LT	M
			○	Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.	S-LT	M
			-	Site is attached to an existing group of buildings over around 2km from an existing community.	S-LT	M
			--	Site is not within a group of buildings or is attached to an existing group of buildings that is over 2km from an existing community.	S-LT	M
		Proximity to community services and buildings	++	Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre.	M-LT	M
			++	Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall.	M-LT	M
			+	Site is within 1 km of a local or key service centre.	M-LT	M
			+	Site is within 1 km of a place of worship, town or village hall.	M-LT	M
			○	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to community buildings or community cohesiveness.	N/A	M
			-	Local or key service centres, and community buildings such as town or village halls, are more than 1 km away.	M-LT	M
			--	Site would harm others' access to town or village halls, or to local or key service centres, such as by diverting roads, footpaths, removing information access or moving bus stops / stations.	M-LT	M
16	To protect and enhance the historic environment	Historic environment	++	There is a clear commitment to restore, or where this is not possible, maximise the salvaging of an historic asset.	S-LT	M
			+	There is a clear commitment to improve the historic character of the site, such as replacement of unsympathetic buildings.	S-LT	M
			○	Site is unlikely to have a significant impact on the historic environment.	S-LT	H

Obj. No.	SA Objective	Criterion Area / Sub-Topic	Criteria for Assessment	Timing and Uncertainty	
	and heritage assets.		- Site is greenfield and within an area of some archaeological potential.	ST	H
			- Site is brownfield (previously disturbed), within an area of high or particularly sensitive archaeological potential.	ST	H
			- Site is within 300 m of a Listed Building (all grades), and so has potential to affect its historic setting.	S-LT	H
			- Site is within 100 m of a Conservation Area, and so has potential to affect its historic setting.	S-LT	H
			- Site is within 300 m of a Scheduled Monument, and so has potential to affect its historic setting.	S-LT	H
			- Site is within 300 m of a Registered Park / Garden, and so has potential to affect its historic setting.	S-LT	H
			- Site is within 300 m of a Registered Battlefield, and so has potential to affect its historic setting.	S-LT	H
			- Site is adjacent to a Grade II Listed Building, and so has potential to affect its historic setting.	S-LT	H
			-- Site is greenfield, within an area of high or particularly sensitive archaeological potential, and so has potential to cause direct or indirect effects.	ST	H
			-- Site is within a Conservation Area, and so has potential to cause direct or indirect effects.	S-LT	H
			-- Site contains a Grade II Listed Building, and so has potential to cause direct or indirect effects.	S-LT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to a Grade I or II* Listed Building, and so has potential to cause direct or indirect effects.	S-LT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to a Scheduled Monument, and so has potential to cause direct or indirect effects.	S-LT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to a Grade I or II* Registered Park / Garden, and so has potential to cause direct or indirect effects.	S-LT	H
			-- Site contains or is adjacent to a Registered Battlefield, and so has potential to cause direct or indirect effects.	S-LT	H

APPENDIX E

SA of Issues and Options Matrices

DPD Option	Q6 Should the AONB DPD identify the proportion of affordable housing to be developed in the AONB?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Affordable Housing Target	No Affordable Housing Target	
1.Housing	++ S/M/L D R M	-- S/M/L D R H	By setting a target for delivering affordable housing within the AONB this achieves SA objectives on housing. It would greatly encourage the likelihood of there being housing to meet all needs. However this does not suggest where the allocations will be and so there is a reduced certainty in this – i.e. would they be in the areas most at need? By potentially not delivering the affordable housing needed this may have an adverse effect on the wellbeing of those unable to enter the housing market or to be financially overstretched. Provision of a balanced housing market to meet all needs is also considered to be important to achieving cohesive communities. <i>It is recommended that targets and areas for affordable housing are included.</i>
2.Health	0 S/M/L I R L	- S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	+ S/M/L I R L	- S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	+ S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	Affordable housing may lead to more disposable income within the economy which may lead to investment. It may also encourage a wider range of workers to live in the AONB although the locations for this are not stipulated. Identification of affordable housing targets will neither have a positive or negative effect on the creation of jobs within the AONB. There may be slightly better access to jobs for all and economic inclusion benefits as a result. However certainty is low. <i>It is recommended that targets and areas for affordable housing are included.</i>
8.Jobs	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	+ S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	A neutral score is given for the environmental objectives. This is because whether housing is affordable or not is unlikely to significantly affect the land-take or environmental effect of the development.
11.Climate change	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	

DPD Option	Q7 Should the AONB DPD restrict new housing development to local people and/or those who are going to use the property for their sole or main occupancy?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Sole / Main occupancy	No restriction	
1.Housing	++ S/M/L D R H	- - S/M/L D R L	Restricting new housing development to sole or main occupancy ownership through the DPD will better enable the AONB to provide housing to meet all needs and to provide more affordable homes. Restrictions on housing development to sole or main occupancy may lead to more local people living and consequently working in the AONB rather than properties being purchased as second home or holiday lets. This may benefit community cohesion and identity encouraging a more vibrant, active and open minded community and increasing the level of participation in democratic processes. <i>It is recommended that a policy restricting housing development is implemented within the AONB DPD.</i>
2.Health	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L D R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	+ S/M/L I R L	- S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	+ S/M/L I R L	- S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	+ S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I R L	Restrictions on housing development to sole or main occupancy may lead to more local people living and consequently working in the AONB rather than properties being purchased as second home or holiday lets. This would enable more workers to live in the AONB and may also help to limit house price inflation, thereby assisting affordability. Conversely, homes that are for holiday purposes may benefit the tourism economy. <i>It is recommended that some degree of restriction or direction on ownership is considered.</i>
8.Jobs	+ S/M/L I R M	- S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	+ S/M/L I R M	- S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	It is not considered that restrictions on housing ownership within the AONB will significantly affect the environmental SA objectives.
11.Climate change	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	0 S/M/L D R H	0 S/M/L D R L	

DPD Option	Q8 How should the AONB DPD promote the development of certain housing types within the AONB to meet particular housing needs?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Specify types for certain needs	Require a range to meet needs	
1.Housing	++ S/M/L D R H	++ S/M/L D R M	The proposal for specific housing types required to meet particular housing needs will achieve SA criteria for housing needs. Requiring a range will similarly meet this SA objective but with slight less certainty. They will both ensure that there is enough housing available to meet all needs in all areas and will ensure a reasonable amount of affordable housing is provided. Both options will have an indirect benefit on the community SA objectives by ensuring social inclusiveness and cohesion. <i>It is recommended therefore that housing development required meets specific types rather than requiring a range. This can therefore be influenced by AONB specific targets and issues surrounding housing.</i>
2.Health	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	+ S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I R M	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	It is not considered that proposals for specific housing types or a range of housing types will significantly affect the economic SA objectives.
8.Jobs	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	A neutral score is given for the environmental objectives. This is because whether housing type is specified or not is unlikely to significantly affect the environmental effect of the development.
11.Climate change	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	

DPD Option	Q9 How should the AONB DPD plan for housing development on rural estates, in isolated locations or specifically for agricultural and forestry workers?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Criteria Based	Case by Case Basis	
1.Housing	++ S/M/L D R H	? S/M/L D R L	Development of housing on rural estates, in isolated locations and for agricultural/forestry workers would ensure housing provision meets the needs of the population involved in the rural economy. A criteria-based approach could ensure standardisation and adherence to sustainable-development policies such as encouraging proximity to public transport and ensuring that housing types are appropriate to needs. Given the isolated locations of these it is unlikely that access to healthcare, schools or services would be very relevant. There is uncertainty surrounding a case-by-case approach and a risk that needs may not be met without standard guidance.
2.Health	0 S/M/L D R H	0 S/M/L D R H	
3.Education	0 S/M/L D R H	0 S/M/L D R H	
4.Service access	0 S/M/L D R H	0 S/M/L D R H	
5.Community	0 S/M/L I R H	0 S/M/L D R H	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L D R H	
7.Economy	+ S/M/L D R M	? S/M/L D R L	Providing development in rural areas could specifically help to achieve SA targets for the economy. Criteria-based allocations can ensure that the right economic conditions can be created to encourage the growth of local businesses. This would support the maintenance of the agricultural economy and allow development to support the agricultural and forestry workers within the AONB. Assigning this development on a case-by-case basis could deliver similar benefits but this is much less certain. <i>It is recommended that a criteria based approach is taken to maximise certainty.</i>
8.Jobs	+ S/M/L D R M	? S/M/L D R L	
9.Economic inclusion	+ S/M/L D R M	? S/M/L D R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I I M	0 S/M/L I I M	Accommodation on rural estates, in isolated locations or specifically for agricultural and forestry workers is likely to be small scale and low-impact. However, all development if inappropriate can cause harm to the environment. A criteria-based approach can help to ensure against adverse effects and promote sustainable development. A case-by case approach is much more uncertain and puts greater reliance on the wider policy framework. <i>Where development is needed a criteria-based approach can provide a greater degree of standardisation and certainty. However, this should also ensure that local circumstances and characteristics are taken into account.</i>
11.Climate change	+ M/L I I L	? S/M/L D R L	
12.Water	+ M/L I I L	? S/M/L D R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	+ S/M/L D I M	? S/M/L D R L	
14.Landscape	? M/L D R L	? S/M/L D R L	
15.Soil / resources	+ S/M/L D I M	? S/M/L D R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	+ S/M/L D R L	? S/M/L D R L	
17.Heritage	+ S/M/L I I L	? S/M/L D R L	

DPD Option	Q10 Should the AONB DPD prioritise and/or set a locally appropriate target for the use of brownfield land?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Target for Brownfield	No Target for Brownfield	
1.Housing	0 S/M D I L	0 S/M/L I R L	The amount of brownfield land in the AONB is relatively limited and it is expected that this should be developed as a priority. Some developers may be disincentivised to apply for these sites as they can be more difficult to develop although this should be made easier for them through policy incentives. However, this is not considered to have a significant effect on the speed or type of housing delivery given the small quantities available. It is likely that brownfield sites are closer to settlements where access to services in the short-term may be better.
2.Health	0 S/M/L I I M	0 S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	+ S I I L	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	In the short-term it may also mean that important development in rural areas (to meet rural needs) would be delayed as these would most likely be on greenfield sites. However, this is too uncertain to warrant providing a negative assessment against.
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	There would not be any significant effects of these options on many of the social SA Objectives.
7.Economy	+/- S/M D I M	0 S/M/L I R L	Prioritising brownfield development may help to encourage inward investment and growth as part of creating an image of a sustainable location for development. In contrast the principle identified about developers having less incentive to develop these sites would still apply.
8.Jobs	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	Ensuring an appropriate target is set for development in the AONB on brownfield land will have a neutral effect on air quality and climate change SA objectives. By ensuring that brownfield sites are developed first, this could help any potential ground pollution issues relating to them to be rectified sooner. By setting a target for the use of brownfield land will mean it is less likely greenfield sites would be developed in short term. This will help protect and conserve bio/geodiversity. Similarly it will ensure the appropriate re use of brownfield sites, achieving minor positive effects for both landscape and soil and resources and protecting and enhancing the landscape and special qualities throughout the AONB. This will also help conserve views into, across and out of the AONB. It will protect and conserve areas the historic landscape and settlement character. Many of these benefits are considered to be short-term only as once the brownfield site are developed, greenfield sites would need to be developed in any case.
11.Climate change	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	+ S I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	+ S I R L	- I R L	
14.Landscape	+ S D R L	- S I R L	
15.Soil / resources	++ S D R M	- S I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	?	?	

DPD Option	Q11 Should the AONB DPD seek to guide the density of new development?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Density Guideline	No Guideline for Density	
1.Housing	++ S/M/L D I H	? S/M/L D I L	By guiding the density of new development there will be more opportunity to deliver housing to meet all needs and ensure affordable housing can also be provided. This may also help to achieve better access to health, education and service provision by located denser populations nearer to facilities. By not guiding density there is less certainty over achieving SA objectives and this will rely on other policies to define provision and allocation of services and development. <i>The recommendation is to guide density in developments to ensure the most positive effects from the SA objectives are achieved.</i>
2.Health	++ S/M/L D R M	? S/M/L D I L	
3.Education	++ S/M/L D R M	? S/M/L D I L	
4.Service access	++ S/M/L D R M	? S/M/L D I L	
5.Community	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	++ S/M/L D R M	- S/M/L D R L	Similar to above by guiding densities there may be better opportunities to promote larger populations in areas closer to jobs and away from more remote and inappropriate locations. Access to jobs may be better managed with guided density and the needs of the area fulfilled. By not seeking to guide density this may lead to a detraction from SA objectives as Economic needs may not be met with too little development and with too much development economic provision will be under too much pressure. However the certainty of this is low and it will depend on how much development is being proposed and in which areas. <i>It is recommended therefore to guide density of development within the AONB.</i>
8.Jobs	++ S/M/L D R M	- S/M/L D R L	
9.Economic inclusion	++ S/M/L D R H	- S/M/L D R L	
10.Air quality	+ S/M/L D R H	? S/M/L D R L	Density guidelines for development will ensure that environmental SA objectives are not impacted on too negatively from sporadic development proposals. It will ensure that air quality can be protected and enhanced by ensuring development does not become too dense in inappropriate locations or by ensuring higher populations are located nearer to sustainable travel opportunities and services. Lower densities will be better in more remote/smaller settlement areas to ensure that landscape character and bio/geodiversity are impacted less. Guided densities, especially lower densities will help ensure that soil resources are conserved and that greenfield sites, areas of open space and amenity may be conserved in better containing development proposals. Higher densities may be more appropriate within settlements on brownfield sites so long as this is appropriate to the local character. <i>It is recommended therefore to guide density of development within the AONB with regard to local characteristics, needs and special qualities. .</i>
11.Climate change	+ S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	+ S/M/L D R M	? S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	+ S/M/L D R L	? S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	+ S/M/L D R L	? S/M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	+ S/M/L D R L	? S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	+ S/M/L D R L	? S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	+ S/M/L D R L	? S/M/L I R L	

DPD Option	Q12 Should the AONB DPD identify allocations of land for community infrastructure?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Community Infrastructure Allocation	No Community Infrastructure Allocation	
1.Housing	0 S/M/L I I M	0 S/M/L I R M	Allocation of land for community infrastructure will ensure that that there are opportunities to develop and provide designated areas for service provisions such as health services, shops, educational facilities. This may also improve sustainable transport links and provision such as bus or train services. There may be local provisions that could be made for new pedestrian or cycle routes. This would improve sustainability and reduce the dependence on the private car. While not identifying allocations of land for these service provisions will not necessarily mean they will not be met, there is less certainty and this is reflected in the SA scores. <i>It is recommended that land for key community infrastructure are identified in the AONB DPD. It may not be appropriate to do this for all infrastructure, however, especially that of a smaller nature. This may be better addressed through policy requirements.</i>
2.Health	+ S/M/L D I M	? S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	+ S/M/L D I M	? S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	++ S/M/L D I H	? S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	+ S/M/L D I M	? S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I I L	
7.Economy	+ S/M/L I R L	? S/M/L I R L	Identifying allocations of land for community infrastructure may improve transport and communications links. Also the allocating of services and facilities such as healthcare points, shops and educational establishments will ensure there is access to a range of jobs. This will enable an inclusive economy to develop which is vibrant and encourages inward investment. Educational establishments will also ensure a workforce which meets local needs and access to further training is available. <i>As above, it is recommended that land for key community infrastructure are identified in the AONB DPD.</i>
8.Jobs	+ S/M/L I R L	? S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	++ S/M/L D R M	? S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	Setting aside land allocations for community infrastructure would most likely occur within settlements and less likely be located on rural areas of the AONB. However, answering whether or not allocations should be identified does not provide enough detail about what types of areas these allocations would be in or on how large. Therefore, for environmental SA objectives which are based around conserving and protecting sensitive features and the special qualities of the AONB the SA score will need to take into account more detailed proposals or more specific policies. Given this, if land allocations are not set aside for community infrastructure then this will not necessarily detract from SA objectives. <i>As above, it is recommended that land for key community infrastructure are identified in the AONB DPD</i>
11.Climate change	? S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	? S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	? S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	? S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	? S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	? S/M/L I I L	0 S/M/L I R L	

DPD Option	Q14 How should policies deal with energy-related developments?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Safeguarding policy	No Safeguards	
1.Housing	0 M/L I R M	0 M/L I R L	It is not considered that the policies dealing with energy related developments will significantly affect the social SA objectives. If large scale energy projects were likely this may have an effect on human health and well-being although this is not expected in the AONB.
2.Health	0 M/L I R M	0 M/L I R L	
3.Education	0 M/L I R M	0 M/L I R L	
4.Service access	0 M/L I R M	0 M/L I R L	
5.Community	0 M/L I R M	0 M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 M/L I R M	0 M/L I R L	
7.Economy	+ M/L I R M	0 M/L I R L	Safeguarding sites for energy developments will ensure that where energy infrastructure and plant is needed they will assist in creating the right economic conditions and infrastructure provision to encourage inward investment.
8.Jobs	0 M/L I R M	0 M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 M/L I R M	0 M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	+ M/L I R L	? M/L I R L	A safeguarding policy that reflects the special qualities of the AONB would enable greater control over where and what type of energy development is provided. It is unclear whether not safeguarding land would simply mean that such developments do not come forward (which may benefit many of the environmental objectives other than Objective 11 which encourages clean energy) or whether there would be fewer controls over where and how they are developed. This is not withstanding the role of other policies in the plan.
11.Climate change	+ M/I I R L	- M/I I R L	
12.Water	+ M/L I R L	? M/L I R L	Energy developments can result in adverse environmental impacts if inappropriately developed. However, it may be possible to develop certain low-carbon/clean energy developments without these impacts. Implementing safeguarding policies into the AONB DPD could allow the most appropriate areas and types of technology to be identified. Key areas of impact could include landscape, pollution, biodiversity and heritage assets. <i>It is recommended that if locations can be identified for certain energy types within the AONB that would not affect its special qualities then these could be identified by safeguarding.</i>
13.Bio/geo - diversity	+ M/L D R M	? M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	+ M/L D R M	? M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	+ M/L D R M	? M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	+ M/L I R M	? M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	+ M/L D R M	? M/L I R L	

DPD Option	Q15 What policies should the AONB DPD contain to manage the impact of new development on highways and other services?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Develop near to services only	Case-by-case approach	
1.Housing	0 S/M I R M	0 S/M I R L	The AONB has a limited transport network based around minor, country roads. Travelling around the AONB can be problematic and is largely car dependent. Focussing new development near to roads and services is a positive measure that is likely to benefit a number of objectives including education (access to schools), essential services, health care and opportunities for community participation in cultural and recreational activities, for example. If development were focused near key services there is also a greater likelihood of walking and cycling which would help to promote healthy, active lifestyles. However, a blanket policy such as this may be too crude for the AONB and could benefit from an additional layer of bespoke case-by-case policy in addition to an overall intention to co-locate. It is for these reasons that more strongly positive scores have been assigned to access to services and community in particular.
2.Health	+ S/M D I M	+ S/M D R M	
3.Education	+ S/M D I M	+ S/M D R M	
4.Service access	+ S/M D I M	++ S/M D R M	
5.Community	+ S/M D I M	++ S/M D R M	
6.Participation	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	+ S/M D I M	+ S/M D I M	By developing next to service provision where possible this will achieve SA objectives to strengthen the local economy. This would help to create the right economic conditions by providing good service provision for transport and would increase access to all to a range of jobs. As above, it is considered that a general policy with additional bespoke elements would be the strongest approach.
8.Jobs	0 S/M D I L	0 S/M D I L	
9.Economic inclusion	+ S/M/L D I M	++ S/M/L D R M	
10.Air quality	+ S/M/L I I L	+ S/M/L I R M	Developing next to service provision and roads could encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport and walking so long as bus services etc. are also in place – otherwise always locating next to highways may further encourage car dependence. Consequently a low degree of certainty has been applied to the air quality and climate change (with respect to greenhouse gas emissions) has been assigned to the first option. A more bespoke approach would enable greater consideration of local circumstances and the presence of sustainable transport and therefore greater certainty of these benefits has been concluded. The co-location of development and services may also benefit utilities provision such as water supply and sewerage. Again greater certainty has been applied to the bespoke approach. Co-location could also reduce the spread of development and hence work against cumulative effects on landscape character. Again this may depend on local circumstances.
11.Climate change	+ S/M/L D I L	+ S/M/L D R M	
12.Water	+ S/M I I L	+ S/M I R M	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L D I H	0 S/M/L D R L	
14.Landscape	+ S/M/L D I H	+ S/M/L D R L	
15.Soil / resources	0 S/M I I M	0 S/M I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M D I M	0 S/M I R L	
17.Heritage	0 S/M/L D I L	0 S/M/L D R L	
			<i>It is recommended that an overall intention to locate new development near to roads and services is provided with the opportunity for further bespoke case-by-case policy to supplement.</i>

DPD Option	Q16 Do you consider that there is a need for any additional parking facilities in the AONB's settlements?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Additional Parking	No Additional Parking	
1.Housing	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	<p>Providing additional parking could allow recreational space and coastline to be accessed more easily for people to enjoy. Additional parking may also enable better access to services and ensure that public buildings such as village halls and civic halls are accessible thus making it more likely that local people can increase their level of participation in democratic processes. However this does in part conflict with the SA objective to promote the use of sustainable modes of transport and reduce the reliance on the private car. Conversely, it may also provide parking for people to make better use of Arnside Station and may enable more disabled parking to be allocated. As such both positive and negative effects have been assigned to both options.</p> <p><i>It is recommended that additional parking is made available in key settlements to improve access including for disabled people. However, this should not detract from sustainable transport use so a balance should be struck.</i></p>
2.Health	+ S I R M	0 S I R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	+/- S D R M	+/- S D R M	
5.Community	+ S I R L	0 S I R L	
6.Participation	+ S I R L	0 S I R L	
7.Economy	+ S/M I R L	0 S I R L	<p>Additional parking in town/village centres could help to improve the vibrancy of those settlements by making access easier. This could stimulate the use of local companies, products, services, heritage and culture due to access being easier for people who will need to drive and make it easier for tourists to access these areas. The train station in Arnside provides very limited formal car parking. To encourage inward investment and economic opportunities to be shared across the AONB additional parking should be considered.</p> <p><i>It is recommended that additional parking is made available at the train station in Arnside and then within primary settlements where economic growth can be enabled, however, this should not detract from sustainable transport use so a balance should be struck.</i></p>
8.Jobs	0 S I R L	0 S I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S I R L	0 S I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	<p>In theory, additional parking may encourage further car use which can cause adverse air quality emissions and greenhouse gases. However, at this small scale, additional parking would have only a limited effect on environmental SA objectives. As above, it is possible that in some cases providing parking for people to make better use of Arnside Station and may enable more disabled parking to be allocated. As such both positive and negative effects have been assigned to both options.</p> <p><i>It is recommended that additional parking is made available in areas where other sustainable transport uses can be benefited (e.g. Arnside Station).</i></p>
11.Climate change	+/- S/M/L I R L	+/- S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	

DPD Option	Q17 What policy stance should the AONB DPD take towards proposals for new or expanded caravan sites within the AONB?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Criteria-based approach	Strictly under exceptions only	
1.Housing	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	It is not considered that proposals for new or expanded caravan sites within the AONB will significantly affect the social SA objectives.
2.Health	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	+ S/M/L I R L	- S/M/L I R L	There is potential that policies which restrict the expansion of current, or development of new, caravan parks sites within the AONB will have a negative impact on the local tourism economy. A criteria based approach is likely to have a more positive impact than an approach which only allows development/expansion under strict exceptions.
8.Jobs	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R	Caravan parks have potential to result in adverse environmental and nuisance effects if inappropriately developed. In particular they can adversely affect the local landscape character. Policies which restrict the expansion of current, or development of new, caravan parks through the use of criteria have the potential to reduce adverse impacts on bio/geo-diversity, landscape/visual amenity and heritage so long as these criteria relate to these issues. This would depend on where such expansion/development takes place and what the criteria are so only low certainty has been applied. A strictly under exceptions approach is likely to have a greater beneficial impact as is likely to restrict more development than a criteria based approach. In this case a medium degree of certainty has been applied.
11.Climate change	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R M	
15.Soil / resources	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L	

DPD Option	Q21 How should the AONB DPD provide for the assessment of development proposals that may impact on landscape, seascape, coastal features or settlement identity and separation?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Criteria-based policy for all aspects	More general protection policy	
1.Housing	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	There is potential for criteria based policy for the aspects of settlement identity and landscape to have achieve some socio SA objectives. This includes criteria based policy allowing access to greenspace, countryside, public open spaces and open areas of coast to enjoy to improve wellbeing and physical health. This will be also achieved by more general protection policy but will be less certain. <i>It is therefore recommended that a criteria based approach to policy for all aspects be adopted.</i>
2.Health	+ S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	It is not considered that proposals for criteria based policy or more general policy for all aspects will significantly affect the economic SA objectives. Whilst it is possible that strict environmental policy may restrict some development of employment opportunities but at this scale this would be too subjective to form a legitimate assumption.
8.Jobs	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	+ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R L	Providing criteria based policies within the AONB DPD will have the potential to meet many environmental SA objectives more specifically that general environmental policy. Given the importance of the natural environment to the AONB and its special qualities this is considered to be an important requirement. It will enable policies to allow for development with stricter regulations using criteria which will for example reduce or manage flooding through avoidance of areas of significant risk, conserve and protect habitats and geological / geomorphological sites. It will allow for policy to conserve seascape and settlement character. Policies can also ensure that the quantity and quality of soils and resources are safeguarded. It will increase the sustainability of developments and ensure recycling and protection of resources is taken into consideration. <i>It is recommended that a criteria based policy approach would enable the most positive effects to be realised in sustaining the special qualities of the AONB.</i>
11.Climate change	++ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R L	
12.Water	+ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	++ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R L	
14.Landscape	++ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R L	
15.Soil / resources	++ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	++ S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	++ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R L	

DPD Option	Q22 How should the AONB DPD protect or enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity of the AONB?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Criteria-based policy for all aspects	More general protection policy	
1.Housing	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	It is not considered that proposals to protect or enhance bio/geo-diversity within the AONB will significantly affect the majority of the social SA objectives. Biodiversity and associated green infrastructure has been shown to positively benefit human health and wellbeing. The more specific policy approach is considered to provide greater certainty that a more general environmental policy.
2.Health	+ S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	It is not considered that proposals to protect or enhance bio/geo-diversity within the AONB will significantly affect the economic SA objectives.
8.Jobs	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	+ S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I R L	Protection or enhancement of bio/geo-diversity within the AONB is likely to have an overall positive impact on a number of environmental aspects, chiefly through direct impacts on bio/geological assets in the area, but also indirectly on AQ and Climate Change. Safeguarding/enhancing bio/geo-diversity, typically greatest in green spaces, in the area could also positively impact on landscape and soil/resources by preserving the natural environment, although certainty is low. Impacts on heritage assets could be positive or negative, depending on the areas protected or enhanced, certainty in this is also low. A criteria based approach is likely to have a greater positive impact on environmental aspects than a more general protection approach and with greater certainty. <i>It is recommended that specific bio/geodiversity protection and enhancement policy be included.</i>
11.Climate change	+ S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	++ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R L	
14.Landscape	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	? S/M/L I R L	? S/M/L I R L	

DPD Option	Q23 What are the implications for development in places without mains drainage or mains sewerage systems?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Rely on district policy only	Provide specific policy in DPD	
1.Housing	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	It is not considered that proposals for policy relating to development in areas without mains drainage and sewerage will significantly affect many of the social SA objectives. However, providing more specific policy in the DPD (over and above the district policy) may enable more bespoke solutions to be developed in remote parts of the AONB and with greater certainty.
2.Health	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
4.Service access	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R M	
5.Community	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
7.Economy	0 S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R M	It is not considered likely that proposals for policy relating to development in areas without mains drainage and sewerage will significantly affect the economic SA objectives. However, for those businesses located in remote areas a bespoke policy to the AONB may help to ensure that they are better served by mains sewerage.
8.Jobs	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	Development in areas without mains drainage or mains sewerage systems can lead to increased flood risk and pollution of water sources if localised facilities are inadequate. Being able to provide a bespoke and specific policy about mains connections could provide an extra degree of control and certainty against this. This includes minimising the risk of water pollution from all sources, promoting the wide use of sustainable drainage systems and other flood reduction or defence measures. It will also help reduce pressure on watercourse from diffuse pollution such as agricultural waste and point sources such as septic tank discharge. Specific policy relating to the AONB will also ensure flood risk is reduced where needed and will achieve climate change SA objectives. <i>It is recommended to seek specific policy relating to development in areas with no drainage or mains sewerage systems to achieve more specific AONB SA objectives and ensure sustainability on a more local level.</i>
11.Climate change	+ S/M D R M	+ S/M D R H	
12.Water	+ S/M D R M	+ S/M D R H	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
14.Landscape	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
15.Soil / resources	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	
17.Heritage	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R M	

DPD Option	Q24 How should the AONB DPD manage the protection and enhancement of the historic environment?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Policies to Protect and Enhance	No Distinctive Policies	
1.Housing	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	It is not considered that proposals to protect or enhance the historic environment within the AONB will significantly affect the majority of the social SA objectives. However, the protection of heritage assets may indirectly benefit socio-cultural associations and sense-of-place so may benefit the community Objective. This is considered less likely without specific heritage protection policy.
2.Health	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	+ S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	It is not considered that proposals to protect or enhance the historic environment within the AONB will significantly affect the economic SA objectives.
8.Jobs	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	Having specific policies to protect or enhance heritage assets within the AONB is likely to have a positive overall impact on heritage assets. It can be said with reasonable certainty that having these policies in place will lead to the safeguarding of heritage assets, whereas the confidence in not having such specific policies is somewhat lower, as is it unknown what type of development will be undertaken, and where, over the plan period and thus the extent of adverse impacts on heritage assets. It should, however, be noted that even without local policy, national policy to protect heritage assets and the role of Historic England will still apply so a negative impact for this option is not considered likely. <i>It is recommended that specific heritage protection and enhancement policy be included.</i>
11.Climate change	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	++ S/M/L D R H	0 S/M/L D I M	

DPD Option	Q25 How should the AONB DPD manage the significance and protection of design features, and the standards of design required for new development in the area?		
SA Objective	Score		Commentary / Recommendation
	Comprehensive Requirements	No Design Requirements	
1.Housing	+ S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	<p>There is potential for comprehensive design requirements for development within the AONB to achieve some social SA objectives. Comprehensive design requirements may provide further detail to ensure that housing is decent and fits with the settlement character of the AONB or to allow the design to be more sustainable. This may also include measures to include security by design to benefit public safety. It may also include the provision of walking, cycling or recreational features which can benefit health. Through comprehensive design requirements used in developments to ensure it is in keeping with local vernacular tradition this could lead to a greater sense of place and meet SA objectives for ensuring a vibrant community with a strong sense of local history.</p> <p><i>It is recommended that comprehensive design requirements are set out in policies within the DPD.</i></p>
2.Health	+ S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	+ S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	<p>Whilst good design can benefit the area as a place to invest and work in, it is not considered that proposals for criteria based policy or more general policy for all aspects will significantly affect the economic SA objectives.</p>
8.Jobs	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	<p>Comprehensive design requirements as opposed to no requirements for development design can help to ensure the special qualities of the landscape within the AONB are protected and conserved. In greater detail this will promote high quality and sustainable design for buildings, spaces and the public realm sensitive to the locality. It can help protect and enhance local landscape quality, local distinctiveness and conserve and enhance the rural nature of the AONB settlements and protect settlement character. Design requirements could also promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction meeting SA objectives to manage resources sustainably and encourage recycling. Historic character could be conserved by detailed design requirements which ensure that the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings are protected from unsympathetic development and design.</p> <p><i>It is recommended that comprehensive design requirements are set out in policies within the DPD.</i></p>
11.Climate change	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	++ S/M/L D R H	0 S/M/L D R M	
15.Soil / resources	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	+ S/M/L D R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	++ S/M/L D R H	? S/M/L D R M	

DPD Option	Q29 Should the AONB DPD identify development boundaries? For which settlements?			
SA Objective	Score			Commentary / Recommendation
	All Settlements	Some Settlements	No Settlements	
1.Housing	- M/L D I L	0 M/L D I L	+ S/M/L D I M	The use of settlement boundaries may lead to a restriction of the siting of housing in areas of need and in all areas although this depends on where the boundary is drawn. Settlement boundaries, however, could partially assist to develop cohesive communities and avoid sprawl. Including boundaries may help to ensure that future service provision occurs within settlements in the most accessible places, rather than inappropriately at the edge of settlements. No boundaries would mean development would be governed by appropriate policy only but could be more flexible to enable local housing needs to be met as required. However, at this scale this is not anticipated to have any significant effects on these SA Objectives.
2.Health	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L D I L	
3.Education	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	0 M/L D R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	+ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R M	0 S/M/L I R L	Boundaries may help to ensure the use of previously developed land, buildings and existing infrastructure is optimised. Boundaries can help to ensure that settlements have provision of jobs which are accessible and will increase the concentration of jobs which will strengthen economy within local areas. <i>It is recommended that settlement boundaries are provided in the larger settlements.</i>
8.Jobs	+ S/M/L I R L	+ S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	0 S/M/L D R M	0 S/M/L D R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	The identification of development boundaries may lead to achieving several environmental objectives. Settlement boundaries will ensure development is more tightly controlled at settlement edges and hence can help to avoid sprawl and adverse cumulative effects on biodiversity for example at settlement edges. This will achieve conservation of bio/geo diversity by keeping continuity in ecological networks and protecting greenspace. The landscape would be better conserved with development boundaries as this would protect the local landscape character and ensure night skies are kept dark over many parts of the AONB. This approach can also help to maintain the character of settlements themselves. Boundaries will also ensure quantity and quality of soil resources can be safeguarded for the future and managed more sustainably as it is likely to encourage more brownfield land to be developed as a priority and less greenfield land at settlement edges. <i>Recommendations to achieve environmental SA objectives would be to identify settlement boundaries, at least in the larger settlements to ensure development does not encroach on the natural resources of the AONB and affect its special qualities. This may also be relevant in smaller settlements that have a stronger countryside setting.</i>
11.Climate change	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	+ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R M	0 S/M/L D R L	
14.Landscape	++ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R M	- S/M/L D R L	
15.Soil / resources	+ S/M/L D R M	+ S/M/L D R M	- S/M/L D R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	+ S/M/L D R L	+ S/M/L D R L	0 S/M/L I R L	

DPD Option	Q30 Should the AONB DPD phase development during the 15 year time horizon of the plan? What phasing approach is appropriate?			
SA Objective	Score			Commentary / Recommendation
	Phase sites	Phasing criteria	No phasing	
1.Housing	++ S/M/L D I R H	+ S/M/L D I R M	+ S/M D I R L	A phased approach would provide more certainty to meet housing needs over the entire plan period and phasing sites would give most control over delivering housing in areas most at need. Phasing would also enable housing to be developed either near to existing services (e.g. GPs, schools, shops, POs, greenspace, transport links etc.) or for larger developments a criteria-based approach could ensure such services are provided alongside housing rather than afterwards. Phasing sites using both with criteria and without would also encourage community identity and sense of place. A non-phased approach could lead to local traditions, social inclusiveness and cohesion becoming lost by changing the composition of the community in a non-sensitive way. <i>Phasing is encouraged to meet the social SA objectives, notably a combination of sites and criteria.</i>
2.Health	+ S/M/L I R M	++ S/M/L I R H	0 S/M/L I R L	
3.Education	+ S/M/L I R M	++ S/M/L I R H	0 S/M/L I R L	
4.Service access	+ S/M/L I R M	++ S/M/L I R H	0 S/M/L I R L	
5.Community	++ S/M/L I R M	++ S/M/L I R H	+/- S/M/L I R L	
6.Participation	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	0 S/M/L I R L	
7.Economy	+ S/M/L I R M	++ S/M/L I R H	0 S/M/L I R L	A phased approach would help to ensure that a stable economy can grow and create a competitive economic market of local companies which focusses initially in areas where investment is most likely to be achieved and in areas where jobs are most at need. Criteria would also strengthen the access to these jobs by ensuring access and communications and infrastructure is in place. Phasing would also increase the chance of enabling previously developed land and brownfield sites to come forward and be reused. <i>Phasing is encouraged to meet the economic SA objectives. Criteria based phasing would allow for sustainability to be achieved whilst creating a strong economic market.</i>
8.Jobs	+ S/M/L I R M	++ S/M/L I R H	0 S/M/L I R L	
9.Economic inclusion	+ S/M/L I R M	++ S/M/L I R H	- S/M/L I R L	
10.Air quality	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	A phasing approach will not necessarily significantly affect the outcome of achieving environmental SA objectives. However phasing criteria could enable infrastructure and services to be in places before development to reduce impacts on resources and provide more sustainable alternatives. It is assumed that effects will occur at some point and therefore the only factor which affects the SA objectives is timescale of phasing. Phasing and indeed phasing with criteria could help allow time to promote more sustainable methods of transport and therefore meeting climate change objectives. It will also ensure development aligns with planned sewerage infrastructure provision. This will help in reducing water pollution within the AONB. Ensuring new developments are on brownfield land and sustainable locations will also be achieved with phasing by enabling sites to become redeveloped in phases when they become available. This will achieve SA objectives to protect natural resources and land. <i>Phasing approach to development will meet some of the environmental SA objectives and criteria-based phasing would provide more control to ease any effects from impacts on the environment and ensure development is sustainable.</i>
11.Climate change	+ S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I R H	- S/M/L I R L	
12.Water	0 S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I I H	- S/M/L I R L	
13.Bio/geo - diversity	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
14.Landscape	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
15.Soil / resources	+ S/M/L I R M	+ S/M/L I R M	- S/M/L I R L	
16.Minerals / Waste	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	
17.Heritage	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R M	0 S/M/L I R L	

APPENDIX F-

SA Policy Filter for Assessment (Policy ‘Screening’)

SA Objective (Short Title)	Policy Ref.: Policy Title:	AS01	AS02	AS03	AS04	AS05	AS06	AS07	AS08	AS09	AS10	AS11	AS12	AS13	AS14
		Development Strategy	Landscape	Housing Provision	Natural Environment	Public Open Space and Recreation	Key Settlement Landscapes	Historic Environment	Design	Economic Development and Community Facilities	Infrastructure for New Development	Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation	Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Energy and Communications	Advertising and Signage
1. Housing		Y	0	Y	0	0	0	0	0	0	Y	0	0	0	0
	No effects:	Policies AS02, AS04, AS06, AS07, AS08, AS11 and AS12 combined could in theory indirectly restrict housing growth by prioritising environmental protections, however the effect is considered negligible. Policies AS09 and AS13 can help complement housing growth with corresponding jobs and inward investment; however, this becomes something of a “chicken and egg” scenario, and it is assumed that the relationship is more the other direction – i.e. that new dwellings to house workers supports the economy and ability to attract investment. Policies AS05 and AS14 do not have any apparent, significant relationship with the SA Objective.													
	Potential benefits:	Policies AS01, AS03 and AS10 have been assessed for their potential to facilitate new, additional housing in the AONB, which in turn can affect the ability to meet local needs, affordability and housing standards.													
	Potential negatives	Policy AS01 alone could lead to housing which is not targeted towards local needs or affordability. Mitigating influences of policy: Policy AS03 seeks to ensure housing does not have this potential negative effect, and achieves a net benefit towards meeting needs and improving affordability.													
2. Health		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	Y	0	0	Y	0	0
	No effects:	Policies AS08, AS10, AS11 and AS14 do not have any apparent, significant relationship with the health objective. Policy AS07 aims to improve the historic character of an area. This may have positive impacts on health but the effect is considered negligible relative to other considerations (heritage benefits to recreation are still considered elsewhere). Policy AS08 sets out to increase renewable energy within the developments. Even though this will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce negative impacts to air quality, the positive effects are thought to be negligible. Issues around wind turbine shadow flicker, location / potential fatigue and failure are unlikely to be a problem, given the strong resistance to them in policy.													
	Potential benefits:	Policies AS01, AS02, AS03, AS04, AS05, AS06, AS09 and AS10 could benefit such aspects as outdoor physical activity, access to community facilities, employment and income, affordable housing, and flood risk management.													
	Potential negatives	Development leading from Policies AS01 and AS09 can cause an increase in local population, and in turn pressure on the capacity of key services and facilities, such as GPs and other healthcare facilities, open space / play areas and others. Mitigating influences of policy: AS10 is for the provision of sufficient infrastructure. This is complemented by AS04, AS05, and AS09.													
3. Education		Y	0	0	Y	0	0	Y	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	0
	No effects:	Policies AS03, AS08, AS11, AS12, AS13 and AS14 do not have any apparent, significant relationship with educational facilities or educational attainment. Policies AS02, AS05 and AS06 could indirectly relate to access to the natural environment as an educational resource, but the effect is very indirect, immeasurable, and unlikely to be significant compared with other policies.													
	Potential benefits:	Policy AS10 can be used to address deficiencies in existing educational facilities, if related to / affected further by proposed new development.													
		New housing (AS01) could affect the capacity of educational facilities.													

SA Objective (Short Title)	Policy Ref.:		AS01	AS02	AS03	AS04	AS05	AS06	AS07	AS08	AS09	AS10	AS11	AS12	AS13	AS14
	Policy Title:		Development Strategy	Landscape	Housing Provision	Natural Environment	Public Open Space and Recreation	Key Settlement Landscapes	Historic Environment	Design	Economic Development and Community Facilities	Infrastructure for New Development	Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation	Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Energy and Communications	Advertising and Signage
			Potential negatives	Mitigating influences of policy: AS10 is for the provision of sufficient infrastructure.												
4. Sustainable Access			Y	0	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	0
		No effects:	Policies AS03, AS07, AS08, AS11, AS12, AS13 and AS14 do not have any apparent, significant relationship with achieving sustainable access. Policies AS02, and AS06 may relate to the attractiveness of sustainable transport opportunities, but the effect is not likely to be significant.													
		Potential benefits:	Policies AS04, AS05, AS09 and AS10 can lead to net improvements to community facilities, natural areas and open spaces, and transport routes to those facilities or natural areas and open spaces (e.g. new footpaths, cycle paths, etc.), alongside new development. This can benefit new and existing residents.													
		Potential negatives	New development (AS01 and AS09) could have a negative impact on sustainable access in terms of affecting the capacity of such things as roads, bus services, community services and facilities, leisure / cultural facilities and open space. Mitigating influences of policy: AS10 is for the provision of sufficient infrastructure. This is complemented by AS04, AS05, and AS09.													
5. Local Economy			Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0
		No effects:	Policies AS05, AS06, AS07, AS08, and AS14 may help benefit the local economy indirectly via tourism (protecting landscape / townscape, etc.), but the main policies fulfilling this function which are significant to the economy are considered to be those below. Policy AS12 clearly required spending on infrastructure to manage, while adverse effects can disrupt the economy, but this is not a significant influence. Policy AS13 is somewhat restrictive to renewable energy developments, which is a potential industrial / employment sector, but in favour of other sectors more suited to the AONB - the influence is overall considered negligible.													
		Potential benefits:	Policies AS01, AS03, AS09 and AS10 have been assessed relative to their ability to provide housing (construction jobs, affordability of housing, housing key workers) and sustain community services and facilities that are essential to an efficient economy.													
		Potential negatives	The potential for policies such as AS01, AS09 and AS10 to affect particular economic sectors, especially tourism, is considered by the SA. Mitigating influences of policy: AS02, AS04 and AS11 consider the landscape, and prioritise attributes of the AONB that important for tourism.													
6. Retention and Creation of jobs			Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0
		No effects:	Policies AS05, AS06, AS07, AS08, and AS14 may help benefit job creation indirectly via tourism (protecting landscape / townscape, etc.), but the main policies fulfilling this function which are significant to employment are considered to be those below. Policies AS12 and AS14 have no significant influence on jobs. Policy AS13 is somewhat restrictive to renewable energy developments, which is a potential employment sector, but in favour of other sectors more suited to the AONB - the influence is overall considered negligible.													
		Potential benefits:	As above for SA Objective 5.													
			As above for SA Objective 5.													

SA Objective (Short Title)	Policy Ref.:		AS01	AS02	AS03	AS04	AS05	AS06	AS07	AS08	AS09	AS10	AS11	AS12	AS13	AS14
	Policy Title:		Development Strategy	Landscape	Housing Provision	Natural Environment	Public Open Space and Recreation	Key Settlement Landscapes	Historic Environment	Design	Economic Development and Community Facilities	Infrastructure for New Development	Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation	Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Energy and Communications	Advertising and Signage
			Potential negatives		Mitigating influences of policy: As above for SA Objective 5.											
			Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0
7. Economic Inclusion and Job Access			No effects:		As above for SA Objective 6.											
			Potential benefits:		As above for SA Objective 5, and also including consideration of the distribution of potential new employment opportunities throughout the AONB.											
			Potential negatives		As above for SA Objective 5, plus the potential for new employment opportunities to be clustered in few locations, rather than distributed.											
					Mitigating influences of policy: As for SA Objective 5.											
8. Air Quality			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			No effects:		The majority of the policies have no potential to lead to the emission of a significant air pollutants. Policy AS01, AS09 and AS10 can in theory lead to air pollution through new development, but air quality is good in the AONB - there is no significant likelihood of exceeding limit values. Issues covered under Policy AS13 could help to enhance air quality but again, the influence would be negligible.											
			Potential benefits:		None of the policies are likely to affect air quality significantly because there are no locations in the study area where there is significant potential to exceed AQOs.											
			Potential negatives		None of the policies are likely to affect air quality significantly because there are no locations in the study area where there is significant potential to exceed AQOs.											
9. Climate Change and Energy Efficiency			Y	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	0	Y	Y	0
			No effects:		Policies AS02, AS05 and AS06 all encourage green infrastructure and aim to protect the local landscape. Even though flora provides a carbon sink, the main contributor is thought to be AS04 (see below) and other effects of the policies will be negligible. Policies AS07, AS08, AS11 and AS14 do not have a significant relationship with the SA Objective, as the relative emissions of any associated activity would be negligible.											
			Potential benefits:		AS13 encourages small-scale and appropriate (within the context of the AONB) renewable energy developments, which could in the long term lead to a net reduction in carbon emissions. AS09 addresses flood risk, and AS05 could lead to habitat improvement / green infrastructure which assists in adapting to climate change.											
			Potential negatives		New development (AS01, AS09 and AS10) will lead to direct and indirect carbon emissions, from embodied carbon within construction materials to transport demand from new residents.											
10. Water Quality					Mitigating influences of policy: AS10 gives high priority to active travel and sustainable travel networks. AS13 may be associated with other types of new development, and reduce their emissions.											
			Y	0	0	Y	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0

SA Objective (Short Title)	Policy Ref.:	AS01	AS02	AS03	AS04	AS05	AS06	AS07	AS08	AS09	AS10	AS11	AS12	AS13	AS14
	Policy Title:	Development Strategy	Landscape	Housing Provision	Natural Environment	Public Open Space and Recreation	Key Settlement Landscapes	Historic Environment	Design	Economic Development and Community Facilities	Infrastructure for New Development	Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation	Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Energy and Communications	Advertising and Signage
	No effects:	Policies AS02, AS03 AS05, AS06, AS07, AS08, AS10 and AS14 do not have any apparent, significant relationship with the SA objective. Under Policy AS13, the type of development being addressed (i.e. energy) could lead to works which can affect water, but the policy is quite restrictive and any renewable energy developments which pass policy exceptions would be subject to environmental policy as for those assessed (see below).													
	Potential benefits:	Via AS10 and AS12, there could be a net improvement in more sustainable water management (SuDS, etc.). AS04 could lead to physical, as well as quality, improvements to water bodies (e.g. naturalisation of a watercourse).													
	Potential negatives	New development or, in the case of some camping sites: land use change, resulting from Policies AS01, AS09, AS10 and AS11 has the potential to lead to surface or groundwater pollution, and to be constructed in ways which increase surface water run-off from new built surfaces. Development could also physically modify water bodies.													
	Mitigating influences of policy: Policies AS04, AS10 and AS12, as above under potential benefits.														
11. Biodiversity and Geodiversity	Y	Y	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0
	No effects:	Policies AS03, AS06, AS07, AS08 and AS14 do not have any apparent, significant relationship with the SA objective - they will not lead to development, or help to shape it in a way which will affect biodiversity significantly. Under Policy AS13, the type of development being addressed (i.e. energy) could lead to works which can affect biodiversity, but the policy is quite restrictive to this type of development and any renewable energy developments which pass policy exceptions would be subject to environmental policy as for those assessed (see below).													
	Potential benefits:	Policies AS02 and AS04 can secure net increases in habitat area and/or net improvement in habitat connectivity.													
	Potential negatives	New development or, in the case of some camping sites: land use change, resulting from Policies AS01, AS09, AS10 and AS11 has the potential to affect habitats and wildlife in a wide range of ways - refer to the assessment.													
Mitigating influences of policy: Policies AS01 and AS11 aim to restrict new development to only what is needed in the AONB, and AS04 is the main policy protection for biodiversity and geodiversity relative to new development. Other policies contribute: AS02, AS05, AS10 and AS12.															
12. Landscape, Seascape and Settlement Character and Quality	Y	Y	0	Y	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0
	No effects:	Policy AS03 does not have a significant relationship with landscape impact - it is about housing type, rather than promoting or controlling / managing development. Policies AS05, AS12 and AS14 manage aspects relevant to landscape (AS05 and AS12 more indirectly), but there is little potential for significant effects, particularly relative to other development matters being assessed.													
	Potential benefits:	Policies AS01, AS02, AS04, AS07 and AS08 have various provisions for seeking enhancements to the landscape and aspects which can affect landscape, settlement character and seascape.													

SA Objective (Short Title)	Policy Ref.:		AS01	AS02	AS03	AS04	AS05	AS06	AS07	AS08	AS09	AS10	AS11	AS12	AS13	AS14
	Policy Title:		Development Strategy	Landscape	Housing Provision	Natural Environment	Public Open Space and Recreation	Key Settlement Landscapes	Historic Environment	Design	Economic Development and Community Facilities	Infrastructure for New Development	Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation	Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Energy and Communications	Advertising and Signage
			Potential negatives		New development or, in the case of some camping sites: land use change, resulting from Policies AS01, AS09, AS10 and AS11 has the potential to affect landscape, seascape, settlement character and visual amenity in a wide range of ways - refer to the assessment. This includes in particular the potential for loss of greenfield land / vegetation cover, unsympathetic location, sizing, layout and materials for new buildings. Mitigating influences of policy: Policies AS01, AS02, AS04, AS06, AS07, AS08, and AS11 all include provisions which emphasise the requirement to protect and conserve the natural environment and in particular landscape, seascape and settlement character, and to avoid adverse visual effects.											
13. Land and Soil			Y	0	0	Y	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	0	Y	0	0
			No effects:		Policies AS02, AS03 AS05, AS06, AS07, AS08, AS10 and AS14 do not have any apparent, significant relationship with the SA objective. Under Policies AS11 and AS13, the type of development being addressed (i.e. caravans / camping and energy) could lead to works which can affect landtake / soils, but the policies are quite restrictive to this type of development and any developments which pass policy exceptions would be subject to environmental policy as for those assessed (see below).											
			Potential benefits:		Via AS04, there could be a net improvement in green infrastructure, which in turn can benefit land and soils.											
			Potential negatives		New development or, in the case of some camping sites: land use change, resulting from Policies AS01, AS09, AS10 and AS11 has the potential to lead to loss of land and impacts on soils (e.g. lost quality during construction, compaction, inability to replenish / regenerate). Mitigating influences of policy: AS01 (aspects of it mitigate its own potential for impacts), AS04 and AS12 encourage the re-use of brownfield sites to minimise pressure on greenfield sites and soils, require the protection of aquifers from pollution (which can also benefit soils), and also aim to promote green infrastructure.											
14. Mineral Resources			Y	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	0
			No effects:		The majority of the policies have no potential to lead to significant increases in the use of raw materials or the generation of waste. Policies AS11 and AS13 deal with development types (i.e. caravans / camping and energy) which could lead to use of raw materials and waste generation, but the policies are quite restrictive to this type of development and any developments which pass policy exceptions would be subject to environmental policy as for those assessed (see below).											
			Potential benefits:		None – covered by South Lakeland and Lancaster City DPDs.											
			Potential negatives		New development resulting from Policies AS01, AS09 and AS10 will lead to the use of raw materials and the generation of waste, at least some of which will go to landfill. Mitigating influences of policy: None specifically - AS13 may indirectly support the use of recycled or reused materials by promoting low carbon solutions. (See South Lakeland and Lancaster City DPDs)											
15. Heritage and the Community			Y	Y	0	Y	Y	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0	0
			No effects:		Policies AS03, AS11, AS12, AS13 and AS14 do not have any apparent, significant relationship with achieving community cohesion. Policy AS06 may relate to prevention of inappropriate development, but Policies AS01 and AS02 are considered the predominant influence.											

SA Objective (Short Title)	Policy Ref.:		AS01	AS02	AS03	AS04	AS05	AS06	AS07	AS08	AS09	AS10	AS11	AS12	AS13	AS14
	Policy Title:		Development Strategy	Landscape	Housing Provision	Natural Environment	Public Open Space and Recreation	Key Settlement Landscapes	Historic Environment	Design	Economic Development and Community Facilities	Infrastructure for New Development	Camping, Caravan and Visitor Accommodation	Water quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Energy and Communications	Advertising and Signage
	Potential benefits:		Policies AS02, AS07 and AS08 may lead to net improvements to the layout of the built environment and enhancement of heritage features.													
	Potential negatives		New development (AS01, AS09 and AS10) could lead to the loss of heritage assets, effects on their historic setting, effects on access to heritage features or information about them, changes to the feel of a place / community and/or social changes within the local community.													
			Mitigating influences of policy: AS01, AS02, AS07 and AS08 not only aim to conserve heritage and the distinctive character of settlements, but to also enhance heritage and reinforce this character.													
16. Historic Environment and Heritage Assets	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	0	0
	No effects:		Policy AS03 does not have a significant relationship with heritage impact - it is about housing type, rather than promoting or controlling / managing development. Policies AS04, AS05, AS06, AS12 and AS14 manage aspects relevant to heritage (indirectly), but in order for these matters to be dealt with in a way that respects heritage, the reliance is really upon specific heritage policy (AS07). Policies AS11 and AS13 deal with development types (i.e. caravans / camping and energy) which could lead to impacts on the historic environment / cultural heritage, but the policies are quite restrictive to this type of development and any developments which pass policy exceptions would be subject to heritage policy as for those assessed (see below).													
	Potential benefits:		Policies AS02, AS07 and AS08 may lead to net improvements to the layout of the built environment and enhancement of heritage features.													
	Potential negatives		New development (AS01, AS09 and AS10) could lead to the loss of heritage assets or effects on their historic setting. Mitigating influences of policy: AS01, AS02, AS07 and AS08 not only aim to conserve heritage and the distinctive character of settlements, but to also enhance heritage and reinforce this character.													
17. Democratic Processes	Y	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	0
	No effects:		The majority of the policies have no potential to lead to effects on public participation, etc.. Policy AS01, AS09 and AS10 can in theory lead to significant new development which alters the makeup of a community, which in turn could affect the availability of facilities for hosting events, etc. (see below).													
	Potential benefits:		Policy AS10 could lead to net benefits by providing infrastructure available to the existing community that aids in their participation, involvement, and discourse about local issues.													
	Potential negatives		There is potential for development (AS01 and AS09) to increase the local population such that local community facilities or services are taken over-capacity, and this could in theory have some relationship with public participation. Mitigating influences of policy AS10 takes into consideration the need for sufficient community infrastructure.													

APPENDIX G

SA Matrices: Publication Plan Site Allocations

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Site Name and Ref	AS17 Land Off Queens Drive	Existing Land-use:	Garage Block
Site Location:	Arnside	Proposed Use:	Residential
Site Area:	0.12 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	6

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	+	Key reason:	Site provides new homes (fewer than 15 = minor beneficial; it is expected to help meet specific housing needs, e.g. affordable).	+	ST	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.			
2	Health	++	Key reason:	Site is within 1 km of a GP surgery.	++	ST	M
			Other info:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
3	Education	++	Key reason:	Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
4	Access	-	Key reason:	Site has a potential highways access issue, such as poor passing or visibility (e.g. long, single-track lanes), road quality, or along a highly congested route.	O	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues. Site is within 1 km of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).			
			Mitigation:	Development would only occur on the grounds that the developer is able to demonstrate how suitable access can be achieved.			
5	Economy	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on economic conditions or competitiveness.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
6	Jobs	O	Key reason:	<i>Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on the variety of employment opportunity.</i>	O	S-LT	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
7	Economic Inclusion	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from local employment opportunities (Storth).</i>	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	<i>Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	<i>Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site located adjacent to sustainable transport opportunities.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.</i>			
10	Water	-	Key reason:	<i>Site is in an area of medium surface water flood risk.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	<i>No water bodies within 100 m of the site. Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Site has adequate water and sewerage infrastructure is generally poor within the AONB. Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Although the site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone measures should be taken to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity. Developers should also provide new sewerage systems to prevent adverse effects on the unready in adequate system.</i>			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	-	Key reason:	<i>Within 500m of an SAC (not adjacent). Within 500m of a Ramsar Site (not adjacent). Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site is at low risk of affecting protected or priority species. Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.</i>			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Mitigation:	Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure; however, this small-scale development is unlikely to significantly affect biodiversity. Existing trees should be retained and additional planting should be included in the scheme to complement and support adjacent habitats. This is expected to be small-scale on this site. An appropriate ecological survey of the site and relevant mitigation measures will be needed. HRA Screening has determined no likelihood of significant effects.			
12	Land / Sea-scape and Character	+	Key reason:	Site is likely to have a minor positive effect on local landscape character and visual amenity compared with the existing garage blocks..	+	S-LT	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
13	Land and Natural Resources	+	Key reason:	Site is on brownfield land.	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
16	Heritage	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a significant impact on the historic environment.	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			

Site Name and Ref	AS18 Land on Hollins Lane	Existing Land-use:	Agriculture (Grazing)
Site Location:	Arnside	Proposed Use:	Residential
Site Area:	0.22 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	6

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	+	Key reason:	Site provides new homes (fewer than 15 = minor beneficial; it is expected to help meet specific housing needs, e.g. affordable).	+	ST	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.			
2	Health	++	Key reason:	Site is within 1 km of a GP surgery.	++	ST	M
			Other info:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
3	Education	+	Key reason:	Site is located within 1 km of a primary school. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.	+	S-LT	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site would have adequate highways access or is easily provided. Site is within 1 km of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to other cultural or leisure facilities. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues. Site is within 1 km of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
5	Economy	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on economic conditions or competitiveness.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
6	Jobs	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on the variety of employment opportunity.	O	S-LT	H

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
7	Economic Inclusion	+	Key reason:	Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s)).	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	Site located adjacent to sustainable transport opportunities.			
			Mitigation:	Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.			
10	Water	O	Key reason:	No water bodies within 100 m of the site. Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Site has adequate water and sewerage infrastructure is generally poor within the AONB. Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk. Site is not at risk of surface water flooding.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Although the site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone measures should be taken to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity. Developers should also provide new sewerage systems to prevent adverse effects on the unready in adequate system.			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	-	Key reason:	Within 500m of a SSSI (not adjacent). Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	Site is at low risk of affecting protected or priority species. Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.			
			Mitigation:	Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure; however, this small-scale development is unlikely to significantly affect biodiversity. Development will retain as much as is possible of the mature hedge on SE boundary of the site. Development will include replacement species-rich hedgerow and other planting. An appropriate ecological survey of the site and relevant mitigation measures will be needed.			
12	Land / Sea-scape and Character	O	Key reason:	Site would have a neutral effect on character assuming mitigation in place. Site would have a neutral effect on visual amenity assuming mitigation in place.	O	S-LT	H

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
13	Land and Natural Resources	-	Key reason:	Site is a small greenfield site (<0.4 ha).	-	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Minimise the loss of greenfield land, ensure the preservation and considerate reuse of soils and soil quality, and maximise greenspace provision			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is within 1 km of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
16	Heritage	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a significant impact on the historic environment.	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			

Site Name and Ref	AS19Land on Briery Bank	Existing Land-use:	Orchard
Site Location:	Arnside	Proposed Use:	Residential
Site Area:	0.27 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	8

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	+	Key reason:	Site provides new homes (fewer than 15 = minor beneficial; it is expected to help meet specific housing needs, e.g. affordable).	+	ST	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.			
2	Health	++	Key reason:	Site is within 1 km of a GP surgery.	++	ST	M
			Other info:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
3	Education	++	Key reason:	Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site would have adequate highways access or is easily provided. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to other cultural or leisure facilities. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues. Site is within 1 km of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
5	Economy	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on economic conditions or competitiveness.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
6	Jobs	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on the variety of employment opportunity.	O	S-LT	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
7	Economic Inclusion	+	Key reason:	Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s)).	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	Site located adjacent to sustainable transport opportunities.			
			Mitigation:	Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.			
10	Water	O	Key reason:	No water bodies within 100 m of the site. Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Site has adequate water and sewerage infrastructure is generally poor within the AONB. Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk. Site is not at risk of surface water flooding.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Although the site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone measures should be taken to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity. Developers should also provide new sewerage systems to prevent adverse effects on the unready in adequate system.			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	-	Key reason:	Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	Site is not in close proximity to a designated site. Site is at low risk of affecting protected or priority species. Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.			
			Mitigation:	Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure; however, this small-scale development is unlikely to significantly affect biodiversity. The mature hedge and trees on the north and east boundaries must be retained. Part of the green infrastructure provision on the site should include orchard restoration. An appropriate ecological survey of the site and relevant mitigation measures will be needed.			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
				<i>HRA Screening has determined no likelihood of significant effects.</i>			
12	Land / Seascape and Character	O	Key reason:	<i>Site would have a neutral effect on character assuming mitigation in place. Site would have a neutral effect on visual amenity assuming mitigation in place</i>	O	S-LT	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>If good vernacular design is incorporated and density is comparable to existing townscape, including retention of field edges etc, it may be possible to successfully incorporate 8 units.</i>			
13	Land and Natural Resources	-	Key reason:	<i>Site is a small greenfield site (<0.4 ha).</i>	-	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Minimise the loss of greenfield land, ensure the preservation and considerate reuse of soils and soil quality, and maximise greenspace provision</i>			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	<i>Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.</i>			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall.</i>	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	<i>Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
16	Heritage	O	Key reason:	<i>Site is unlikely to have a significant impact on the historic environment.</i>	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			

Site Name and Ref	AS20 Land On Church Street	Existing Land-use:	Agriculture
Site Location:	Beetham	Proposed Use:	Residential
Site Area:	0.21 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	6

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	+	Key reason:	Site provides new homes (fewer than 15 = minor beneficial; it is expected to help meet specific housing needs, e.g. affordable).	+	ST	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.			
2	Health	+	Key reason:	Site is between 1 km and 4 km of a GP surgery.	+	ST	M
			Other info:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
3	Education	++	Key reason:	Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education. Site is within 500 m of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site would have adequate highways access or is easily provided. Site is within 1 km of a local or key service centre. Site is within 1km of a cultural or leisure facility, such as a theatre, sport / recreation centre, museum, etc.. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
5	Economy	++	Key reason:	Site is a housing site located within 1 km away from local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s))..	++	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
6	Jobs	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on the variety of employment opportunity.	O	S-LT	H
			Other info:	N/A			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
7	Economic Inclusion	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s)). It is very close to an existing major employer (factory).</i>	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	<i>Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	<i>Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site located within 1 km of sustainable transport opportunities.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.</i>			
10	Water	O	Key reason:	<i>No water bodies within 100 m of the site. Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Site has adequate water and sewerage infrastructure is generally poor within the AONB. Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk. Site is not at risk of surface water flooding.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Although the site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone measures should be taken to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity. Developers should also provide new sewerage systems to prevent adverse effects on the unready in adequate system.</i>			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	-	Key reason:	<i>Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site is not in close proximity to a designated nature conservation site. Site is at low risk of affecting protected or priority species. Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure; however, this small-scale development is unlikely to significantly affect biodiversity. Existing boundary hedgerows should be retained and a new hedgerow and trees of appropriate species and species mix planted to form a new south-western boundary to this small site. An appropriate ecological survey of the site and relevant mitigation measures will be needed.</i>			
12	Land / Sea-scape and Character	O	Key reason:	<i>Site would have a neutral effect on character assuming mitigation in place. Site would have a neutral effect on visual amenity assuming mitigation in place.</i>	O	S-LT	H

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
13	Land and Natural Resources	-	Key reason:	Site is a small greenfield site (<0.4 ha).	-	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is within 1 km of a local or key service centre. Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
16	Heritage	-	Key reason:	Site is within 300 m of a Listed Building (all grades), and so has potential to affect its historic setting. Site is within 100 m of a Conservation Area, and so has potential to affect its historic setting.	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Application of the Cultural Heritage policies for the protection of historic setting, and assurance of sympathetic scale, layout and design of new development as stated within the development Mini-Brief..			

Site Name and Ref	AS21 Land North West of Sand Lane	Existing Land-use:	Agriculture
Site Location:	Warton	Proposed Use:	Residential
Site Area:	0.41 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	12

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	+	Key reason:	Site provides new homes (fewer than 15 = minor beneficial; it is expected to help meet specific housing needs, e.g. affordable).	+	ST	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.			
2	Health	+	Key reason:	Site is between 1 km and 4 km of a GP surgery.	+	ST	M
			Other info:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
3	Education	++	Key reason:	Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of a designated nature conservation site, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education. Site is within 500 m of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site would contribute to highways improvements which would benefit access. Site is within 1km of a cultural or leisure facility, such as a theatre, sport / recreation centre, museum, etc.. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
5	Economy	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on economic conditions or competitiveness.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
6	Jobs	O	Key reason:	<i>Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on the variety of employment opportunity.</i>	O	S-LT	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
7	Economic Inclusion	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s)).</i>	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	<i>Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	<i>Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site located within 1 km of sustainable transport opportunities.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.</i>			
10	Water	O	Key reason:	<i>No water bodies within 100 m of the site. Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Sewerage infrastructure is generally poor within the AONB. Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk. Site is not at risk of surface water flooding.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Although the site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone measures should be taken to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity. Developers should also provide new sewerage systems to prevent adverse effects on the unready in adequate system.</i>			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	-	Key reason:	<i>Within 500m of an LNR (not adjacent). Within 500m of a SSSI (not adjacent). Within 500m of an SAC (not adjacent). Within 500m of a Ramsar Site (not adjacent). Site can affect priority or protected species, as it is agricultural (e.g. breeding birds) or contains existing structures (e.g. bats). Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.</i>	O	S-MT	H
			Other info:	<i>Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure; however, this small-scale development is unlikely to significantly affect biodiversity. Mature hedge and trees on the SE boundary. Retention of trees and hedges required. An appropriate</i>			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
				<i>ecological survey of the site and relevant mitigation measures will be needed. HRA Screening has determined no likelihood of significant effects.</i>			
12	Land / Sea-scape and Character	-	Key reason:	<i>Site is likely to have a negative effect on local landscape character. Site is likely to have a negative effect on visual amenity.</i>	O	S-LT	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the AONB DPD policies on Landscape, Key Settlement Landscapes and provisions within the Development Strategy to ensure landscape character is preserved.</i>			
13	Land and Natural Resources	-	Key reason:	<i>Site is a large greenfield site (>0.4 ha).</i>	-	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Minimise the loss of greenfield land, ensure the preservation and considerate reuse of soils and soil quality, and maximise greenspace provision.</i>			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	<i>Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.</i>			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall.</i>	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	<i>Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
16	Heritage	-	Key reason:	<i>Site is within 300 m of a Listed Building (all grades), and so has potential to affect its historic setting.</i>	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Application of the Cultural Heritage policies for the protection of historic setting, and assurance of sympathetic scale, layout and design of new development.</i>			

Site Name and Ref	AS22 Land North Of 17 Main Street	Existing Land-use:	Agriculture
Site Location:	Warton	Proposed Use:	Residential
Site Area:	0.7 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	10

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	+	Key reason:	Site provides new homes (fewer than 15 = minor beneficial; it is expected to help meet specific housing needs, e.g. affordable).	+	ST	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.			
2	Health	+	Key reason:	Site is between 1 km and 4 km of a GP surgery.	+	ST	M
			Other info:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
3	Education	++	Key reason:	Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of a designated nature conservation site, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education. Site is within 500 m of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site would have adequate highways access or is easily provided. Site is within 1km of a cultural or leisure facility, such as a theatre, sport / recreation centre, museum, etc. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage..			
5	Economy	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on economic conditions or competitiveness.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
6	Jobs	O	Key reason:	<i>Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on the variety of employment opportunity.</i>	O	S-LT	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
7	Economic Inclusion	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s)).</i>	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	<i>Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	<i>Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site located adjacent to sustainable transport opportunities.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.</i>			
10	Water	-	Key reason:	<i>No water bodies within 100 m of the site. Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Sewerage infrastructure is generally poor within the AONB. Site has some history of drainage issues during heavy rainfall. Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk. Site is not at risk of surface water flooding although the policy recognises the need to ensure the development does not cause any surface water flood risks elsewhere. .</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>The policy recognises the need to ensure the development does not cause any surface water flood risks elsewhere. As with all developments, sufficient sewerage capacity should also be ensured and surface water run-off maintained at levels agreed with the EA. Although the site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone measures should be taken to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity.</i>			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	-	Key reason:	<i>Site is within 500m of a SSSI/LNR.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure; however, this small-scale development is unlikely to significantly affect biodiversity. Hedges and boundary features</i>			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
				<i>should be retained where possible. An appropriate ecological survey of the site and relevant mitigation measures will be needed.</i>			
12	Land / Sea-scape and Character	-	Key reason:	<i>The site would be visible and would initially have an adverse effect on landscape and visual amenity. However, note that this only forms a small part of the view from Warton Crag.</i>	O	S-LT	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>In the long term through the use of vernacular materials, retention of hedgerows and a comprehensive replanting scheme. Any new development within site W130 would need to provide replacement planting to maintain a landscaped and low density development frontage to Main Street.</i>			
13	Land and Natural Resources	-	Key reason:	<i>Site is a large greenfield site (>0.4 ha).</i>	-	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>Minimise the loss of greenfield land, ensure the preservation and considerate reuse of soils and soil quality, and maximise greenspace provision.</i>			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	<i>Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.</i>			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall.</i>	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	<i>Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
16	Heritage	-	Key reason:	<i>Site contains a locally important historic building, and so has potential to cause direct or indirect effects. Site is within 100 m of a Conservation Area, and so has potential to affect its historic setting.</i>	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>Application of the Cultural Heritage policies for the protection of listed building and its setting. The proposal will not involve the demolition of Inglebank and proposals will need to be designed sensitively so as not to affect its setting.</i>			

Site Name and Ref	AS23 Station Yard	Existing Land-use:	Residential, Business, Car Park, Access
Site Location:	Arnside	Proposed Use:	Mixed Use
Site Area:	1.03 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	Unknown

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	0	Key reason:	Site has potential to provide new homes however the number of dwellings if any is unknown at this point	0	ST	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.			
2	Health	++	Key reason:	Site is within 1 km of a GP surgery.	++	ST	M
			Other info:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
3	Education	++	Key reason:	Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of a designated nature conservation site, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site will enhance access to new/ existing facilities, e.g. new parking, wheelchair accessibility, etc. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to other cultural or leisure facilities. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues. Site is within 1 km of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage. NB: site to provide new parking and enhancements for station users, including wheelchair users.			
5	Economy	++	Key reason:	Site is an employment site over one hectare in size.	++	S-LT	L
			Other info:	Site will enhanced access provisions to new/ existing facilities e.g. new parking, wheelchair users, etc.			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
6	Jobs	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is a small employment site (<1 ha).</i>	+	S-LT	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
7	Economic Inclusion	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is an employment site located within 1 km from a residential area.</i>	++	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s)).</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	<i>Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	<i>Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site located adjacent to sustainable transport opportunities.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.</i>			
10	Water	--	Key reason:	<i>Site is adjacent to a water body. Part of the site falls within EA Flood Zone 3 - high risk.</i>	O	S-MT	M
			Other info:	<i>Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. S sewerage infrastructure is generally poor within the AONB. Site is not at risk of surface water flooding.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Do not increase level of modification of the water body at the site - apply policy to add buffers from hard-standing, 'naturalise' and add habitat where possible. Ensure construction and operational site drainage design protects the water body from run-off. Residential development must avoid Flood Risk Zone 3 areas and all development must provide resilience against flood or surface water. Any development must show that it will not worsen any flood or surface water risks to existing properties. Although the site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone measures should be taken to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity.</i>			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	--	Key reason:	<i>Adjacent to an SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site is at low risk of affecting protected or priority species. Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.</i>			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure; however, this small-scale development is unlikely to significantly affect biodiversity. The site contains some woodland and a watercourse, both of which should be protected and sensitively incorporated into any scheme. HRA Screening has determined no likelihood of significant effects following standard best practice approaches such as pollution prevention measures and appropriate ecological surveys to assess the potential impacts upon the designated sites.</i>			
12	Land / Sea-scape and Character	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is likely to have a minor positive effect on local landscape character. Site is likely to have a minor positive effect on visual amenity.</i>	+	S-LT	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
13	Land and Natural Resources	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is on brownfield land.</i>	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	<i>Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.</i>			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall.</i>	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	<i>Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
16	Heritage	-	Key reason:	<i>Site is within 300 m of a Listed Building (all grades), and so has potential to affect its historic setting.</i>	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Application of the Cultural Heritage policies for the protection of historic setting, and assurance of sympathetic scale, layout and design of new development.</i>			

Site Name and Ref	AS24 Silverdale Railway Goods Yard	Existing Land-use:	Disused Railway Goods Yard
Site Location:	Silverdale	Proposed Use:	Mixed Use
Site Area:	0.36 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	0

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)	Score	Supporting Information			Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	O	Key reason:	Site is not a housing allocation.	O	N/A	N/A
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
2	Health	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to GP surgeries. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
3	Education	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on participation or attainment in education. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of access to environmental education.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station.	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site would contribute to highways improvements which would benefit access. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to community buildings or community cohesiveness. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to other cultural or leisure facilities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to the countryside, historic environment or open space.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
5	Economy	+	Key reason:	Site is an employment site under one hectare in size. Site will improve access to an employment site.	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
6	Jobs	+	Key reason:	Site is a small employment site (<1 ha).	+	S-LT	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
7	Economic Inclusion	++	Key reason:	Site is an employment site located within 1 km from a residential area.	++	S-LT	L

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	Site located adjacent to sustainable transport opportunities.			
			Mitigation:	Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.			
10	Water	--	Key reason:	Site is adjacent to a water body.	O	S-MT	L
			Other info:	Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Sewerage infrastructure is generally poor within the AONB. Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk. Site is not at risk of surface water flooding.			
			Mitigation:	Do not increase level of modification of the water body at the site - apply policy to add buffers from hard-standing, 'naturalise' and add habitat where possible. EA have expressed concern regarding site run-off: ensure construction and operational site drainage design protects the water body from run-off. Residential development must avoid Flood Risk Zone 3 areas and all development must provide resilience against flood or surface water. Any development must show that it will not worsen any flood or surface water risks to existing properties. Although the site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone measures should be taken to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity.			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	-	Key reason:	Within 500m of a SSSI (not adjacent). Within 500m of a Ramsar Site (not adjacent). Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	Site is at low risk of affecting protected or priority species. Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.			
			Mitigation:	Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure; however, this small-scale development is unlikely to significantly affect biodiversity. An appropriate ecological survey of the site will be needed. HRA Screening has determined no likelihood of significant effects.			
12	Land / Sea-scape and Character	+	Key reason:	Site is likely to have a minor positive effect on local landscape character. Site is likely to have a minor positive effect on visual amenity.	+	S-LT	H
			Other info:	N/A			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
13	Land and Natural Resources	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is on brownfield land.</i>	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	<i>Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.</i>			
15	Community	O	Key reason:	<i>Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on access to community buildings or community cohesiveness. Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.</i>	O	S-LT	M
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
16	Heritage	O	Key reason:	<i>Site is unlikely to have a significant impact on the historic environment.</i>	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			

Site Name and Ref	AS25 Land on Sandside Road and Quarry Lane	Existing Land-use:	Business Use and Agriculture
Site Location:	Sandside	Proposed Use:	Mixed Use
Site Area:	3.10 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	Unknown

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	+	Key reason:	<i>Site provides new homes (fewer than 15 = minor beneficial; it is expected to help meet specific housing needs, e.g. affordable).</i>	+	ST	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.</i>			
2	Health	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is between 1 km and 4 km of a GP surgery.</i>	+	ST	M
			Other info:	<i>Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
3	Education	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.</i>	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	<i>Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.</i>	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	<i>Site would have adequate highways access or is easily provided. Site is within 1 km of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is within 1km of a cultural or leisure facility, such as a theatre, sport / recreation centre, museum, etc.. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues. Site is within 1 km of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
5	Economy	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is an employment site over one hectare in size.</i>	++	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
6	Jobs	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is a large employment site (1 ha +).</i>	++	S-LT	H
			Other info:	<i>N/A</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
7	Economic Inclusion	++	Key reason:	Site is an employment site located within 1 km from a residential area.	++	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	Site located adjacent to sustainable transport opportunities.			
			Mitigation:	Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.			
10	Water	--	Key reason:	Part of the site falls within EA Flood Zone 3 - high risk. Site is adjacent to a water body.	O	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is within 100 m of a water body, but none within the site. Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Sewerage infrastructure, or will be readily provided alongside the development. Site is within EA Flood Zone 2 - moderate risk. Site is in an area of medium surface water flood risk.			
			Mitigation:	Ensure construction and operational site drainage design protects the water body from run-off. Development must provide resilience against flood or surface water, and show that it will not worsen any flood or surface water risks to existing properties. Although the site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone measures should be taken to protect groundwater within the AONB due to its high sensitivity.			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	--	Key reason:	Site is adjacent to a SAC. Site is adjacent to a Ramsar Site. Site is adjacent to a SPA. Site can affect priority or protected species, as it contains woodland (not including ancient woodland). Site contains or is adjacent to coastal priority habitat (e.g. saltmarsh). Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	Site is at low risk of affecting protected or priority species. Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.			
			Mitigation:	Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure. The site lies very close to an area of internationally protected biodiversity, and an appropriate ecological survey of the site and relevant mitigation measures will be needed. HRA Screening has determined no likelihood of significant effects.			
12	Land / Seascape and Character	O	Key reason:	Site would have a neutral effect on character assuming mitigation in place. Site would have a neutral effect on visual amenity assuming mitigation in place.	O	S-LT	H

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Apply the AONB DPD policies on Landscape, Key Settlement Landscapes and provisions within the Development Strategy: existing vegetation and the bulk of the site should be retained to contribute to the urban / pasture farmland mosaic character.			
13	Land and Natural Resources	O	Key reason:	Site is a mix of brownfield and greenfield.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Minimise the loss of greenfield land, ensure the preservation and considerate reuse of soils and soil quality, and maximise greenspace provision.			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is within 1 km of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
16	Heritage	-	Key reason:	Although not listed, the old station building is of local heritage value.	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	The preservation and setting of the old station building should be retained as part of the detailed proposals for the site.			

APPENDIX H

SA Matrices: Publication Plan Rejected Alternative Site Assessments

Site Name and Ref	S50 St John's Avenue	Existing Land-use:	Agriculture
Site Location:	Silverdale	Proposed Use:	Residential
Site Area:	Not provided	Proposed No. of Dwellings:	9

SA Objective Topics (See list and sub-objectives)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	+	Key reason:	Site provides up to 15 new homes.	+	ST	L
2	Health	++	Key reason:	Site is within 1 km of a GP surgery. Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall.	++	ST	M
			Other info:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.			
3	Education	++	Key reason:	Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is not in proximity to a secondary school or further educational facility, but within 500 m of a frequent bus service / stop or railway station.			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is within 500 m of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is located within 500 m of the countryside or open coast. Site is within 500 m of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16). Site is located within 500 m of the countryside or open coast.	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site would have adequate highways access or is easily provided. Site is within 1km of a cultural or leisure facility, such as a theatre, sport / recreation centre, museum, etc. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues.			
5	Economy	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on economic conditions or competitiveness.	O	N/A	M
6	Jobs	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on the variety of employment opportunity.	O	S-LT	H
7	Economic Inclusion	+	Key reason:	Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from key employment area.	+	S-LT	L
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.	O	N/A	M
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	Possible constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures.	O	S-LT	L

SA Objective Topics (See list and sub-objectives)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
			Other info:	<i>Site located adjacent to sustainable transport opportunities. Limited green infrastructure proposed on a large brownfield site (>0.4 ha).</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Green Infrastructure and Ecological Networks policy and a Energy and Communications policy have been proposed</i>			
10	Water	O	Key reason:	<i>No water bodies within 100 m of the site. Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Site has adequate water and sewerage infrastructure, or will be readily provided alongside the development. Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk. Site is not at risk of surface water flooding.</i>	O	N/A	M
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	-	Key reason:	<i>Within 500m of a SSSI (not adjacent). Site can affect priority or protected species, as it is agricultural (e.g. breeding birds) or contains existing structures (e.g. bats).</i>	O	S-MT	H
			Other info:	<i>Limited green infrastructure proposed on a large brownfield site (>0.4 ha). Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Small scale development so unlikely to negatively impact biodiversity alone. Review and assessment needs to be done for significant effects in-combination</i>			
12	Land / Sea-scape and Character	-	Key reason:	<i>Site would have a negative effect on character assuming mitigation in place. Site would have a negative effect on visual amenity assuming mitigation in place.</i>	-	S-LT	H
			Mitigation:	<i>Landscape and Development Strategy has been developed</i>			
13	Land and Natural Resources	O	Key reason:	<i>Although on greenfield land, the site is small (<0.4 ha) and in a sustainable location.</i>	O	N/A	N/A
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	<i>Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.</i>	-	S-LT	L
			Mitigation:	<i>Recommend a new policy to encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities.</i>			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	<i>Site is within an existing community which contains notable heritage assets.</i>	++	S-LT	M
16	Heritage	-	Key reason:	<i>Site is within 300 m of a Listed Building (all grades).</i>	O	S-LT	H
			Mitigation:	<i>Historic environment policy has been proposed</i>			

Site Name and Ref	S56 South Of Whinney Fold, Silverdale	Existing Land-use:	Agriculture
Site Location:	Silverdale	Proposed Use:	Residential
Site Area:	0.3 ha	Proposed No. Dwellings	6

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
1	Housing	+	Key reason:	Site provides new homes (fewer than 15 = minor beneficial; it is expected to help meet specific housing needs, e.g. affordable).	+	ST	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Policy seeks to ensure that housing meets local needs; this should be informed by the 2014 AONB Housing Needs Survey, and over the plan period, this may need to be informed by up-to-date assessments of housing need.			
2	Health	++	Key reason:	Site is within 1 km of a GP surgery.	++	ST	M
			Other info:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on health inequalities. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of physical activity. Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on levels of crime.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
3	Education	++	Key reason:	Site is located within 500 m of a primary school.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of a designated nature conservation site, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
4	Access	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a bus service / stop or railway station. Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre. Site is located adjacent to or within 500 m of the countryside or open coast, which provides an opportunity for environmental education.	++	S-LT	M
			Other info:	Site would have adequate highways access or is easily provided. Site is within 1 km of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is within 1km of a cultural or leisure facility, such as a theatre, sport / recreation centre, museum, etc.. Site is within 500 m of an existing area of open space, and there are no known capacity issues. Site is within 1 km of a designated historic asset (see SA Objective 16).			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
5	Economy	O	Key reason:	Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on economic conditions or competitiveness.	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
6	Jobs	O	Key reason:	<i>Site is unlikely to have a discernible effect on the variety of employment opportunity.</i>	O	S-LT	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
7	Economic Inclusion	+	Key reason:	<i>Site is a housing site located 1-4 km away from local employment opportunities (e.g. main settlement(s)).</i>	+	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
8	Air Quality	O	Key reason:	<i>Site has limited potential to contribute to addressing air quality issues but no evidence to suggest exacerbation of them.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>None identified / recommended at this stage.</i>			
9	Climate Change and Energy	-	Key reason:	<i>Constraints to incorporating energy efficiency, sustainable design or renewable energy measures are unknown. Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown - if none provided, this could make the site more susceptible to climate impacts.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site located within 1 km of sustainable transport opportunities.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure, and apply design policies to maximise energy efficiency and low-carbon alternatives.</i>			
10	Water	-	Key reason:	<i>No water bodies within 100 m of the site. Site is not within a groundwater Source Protection Zone. Site does not have adequate sewerage infrastructure at present. Site is within EA Flood Zone 1 - low risk. Site is not at risk of surface water flooding.</i>	O	N/A	M
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	<i>Appropriate sewerage and drainage infrastructure will need to be provided for any development here.</i>			
11	Bio- / Geo-diversity	-	Key reason:	<i>Within 500m of a SSSI (not adjacent). Within 500m of an SAC (not adjacent). Within 500m of a Ramsar Site (not adjacent). Amount of green infrastructure proposed is unknown.</i>	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	<i>Site is at low risk of affecting protected or priority species. Site is unlikely to affect habitat connectivity significantly.</i>			
			Mitigation:	<i>Apply the proposed Natural Environment policy to deliver Green Infrastructure; however, this small-scale development is unlikely to significantly affect biodiversity. Mature hedges on SE and NW boundaries to be retained. An appropriate ecological survey of the site and relevant mitigation measures will be needed. HRA Screening has determined no likelihood of significant effects.</i>			
12		-	Key reason:	<i>Site is likely to have a negative effect on local landscape character. Site is likely to have a negative effect on visual amenity.</i>	O	S-LT	H

SA Objective Topics (See SA Framework)		Score	Supporting Information		Residual Score	Timing	Uncertainty
	Land / Seascape and Character		Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Apply the AONB DPD policies on Landscape, Key Settlement Landscapes and provisions within the Development Strategy to ensure landscape character is preserved. Existing vegetation along the perimeter and within the site should be retained or, if removed due to access requirements should be replaced to provide a buffer to adjacent residential properties, to retain the intimate character of the site and to retain features which are an important element within the urban and pasture farmland mosaic. Site is not widely overlooked and views locally are heavily filtered. Careful siting of houses within the site will also help.			
13	Land and Natural Resources	-	Key reason:	Site is a small greenfield site (<0.4 ha).	-	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
14	Minerals and Waste	-	Key reason:	Site will use natural resources and produce waste during both construction and operation.	O	S-LT	L
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Encourage use of recycled and secondary materials in construction and ensure new developments include recycling opportunities in line with district-wide policies.			
15	Community	++	Key reason:	Site is within 500 m of a local or key service centre.	++	M-LT	M
			Other info:	Site is within 1 km of a place of worship, town or village hall. Site is attached to an existing group of buildings no more than 2km from an existing community.			
			Mitigation:	None identified / recommended at this stage.			
16	Heritage	-	Key reason:	Site lies near to a Listed Building, and so has potential to cause indirect effects.	O	N/A	H
			Other info:	N/A			
			Mitigation:	Application of the Cultural Heritage policies for the protection of listed building and its setting. This should include careful design and planning to take account of the setting.			

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A decorative graphic consisting of three thin orange lines. One line is horizontal, extending across the width of the page. Two other lines are diagonal, starting from the bottom left and extending towards the top right, intersecting the horizontal line.