

Sustainability appraisal scoping report

Broads Plan and Local Plan for the Broads

June 2021

Contents

1.	Executive Summary	3
2.	Introduction	4
2.1.	The Broads Plan	4
2.2.	The Local Plan for the Broads	4
2.3.	Review of the Broads Plan and the Local Plan for the Broads	4
2.4.	Consultation	5
3.	Background	6
3.1.	The Broads and the Broads Authority	6
3.2.	Sustainability Appraisal	7
3.3.	The context of the Sustainability Appraisal	8
3.4.	Strategic Environmental Assessment	8
3.5.	Habitats Regulation Assessment	9
3.6.	Planning White Paper	9
3.7.	Brexit	9
4.	Other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives	9
4.1.	Section introduction	9
5.	Baseline information	10
5.1.	The Broads Authority Executive Area	10
5.2.	The special qualities of the Broads	10
5.3.	The environmental, economic and social characteristics of the Broads	11
6.	Sustainability issues and problems	11
6.1.	Introduction	11
6.2.	Strengths	11
6.3.	Weaknesses	12
6.4.	Opportunities	14
6.5.	Threats	15
7.	Developing the sustainability appraisal framework	17
7.1.	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives	17

7.2.	UN Sustainable Development Goals	18
8.	Subsequent versions of the SA	19
8.1.	Comments on Scoping Report	19
8.2.	Compatibility of the SA Objectives and plan objectives	19
8.3.	Reasonable alternatives	19
8.4.	Short, medium and long-term effects	19
8.5.	Permanent and temporary effects	19
8.6.	Positive and negative effects	19
8.7.	Secondary effects	19
8.8.	Cumulative effects	19
8.9.	Synergistic effects	19
8.10.	Update to the literature review	20
8.11.	Broads Plan production	20
8.12.	Production of the Local Plan for the Broads	20
	Appendix 1: Compliance with the SEA Directive and NPPG	21
	What is required at the scoping stage?	21
	Appendix 2: Literature review	22
	Appendix 3a: Baseline data	23
	Appendix 3b: Baseline data map bundle	23
	Appendix 3c Norfolk geodiversity audit database for Broads	23
	Appendix 4: Sustainable Development Goals	24
	UN Sustainable Development Goals	24
	SA Objectives and the UN Sustainable Development Goals	27
	Appendix 5: Sustainability Appraisal Framework	32
	Appendix 6: Compatibility of SA Objectives	40

1. Executive Summary

The Norfolk and Suffolk Broads is Britain's largest protected wetland and third largest inland waterway, with the status of a national park. It is also home to some of the rarest plants and animals in the UK. The Broads is an internationally important wetland and a nationally designated protected landscape of the highest order, and is also part of the family of UK National Parks. The designated Broads executive area straddles parts of Norfolk and Suffolk, and is the geographical scope of the Broads Plan and the Local Plan for the Broads.

The Broads Plan is a high-level primary strategy and a key influence on other guiding-level strategic plans (e.g. specific topic strategies such as the Integrated Access Strategy, Biodiversity and Water Strategy, Sustainable Tourism Strategy). The Plan is reviewed at least every five years, and it is anticipated that the next version of the Broads Plan will be a light touch revision of the 2017 Plan, starting in 2021.

The Broads Authority is the Local Planning Authority for the Broads. The Local Plan for the Broads was adopted in 2019, and the Authority has started its review.

One of the first stages of producing the Plans is to prepare and consult on a Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. A key aim of the scoping procedure is to help ensure the SA process is proportionate and relevant to the plan being assessed.

A literature review has been undertaken. Documents reviewed range from national level to county level documents and Broads-specific publications. The documents are listed and covered in more detail in the Literature Review at [Appendix 2](#).

The existing environmental, economic and social characteristics of the area likely to be affected by the Broads Plan and Local Plan are set out at [Appendix 3a](#), [3b](#) and [3c](#).

[Section 6](#) identifies some of the principal sustainability challenges and opportunities in the area which are potentially relevant to the Broads Plan and Local Plan.

To help predict and evaluate effects, SA Objectives have been produced with associated decision-making criteria to assist in assessing each Broads Plan strategic action and each Local Plan policy. The proposed SA Objectives are set out in [section 7](#). More detail is provided at Appendices [4](#), [5](#) and [6](#).

The Authority is undertaking consultation of the statutory environmental bodies and other selected organisations on this draft SA Scoping Report during the period 23 July 2021 to 4pm on 27 August 2021.

2. Introduction

2.1. The Broads Plan

The Act places a requirement on the Broads Authority to produce a Management Plan for the Broads and to review it at least once in every five years. The existing [Broads Plan](#) was adopted in 2017 and covers the period up to 2022. The plan may be viewed on the Authority's website at [Strategy \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](http://Strategy(broads-authority.gov.uk)).

It is anticipated that the next version of the Broads Plan will be a light touch revision of the 2017 Plan, starting in 2021.

The Broads Plan is a high-level primary strategy and a key influence on other guiding-level strategic plans (e.g. specific topic strategies such as the Integrated Access Strategy, Biodiversity and Water Strategy, Sustainable Tourism Strategy). While not a spatial development plan, the Broads Plan is likely to have significant effects on environmental topics such that it would require Strategic Environmental Assessment. The Authority will undertake the wider appraisal process of Sustainability Appraisal to investigate and inform the plan-making process.

2.2. The Local Plan for the Broads

The Broads Authority is the Local Planning Authority for the Broads. [The Local Plan for the Broads](#) was adopted in 2019. The Authority has started reviewing the Local Plan.

2.3. Review of the Broads Plan and the Local Plan for the Broads

The review process for both the Broads Plan and the Local Plan for the Broads will be informed by a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Government guidance¹ recommends that SA incorporates the requirements for SEA and to the same level of detail.

One of the first stages of producing the Plans is to prepare and consult on a Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. A key aim of the scoping procedure is to help ensure the SA process is proportionate and relevant to the plan being assessed.

This SA Scoping Report sets the context and objectives, establishes the baseline and decides the scope. It:

- a) Identifies other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives;
- b) Collects baseline information;
- c) Identifies sustainability issues and problems;
- d) Develops the sustainability appraisal framework; and
- e) Consults the consultation bodies on the scope of the sustainability report.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

This SA Scoping Report will apply to both the Broads Plan and the Local Plan for the Broads. The next steps of the SA process will be specific to each Plan.

The Broads Plan review process will review and update strategic actions from the Broads Plan adopted in 2017. It will also research the potential for a strategic response to some other local issues.

The Local Plan process will review, carry forward and update relevant policies from the Local Plan for the Broads, adopted in 2019. It will also research the potential for a policy response to some other local issues. The Authority will use the SA to help identify and choose between potential options for the policies and site allocations.

This SA Scoping Report is intended to form the basis of the SA for both plans. This report is being sent to the statutory environmental bodies Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage to obtain their views on it.

2.4. Consultation

The Authority is undertaking consultation of the statutory environmental bodies and other selected organisations on this draft SA Scoping Report during the period 23 July 2021 to 4pm on 27 August 2021. The report will be sent to the following consultation bodies:

- English Heritage
- Natural England
- Environment Agency

In the spirit of Duty to Cooperate, the constituent District and County Councils will also be consulted:

- Norfolk County Council
- Suffolk County Council
- North Norfolk District Council
- East Suffolk Council
- Great Yarmouth Borough Council
- Norwich City Council
- South Norfolk District Council
- Broadland District Council

The Authority will also consult the RSPB, New Anglia LEP, Norfolk and Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership, and the Marine Management Organisation.

All comments received will be considered in taking the SA processes forward.

The Authority is particularly seeking responses to the following key questions:

- a) Is the proposed SA framework appropriate?

- b) Is the scoping and baseline information adequate?
- c) Have all relevant plans and programmes been identified?
- d) Is any significant environmental, social or economic baseline data missing or inaccurate?
- e) Are there any additional sustainability problems or opportunities in the Broads?
- f) Is the scope of the SA proportionate?

3. Background

3.1. The Broads and the Broads Authority

The Norfolk and Suffolk Broads is Britain's largest protected wetland and third largest inland waterway, with the status of a national park. It is also home to some of the rarest plants and animals in the UK. The Broads area is an internationally important wetland and a nationally designated protected landscape of the highest order, and part of the family of UK National Parks. The designated Broads executive area straddles parts of Norfolk and Suffolk, and is the geographical scope of the Broads Plan and the Local Plan for the Broads.

There is an interactive webpage about the Broads at [Journey \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](https://broads-authority.gov.uk) and a map of the Broads with information on page 2 of [Broadcaster 2021 \(yudu.com\)](https://www.yudu.com).

The Broads Authority has a statutory duty to manage the Broads for the following three purposes, none of which takes precedence:

- Conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Broads;
- Promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Broads by the public; and
- Protecting the interests of navigation.

Additionally, in discharging its functions, the Authority must have regard to:

- the national importance of the Broads as an area of natural beauty and one which affords opportunities for open-air recreation;
- the desirability of protecting the natural resources of the Broads from damage; and
- the needs of agriculture and forestry and the economic and social interests of those who live or work in the Broads.

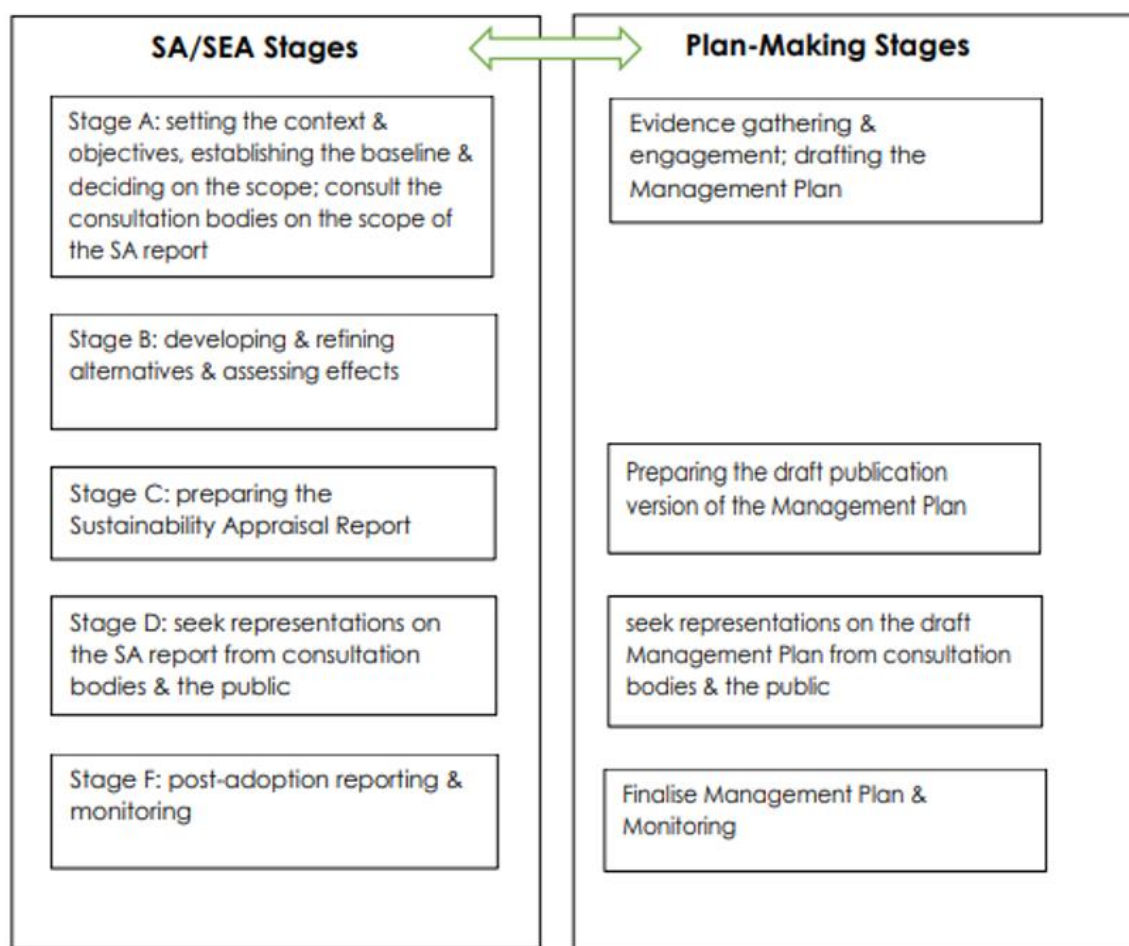
The Broads Authority is the local planning authority for the Broads, responsible for producing and updating the Local Plan that guides development in the area. The area includes parts of Broadland District, South Norfolk District, North Norfolk District, Great Yarmouth Borough, Norwich City and East Suffolk. The councils for those areas do not have planning powers in the Broads area, but retain all other local authority powers and responsibilities.

3.2. Sustainability Appraisal

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to be undertaken for plans such as the Broads Plan and Local Plans. The term ‘sustainability appraisal’ describes a form of assessment that considers the social, environmental and economic effects of implementing a particular plan or planning policy document. It is intended that the SA process helps plans meet the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. The results of the sustainability appraisal will inform the Authority’s decisions on the Broads Plan and the Local Plan, and the planning inspector’s judgement on the Local Plan’s legal compliance and soundness.

The keys stages and tasks (see Figure 1) for conducting the SA for Local Plans are set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance². These key stages and tasks are also applicable to the SA process for the Broads Plan. This Scoping Report is stage A of the process.

Figure 1: SA and plan-making stages



The SA will include the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) required by European Directive and UK Regulations.

² NPPG: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal>

3.3. The context of the Sustainability Appraisal

The Broads Plan and the Local Plan are the two important statutory documents that guide activity, decision-making and investment in the Broads. Both have the same overall objective to help deliver the purposes set out in the Broads Act. The Local Plan sets the policies that guide planning decisions about development and the use of the land. The Broads Plan is a broader strategic plan that sets out the long-term vision for the Broads and provides the framework for partnership working.

The next version of the Broads Plan will follow the same format as the 2017 Broads Plan, with a long-term vision and strategic actions under key themes. The next version will update the actions where relevant, and provide some information about the forces of change, including the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan³ (2018), nature recovery⁴ (2020), changes to the agri-environment payment scheme, and the Landscapes Review⁵ (2019) that recommends specific proposals to improve and strengthen management plans. The Broads Plan will be prepared in the spirit of these changes, but it is noted that its recommendations will require agreement by Government, legislative changes, and new funding. The Broads Plan also include links to other plans and strategies.

The Local Plan works within the context of broader strategies and policies, especially those of the Broads Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. The Local Plan SA will examine whether the effects of the specific sites/areas allocations and policies therein, individually or collectively, give rise to sustainability benefits or dis-benefits.

The task of the SA is firstly to assess the short, medium and long-term social, environmental and economic effects of the individual policy options and then assess the combined effects, in these terms, of the policies of the whole area.

The stages of SA for the Local Plan process are shown in Fig. 1.

3.4. Strategic Environmental Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) involves the systematic identification and subsequent evaluation of the environmental impacts of a strategic action such as a plan or programme. The objective of the SEA process is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment, and to integrate environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. The relevant requirements and considerations are set out in the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment directive and national regulations.

SA incorporates the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004⁶, which implement the requirements of the European

³ [25 Year Environment Plan - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/25-year-environment-plan)

⁴ [Nature Recovery Network - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/nature-recovery-network)

⁵ [Landscapes review: National Parks and AONBs - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/landscapes-review-national-parks-and-aonbs)

⁶ The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/contents/made>

Directive 2001/42/EC⁷ on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment. SA ensures that potential environmental effects are given full consideration alongside social and economic issues.

3.5. Habitats Regulation Assessment

Directive 92/43/EEC (the Habitats Directive) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, and the UK regulations that give effect to this, require an 'Appropriate Assessment' (AA) or habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the potential impacts of land-use plans (this includes the Broads Plan and the Local Plan for the Broads) on European designated habitat sites to ascertain whether they would adversely affect the integrity of such sites. Where significant adverse effects are identified, alternative options must be examined to avoid any potential damaging effects.

While any effect of the strategic actions or policies of the Plans on European Designated habitats is obviously a component of the SA/SEA of the document, the specific requirements and process of an Appropriate Assessment differ, and so the Appropriate Assessment/Habitats Regulations Assessment will be carried out in parallel and reported separately.

3.6. Planning White Paper

We are aware of the Planning White Paper proposals to remove the need for sustainability appraisals. However, we have produced this SA Scoping Report to meet the regulatory requirements in place at the time of writing.

3.7. Brexit

The United Kingdom has left the EU, and SAs are linked to European Union Directives/Regulations. However, the requirement to undertake a SA is currently still in place and therefore this SA Scoping Report has been produced.

4. Other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives

4.1. Section introduction

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 says, at schedule 2, Information for Environmental Reports:

“5. 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.”

⁷ Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment:
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32001L0042:EN:NOT>

A literature review has been undertaken. Documents reviewed range from National Level documents to County-level documents and Broads-specific publications.

With the area of the Broads covering many other Local Authorities, as well as numerous environmental designations, many different documents covering a plethora of topics have been reviewed. The documents are listed are covered in more detail in the Literature Review at [Appendix 2](#).

Question 1: Are there any other documents that you think are relevant? If so, please provide their titles and hyperlinks.

5. Baseline information

5.1. The Broads Authority Executive Area

The Broads covers nearly 303 square kilometres and has a resident population of nearly 6,300 people (2011 census). It is predominantly a rural area and includes parts of Norfolk and Suffolk counties, six districts and 93 parishes. The boundary of the Broads is very tightly drawn around the flood plains and lower reaches of the three main rivers – the Bure, Yare and Waveney. There are no major settlements wholly within the Broads, only a few hamlets and small villages, but the boundary does include parts of many villages, some towns (such as Great Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Beccles, and Bungay) and a city (Norwich). The baseline information at [Appendix 3a](#), [3b](#) and [3c](#) provide more detail of the current state of the Broads. For a map of the Broads visit page 2 of the [Broadcaster 2021 \(yudu.com\)](#).

5.2. The special qualities of the Broads

The special qualities of the Broads that the Broads Plan and Local Plan seek to protect or enhance (as appropriate) are well known. The following list is based on public consultation for the Broads Plan 2017, the Broads Climate Change Adaptation Plan and the Broads Landscape Character Assessment. Together, these special qualities help create the distinctiveness of the Broads' landscape.

- a) Rivers and open water bodies ('broads')
- b) Fens, reed beds and wet woodlands
- c) Grazing marshes and dyke networks
- d) Flood plains, estuary and coast
- e) Navigable, lock-free waterways
- f) Special wildlife
- g) Countryside access on land and water
- h) Views, remoteness, tranquillity, wildness and 'big skies'
- i) The people, the visitors, the activities
- j) History: Earth heritage, heritage assets, archaeology, historic structures

- k) Cultural assets, skills and traditions.
- l) People's interactions with the landscape
- m) The settlements
- n) Variety of patterns and textures of the landscape

Question 2: Do you think these are the special qualities of the Broads? Do you have any other suggestions?

5.3. The environmental, economic and social characteristics of the Broads

The existing environmental, economic and social characteristics of the area likely to be affected by the Broads Plan and Local Plan are set out at [Appendix 3a](#), [3b](#) and [3c](#).

Question 3: Do you have any comments on the baseline data? Are there any other documents that you think are relevant? If so, please provide their titles and hyperlinks.

6. Sustainability issues and problems

6.1. Introduction

The Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) requires the assessment of: 'The environment characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected and any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme'.

This section identifies some of the principal sustainability challenges and opportunities in the area which are potentially relevant to the Broads Plan and Broads Local Plan.

6.2. Strengths

- a) Extensive, diverse and very highly valued landscape, habitats, flora, fauna and cultural and heritage assets.
- b) A unique wetland and low-lying area and status equivalent to a National Park.
- c) Formal nature conservation designations of the Broads and many areas within it provide relatively high levels of policy protection or conservation.
- d) Farmed and managed landscape, the majority being privately owned.
- e) A short undeveloped stretch of coastline.
- f) High levels of tranquillity through much of the Broads; in particular, a sense of remoteness in some parts despite these being located close to concentrations of housing and industry. Also, most of the area has intrinsic dark skies.
- g) Attractive environment, providing the basis for most of the Broads' economy and recreation for residents and visitors.
- h) Britain's largest protected wetland and third largest inland waterway.

- i) High level of interaction with the surrounding area, with complementary provision of facilities and opportunities. For example, employment and development opportunities and community facilities in surrounding districts, towns and in Norwich also serve Broads' residents, while the Broads provides recreational and business opportunities to those from the wider area.
- j) Thriving hire boat industry contributing to the local economy.
- k) Many organisations and individuals caring for or promoting the value of various aspects of the Broads.
- l) Importance of the Broads for the identity and recreation of a much wider area.
- m) The age profile of the area shows more older people than in the surrounding area. Older people are often motivated, educated and experienced and play an important role in the community.
- n) Substantial, engaged community of private boat owners.
- o) Local boating clubs and classes that enable local people (whether or not boat owners), including children, to acquire and hone the skills required to become good sailors.
- p) Many heritage assets, including conservation areas and drainage mills.
- q) The international significance of the paleo-archaeological remains within the Broads and the unusually well-preserved organic remains.
- r) A wealth of archaeological deposits that are not well represented elsewhere within the country.
- s) Good collaborative working with stakeholders and interest groups.
- t) An area providing many ecosystem services, as evidenced in the Norfolk and Suffolk natural capital assets compendium⁸.
- u) Peatland areas and opportunities for improved wetland areas.

6.3. Weaknesses

- a) Many of the protected habitats failing to meet target ecological conditions and/or vulnerable to change as a result of, for example, fragmentation, inappropriate water and land management and pressure from nearby development.
- b) Lowland grazing economics poor and may be at risk of farm subsidy changes.
- c) Some areas of fen and some lakes in decline and reliant on grants for Nature Recovery.

⁸ [Norfolk and Suffolk Natural Capital Assets Evidence Compendium | Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service \(nbis.org.uk\)](https://www.nbis.org.uk)

- d) Almost the whole of the Broads area subject to, or at risk of, flooding.
- e) Some listed buildings and other heritage assets at risk, and particular problems in finding compatible and beneficial uses that could help secure the restoration and maintenance of heritage assets such as wind pumps/drainage mills.
- f) Continuing (though declining) problems of water quality in the rivers; ground water quality problems.
- g) Difficulty of modernising and adapting existing buildings and uses, and accommodating new ones, due to flood prone nature of the area.
- h) Decline in traditional industries such as millwrights and reed and sedge cutters.
- i) High reliance on tourism, which can leave the economy vulnerable and mean a loss of resilience as a result of changes to the holiday/recreational patterns. Indeed, the access restrictions as a result of COVID19 has had a large impact on tourism (as well as many other sectors of the local and national economy).
- j) Car dependence of local communities and businesses and fragmentation of settlements.
- k) Depleted local community and/or visitor facilities, often through displacement by higher value activities (principally housing).
- l) Tensions and perceptions of incompatibility between interests of conservation, farming, development, recreation, tourism, navigation and local communities, and between local interests and the national value of the Broads.
- m) The ageing population could lead to imbalance in the community.
- n) Lack of housing that is affordable resulting in some people having to commute to places of work.
- o) Deficiencies of moorings in some places to meet the needs of various waterspace users.
- p) Some low bridges which prevent larger boats from passing, and some narrow waterways which could limit potential for navigation.
- q) Some boats unable to navigate as intended due to operational issues of some swing bridges, particular when the weather is hot.
- r) Increasing pressures for land use change around areas of settlement.
- s) Resourcing difficulties for organisations that help to manage the environmental assets.
- t) Lack of certainty of how the new framework for agricultural subsidies will support Nature Recovery.
- u) Lack of public transport in rural areas

- v) Rural connectivity – some areas not covered by broadband.
- w) Unsustainable wildfowling.
- x) Increased risk of salinisation of previously freshwater wetlands.

6.4. Opportunities

- a) Climate change:
 - i. Likely impacts that may create opportunities such as changes in flora, fauna and landscape, patterns of recreation and changes in agriculture and its practices.
 - ii. Adaption through erecting, raising and strengthening flood defenses, realignment in more flood prone locations to make more space for water and linking wildlife habitats to provide resilience.
 - iii. Evolving low carbon lifestyles, construction and patterns of land use and settlement.
- b) Maintaining the recovery and improvement of water quality achieved over the last few decades by long term and ongoing investment across a range of agencies, particularly water companies.
- c) Potential to put in place environmental and recreational management measures as part of the implementation of major housing and employment growth outside but close to the Broads area.
- d) Potential for restoration and enhancement zones towards nature recovery within and surrounding the Broads, including to connect up to coastal and other biodiversity rich wetland areas.
- e) Potential for revival in the use of the area's rivers and railways for freight and passenger traffic.
- f) Changes in patterns of recreation and expectations of visitors.
- g) Potential for complementary and mutually supportive actions and benefits across environmental, recreational, navigation, and local community issues.
- h) Provision of jobs, facilities, services and homes for local residents through the development plans of constituent Local Authorities.
- i) The status of the Broads as equivalent to a National Park – held in high regard with most stakeholders.
- j) Private investment opportunities for carbon, water quality and potentially Biodiversity Net Gain.
- k) Training opportunities for traditional skills and crafts.
- l) Encouraging sustainability through the design of buildings as well as innovative designs, new technologies and building in resilience.

- m) Opportunities to encourage both local residents and visitors to join one of the many boating clubs, take part in organised events, go on formal sailing courses and gain recognised Royal Yachting Association (RYA) qualifications.
- n) Opportunities to Improve awareness of general public and residents of the special qualities of the Broads (see section 5.2).
- o) Many train stations in/near to the Broads.
- p) Highway improvements and the benefits to the community and economy they could bring.
- q) Flat land favoring healthy travel modes and active travel opportunities.
- r) As a consequence of the COVID19 pandemic, more people will /may holiday in the UK and in the Broads and become aware of the special qualities of the Broads. Businesses could appropriately diversify and become more resilient.
- s) More home-based working lessening carbon impacts while retaining wealth in the locality.

6.5. Threats

- a) Climate change - likely impacts that may be threats:
 - i. Increased frequency and severity of all sources of flooding
 - ii. Increased risk of coastal inundation
 - iii. Increased frequency and severity of drought, with impact on water resources available to all sectors
 - iv. Severe drought would affect the ability to graze marshes with livestock
 - v. Changes in water quality and quantity
 - vi. Increased frequency and severity of saline incursion into fresh water systems
 - vii. Loss of freshwater dependant flora, fauna and landscape in some areas
 - viii. Changes in patterns of recreation
 - ix. Changes in agriculture and its practices
- b) Redundancy/degradation of infrastructure and material assets
- c) Erosion of the special character of the area's landscape and built heritage through:
 - i. Loss of archaeology built/landscape and cultural heritage assets.
 - ii. Saline intrusion.
 - iii. Coastal erosion.
 - iv. Incremental 'suburbanisation' and other changes, including through domestic and holiday home extensions/enlargements and paraphernalia:

1. Metalling of unmade tracks;
 2. 'Horsiculture' – proliferation of pony paddocks, stables, Manèges, etc.;
 3. Road, rail and navigation improvements/changes;
 4. Proliferation of advertisements.
- d) Potential landscape and economic effects of change, including that driven by market changes (e.g. food prices, bio-fuel).
- e) Changes in patterns of recreation, including impacts of decline in hire boat fleet and growth of private boat ownership; higher expectation of facilities for leisure plots, holiday chalets and other accommodation.
- f) Declining boatyard and boatbuilding industry.
- g) Loss of swing bridges to fixed bridges.
- h) Major housing and employment growth planned for nearby areas, and associated potential impacts such as:
- i. Water quality and quantity loss arising from effluent input and water supply extraction.
 - ii. Increased recreational pressure, on both visitor 'honeypots' and remoter, more tranquil and sensitive localities.
 - iii. Traffic growth impacting on reduced safe cycling and horse riding routes.
- i) Changes to economies, practices and ways of life that sustained local and traditional industries and skills (such as millwrights, reed and sedge cutters and boat builders) that generated and sustained the landscapes we see today.
- j) Unsympathetic design, construction and alterations.
- k) Loss of local community and/or visitor facilities, often through displacement by higher value activities (principally housing).
- l) High house prices in the rural areas could affect the willingness of some to train in traditional skills such as reed and sedge cutting as they would need to commute.
- m) Recent and likely future cuts in budgets and consequent challenges organisations face in light of reduced funds.
- n) Palaeo-environmental and organic archaeological remains are especially vulnerable and significant in the Broads.
- o) Potential damage to protected wildlife sites through activities in the Broads and more development in the wider area.
- p) Major highway improvements and the threat to the special qualities of the Broads that could result.

- q) Further loss of moorings.
- r) Vulnerability of subsidised public transport services within the Broads Authority Executive Area (bus and rail).
- s) Drying out of wetland and oxidation of peat, leading to loss of finite environmental and archaeological archives as well as release of stored carbon.
- t) Coastal protection work, which may alter the dynamics of marine erosion and sediment transport.
- u) COVID19 impacts on health and the economy.

Question 4: Do you have any comments on this SWOT analysis?

7. Developing the sustainability appraisal framework

7.1. Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

The National Planning Policy Guidance says: The sustainability appraisal should predict and evaluate the effects of the preferred approach and reasonable alternatives and should clearly identify the significant positive and negative effects of each alternative.

To help predict and evaluate effects, SA Objectives have been produced with associated decision-making criteria to assist in assessing each Broads Plan strategic action and each Local Plan policy. The proposed SA Objectives are set out below. More detail is provided at Appendices [4](#), [5](#) and [6](#).

Environmental SA Objectives

ENV1: To reduce the adverse effects of traffic (on roads and water).

ENV2: To safeguard a sustainable supply of water, to improve water quality and to use water efficiently.

ENV3: To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.

ENV4: To conserve and enhance the quality and local distinctiveness of landscapes and towns/villages.

ENV5: To adapt to and mitigate against the impacts of climate change.

ENV6: To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk and to become more resilient to flood risk and coastal change.

ENV7: To manage resources sustainably through the effective use of land, energy and materials.

ENV8: To minimise the production and impacts of waste through reducing what is wasted, and re-using and recycling what is left.

ENV9: To conserve and enhance the cultural heritage, historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.

ENV10: To achieve the highest quality of design that is innovative, imaginative, and sustainable and reflects local distinctiveness.

ENV11: To improve air quality and minimise noise, vibration and light pollution.

ENV12: To increase the proportion of energy generated through renewable/low carbon processes without unacceptable adverse impacts to/on the Broads landscape.

Social SA Objectives

SOC1: To improve the health and wellbeing of the population and promote a healthy lifestyle.

SOC2: To reduce poverty, inequality and social exclusion.

SOC3: To improve education and skills including those related to local traditional industries.

SOC4: To enable a suitable stock of housing meeting local needs, including affordability.

SOC5: To maximise opportunities for new/ additional employment.

SOC6: To improve the quality, range and accessibility of community services and facilities, and to ensure new development is sustainability located with good access by means other than a private car to a range of community services and facilities.

SOC7: To build community identity, improve social welfare and reduce crime and anti-social activity.

Economic SA Objectives

ECO1: To support a flourishing and sustainable economy and improve economic performance in rural areas.

ECO2: To ensure the economy actively contributes to social and environmental well-being.

ECO3: To offer opportunities for tourism and recreation in a way that helps the economy, society and the environment.

Question 5: Do you have any comments on the proposed SA Objectives?

Question 6: Do you have any comments on the decision-making questions?

7.2. UN Sustainable Development Goals

As we develop the SA Framework, we have considered the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) are a call for action by all countries – poor, rich and middle-income – to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognise that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection. The SDGs, set in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly, are intended to be achieved by the year 2030.

The SDGs are shown at [Appendix 4](#), together with the assessment of each of the proposed Sustainability Appraisal Objectives against each UN SDG.

8. Subsequent versions of the SA

8.1. Comments on Scoping Report

All comments received on the SA Scoping Report for the Broads Plan and the Local Plan will be considered and a table setting out how the comments have informed the Sustainability Appraisal approach will be included in subsequent SAs. Some comments will result in changes to the SA and others will not, and the reasons for these decisions will be set out clearly.

8.2. Compatibility of the SA Objectives and plan objectives

An assessment of the SA Objectives against the objectives of the Broads Plan and of the Local Plan will check compatibility.

8.3. Reasonable alternatives

If a strategy or policy area is identified, reasonable alternatives to addressing that issue need to be identified and assessed. This could include a 'do nothing' scenario. This process will assist in the identification of, and justify, the most appropriate policy response, if any.

8.4. Short, medium and long-term effects

Regulations require the assessment of the effects of a plan or programme over short, medium and long terms. The time periods for these are:

- Short term – 0-5 years
- Medium term – 5-10 years
- Long term – longer than 10 years

8.5. Permanent and temporary effects

The process will identify if the effect of the proposed strategic action or policy will be permanent or temporary.

8.6. Positive and negative effects

The SA process will assess the proposed strategy or policy approach, or site allocation, and identify any negative impacts of positive impacts relating to the SA Objectives. The process will seek to minimise any negative impacts and maximise any positive impacts.

8.7. Secondary effects

These effects arise not as a direct result of the strategy or policy, but away from the original effect or as a result of a complex pathway.

8.8. Cumulative effects

An assessment of the cumulative impacts of the strategic actions or policies is required. This matrix will identify the impacts of the Broads Plan or Local Plan on the various SA Objectives, taken as a whole.

8.9. Synergistic effects

These are effects that interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects.

8.10. Update to the literature review

During the production of the Plans new relevant documents and policies will emerge, as well as local documents being progressed to subsequent stages. New and updated documents will be reviewed at each stage for their relevance to the Broads Plan and Local Plan for the Broads and their relevant Sustainability Appraisals.

8.11. Broads Plan production

Sustainability Appraisals will be produced to assess and inform the Broads Plan throughout its production:

- First Draft – to accompany the First Draft of the Broads Plan
- Final Draft – to accompany the Final Draft of the Broads Plan

8.12. Production of the Local Plan for the Broads

Sustainability Appraisals will be produced to assess and inform the Local Plan throughout its production:

- Interim SA – to accompany the Issues and Options version of the Local Plan.
- Preferred Options SA – to accompany the Preferred Options of the Local Plan.
- Publication SA – to accompany the Publication version of the Local Plan.

Appendix 1: Compliance with the SEA Directive and NPPG

The National Planning Policy Guidance says:

What is required at the scoping stage?

The scoping stage (Stage A) must identify the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the sustainability appraisal report. It should set out the context, objectives and approach of the assessment; and identify relevant environmental, economic and social issues and objectives.

Although the scoping stage is a requirement of the process, a formal scoping report is not required by law but is a useful way of presenting information at the scoping stage. A key aim of the scoping procedure is to help ensure the sustainability appraisal process is proportionate and relevant to the Local Plan being assessed.

When deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the report, the plan-maker must consult the consultation bodies. Where a consultation body decides to respond, it should do so within five weeks of receipt of the request.

(See regulation 12(5) and 12(6) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.)

Content requirements for Strategic Environmental Assessment	Where covered in this Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report
Context of the assessment	Section 5 and Appendix 3a , 3b and 3c , Baseline Data Section 6 , Sustainability Issues
Objectives and Approach of the Assessment	The proposed SA Objectives are set out in section 7 . More detail is provided at Appendices 4 , 5 and 6 .
Identify relevant environmental, economic and social issues	Appendix 2 : Literature Review
Consult consultation bodies	Section 2.4 of the main report

Appendix 2: Literature review

See separate document

Appendix 3a: Baseline data

See separate document

Appendix 3b: Baseline data map bundle

See separate document

Appendix 3c Norfolk geodiversity audit database for Broads

See separate document

Appendix 4: Sustainable Development Goals

UN Sustainable Development Goals



More detail on the SDGs is shown below.

No poverty

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal1>

Zero hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal2>

Good health and well-being

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal3>

Quality education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal4>

Gender equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal5>

Clean water and sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal6>

Affordable and clean energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal7>

Decent work and economic growth

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal8>

Industry, innovation and infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal9>

Reduced inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal10>

Sustainable cities and communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal11>

Responsible consumption and production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal12>

Climate action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal13>

Life below water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal14>

Life on land

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal15>

Peace, justice and strong institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal16>

Partnerships for the goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal17>

The following table assess each of the proposed Sustainability Appraisal Objectives against each United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

SA Objectives compared against the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Objectives	No poverty	Zero hunger	Good health and well-being	Quality education	Gender equality	Clean water and sanitation	Affordable and clean energy	Decent work and economic growth	Industry, innovation and infrastructure	Reduced inequalities	Sustainable cities and communities	Responsible consumption and production	Climate action	Life below water	Life on land	Peace, justice and strong institutions	Partnerships for the goals
ENV1: To reduce the adverse effects of traffic (on roads and water).			X					X	X		X		X	X	X		
ENV2: To safeguard a sustainable supply of water, to improve water quality and to use water efficiently.						X					X	X		x			
ENV3: To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.			X			X					X		X	X	X		
ENV4: To conserve and enhance the quality and local distinctiveness of landscapes and towns/villages.			X								X						
ENV5: To adapt to and mitigate against the impacts of climate change.			X				X				X	X	X				
ENV6: To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk and to become more resilient to flood risk and coastal change.			X								X		X				

Objectives	No poverty	Zero hunger	Good health and well-being	Quality education	Gender equality	Clean water and sanitation	Affordable and clean energy	Decent work and economic growth	Industry, innovation and infrastructure	Reduced inequalities	Sustainable cities and communities	Responsible consumption and production	Climate action	Life below water	Life on land	Peace, justice and strong institutions	Partnerships for the goals
ENV7: To manage resources sustainably through the effective use of land, energy and materials.			X								X	X			X		
ENV8: To minimise the production and impacts of waste through reducing what is wasted, and re-using and recycling what is left.											X	X					
ENV9: To conserve and enhance the cultural heritage, historic environment, heritage assets and their settings											X				X		
ENV10: To achieve the highest quality of design that is innovative, imaginative, and sustainable and reflects local distinctiveness.			X								X				x		
ENV11: To improve air quality and minimise noise, vibration and light pollution.			X								X	X					

Objectives	No poverty	Zero hunger	Good health and well-being	Quality education	Gender equality	Clean water and sanitation	Affordable and clean energy	Decent work and economic growth	Industry, innovation and infrastructure	Reduced inequalities	Sustainable cities and communities	Responsible consumption and production	Climate action	Life below water	Life on land	Peace, justice and strong institutions	Partnerships for the goals
ENV12: To increase the proportion of energy generated through renewable/low carbon processes without unacceptable adverse impacts to/on the Broads landscape							X		X		X	X	X				
SOC1: To improve the health and wellbeing of the population and promote a healthy lifestyle.	X	X	X								X						
SCO2: To reduce poverty, inequality and social exclusion.	X	X	X		X					X	X						
SOC3: To improve education and skills including those related to local traditional industries.				X				X	X	X	x						
SOC4: To enable suitable stock of housing meeting local needs including affordability.	X		X								X						
SOC5: To maximise opportunities for								X	X		x						

Objectives	No poverty	Zero hunger	Good health and well-being	Quality education	Gender equality	Clean water and sanitation	Affordable and clean energy	Decent work and economic growth	Industry, innovation and infrastructure	Reduced inequalities	Sustainable cities and communities	Responsible consumption and production	Climate action	Life below water	Life on land	Peace, justice and strong institutions	Partnerships for the goals
new/ additional employment																	
SOC6: To improve the quality, range and accessibility of community services and facilities and to ensure new development is sustainability located with good access by means other than a private car to a range of community services and facilities.			X						X		X		x				
SOC7: To build community identity, improve social welfare and reduce crime and anti-social activity.			X							X	X					x	
ECO1 To support a flourishing and sustainable economy and improve economic performance in rural areas.								X	X		X						
ECO2: To ensure the economy actively contributes to social and								X	X		X						

Objectives	No poverty	Zero hunger	Good health and well-being	Quality education	Gender equality	Clean water and sanitation	Affordable and clean energy	Decent work and economic growth	Industry, innovation and infrastructure	Reduced inequalities	Sustainable cities and communities	Responsible consumption and production	Climate action	Life below water	Life on land	Peace, justice and strong institutions	Partnerships for the goals
environmental well-being.																	
ECO3: To offer opportunities for Tourism and recreation in a way that helps the economy, society and the environment.								X			X						
Total	3	2	13	1	1	2	2	6	7	3	22	6	6	3	5	1	0

It should be noted that no SA Objectives relate to partnerships for the Goals. This may not be relevant to the Sustainability Appraisal per se, but there are many partners involved in managing and protecting the Broads.

Some of the UN Sustainable Development Goals may only relate to 1 or 2 SA Objectives. It is considered that this is acceptable as that particular Goal is relevant to at least one SA Objective.

Appendix 5: Sustainability Appraisal Framework

The following table and supporting text set out the SA objectives, reason for that objective as well as the decision-making questions.

When answering the questions in assessing policies, these responses will be used:

Positive impact: + or ++

Not appropriate: N/A

Neutral: 0

Negative impact: - or –

Uncertain/depends on implementation: ?

Please note that where this table refers to key services, these are what is considered key services. This reflects the [HEELA methodology](#), combined with DM37 of the 2019 Local Plan.

- A primary school
- A secondary school
- A local healthcare service (doctors' surgery)
- Retail and service provision for day to day needs (district/local shopping centre, village shop)
- Local employment opportunities which are defined as follows, which reflect areas with potentially a number of and variety of job opportunities:
 - Existing employment areas allocated/identified in our districts' Local Plans; or
 - City, Town or District Centre as identified in the Local Plan for the Broads or our District's Local Plan. We note that this means such centres count towards two of the three key services test; or
 - These sites that are allocated in the Local Plan for the Broads: BRU2, BRU4, CAN1, HOR6, POT1, STA1, TSA3.
- A peak-time public transport service to and from a higher order settlement (peak time for the purposes of this criterion will be 7-9am and 4-6pm)

SA Objective	SEA General Theme	Reason	Decision making criteria/prompting questions
ENV1: To reduce the adverse effects of traffic (on roads and water).	Climate change, air and pollution.	Modes of transport can impact local air quality, heritage, health and carbon emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the policy/allocation/strategic action affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Walking, cycling, public transport? ○ Air quality? ○ Amenity? ○ Single occupancy car use? ○ Use of waterways? ○ Access to special qualities of the Broads by sustainable transport modes? ○ The net impact of transport infrastructure such as road signage, lighting, conspicuous structures and parking? • What is the resulting impact of traffic on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Heritage? ○ Landscape? ○ People? ○ Water? • Is the allocation within walking distance⁹ of key services¹⁰? • Will routes be <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ functional and accessible for all? ○ safe and attractive public spaces? • Does it consider the needs of the most vulnerable users first: pedestrians, then cyclists, then public transport users, specialist vehicles like ambulances and finally other motor vehicles?
ENV2: To safeguard a sustainable supply of water, to improve water quality and to use water efficiently.	Land, water and soil resources.	Water quality in the Broads is critical to the area's value for wildlife, and to its appeal for recreation providing a higher value tourism economy. Anglia Water Services estimate that the Norwich and the Broads (Norwich) resource zone will be in deficit by 2045.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the policy/allocation/strategic action affect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water quality? ○ Water quantity? ○ Surface water run off? Does it reduce run-off rates? Does it increase water absorption / management? ○ Wastewater? ○ Drainage? ○ Pathways for pollutants?
ENV3: To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.	Biodiversity.	One of the statutory purposes of the Broads Authority is to Conserve and enhance the natural beauty and wildlife of the Broads. It is one of the most important freshwater wetlands in Europe and over 25% of the 300km of the nationally protected landscape has a European designation for its nature conservation interest, including three Special Areas of Conservation and two Special Protection Areas; large parts are designated as an internationally important wetland under the Ramsar convention. Soils in the Broads contain and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the policy/allocation/strategic action affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The ability to retain and maintain soil carbon? ○ Geological interests? ○ The potential for managed accessible geological feature exposures? ○ County Wildlife Sites? ○ Local and National Nature Reserves? ○ Ramsar Sites? ○ SPAs, SACs? ○ SSSIs?

⁹ Manual for Streets says this is 10 minutes/800m

SA Objective	SEA General Theme	Reason	Decision making criteria/prompting questions
		continue to store large amounts of carbon and archaeological remains.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BAP Priority Species and habitats? ○ Habitat connectivity and Ecological Networks? ○ Trees and hedgerows? ○ Waterbodies? ○ Green Infrastructure?
ENV4: To conserve and enhance the quality and local distinctiveness of landscapes and towns/villages.	Cultural heritage, landscape and townscape.	It is the tranquil character or the characteristic of the Broads together with its expansive character of open undeveloped skylines, which are among the primary special qualities underpinning the national designation of the Broads. The open distinctive landscape comprises a complex and interlinked mosaic of wetland habitats including open water, reedbeds, carr woodland, grazing marsh and fen meadow. Human interaction has helped shape the Broads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The setting of the Broads? ○ The perception of the Broads? ○ The Landscape Character? ○ Cultural heritage and heritage assets? ○ Dark skies and tranquillity? ○ The special qualities of the Broads¹¹? ○ Landscape features? ○ Peat? ○ Conservation Areas? ○ Designated and undesignated heritage assets? ○ The quality and local distinctiveness of the Broads towns/villages/buildings? ○ Open Space? ○ Green Infrastructure? ○ Harmful incremental change?
ENV5: To adapt to and mitigate against the impacts of climate change.	Climate change, air and pollution.	The Broads is an ever changing, living landscape, shaped over centuries by the interaction between people, the environment and the climate. While these dynamic processes will continue, sea level rise and the predicted more rapid changes to the climate pose considerable challenges and opportunities to this easterly, low-lying wetland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emissions of greenhouse gases? ○ Sequestering carbon dioxide? ○ Single occupancy car use? ○ HGV/delivery movements? ○ Public transport? ○ Cycling/walking? ○ Boat emissions? ○ The ability of communities to adapt? ○ The ability of habitats and species to adapt? ○ Peat? ○ Energy use? ○ Open Space? ○ Green Infrastructure?
ENV6: To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk and to become more resilient	Land, water and soil resources. Climate change, air and pollution.	80% of the Broads Executive Area is at risk of flooding. There are well-known impacts of flooding to people, the environment and the economy. The coastal area of the Broads is at risk of saline incursion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is flood risk avoided? ● Is flood risk managed/mitigated? ● How does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect flooding:

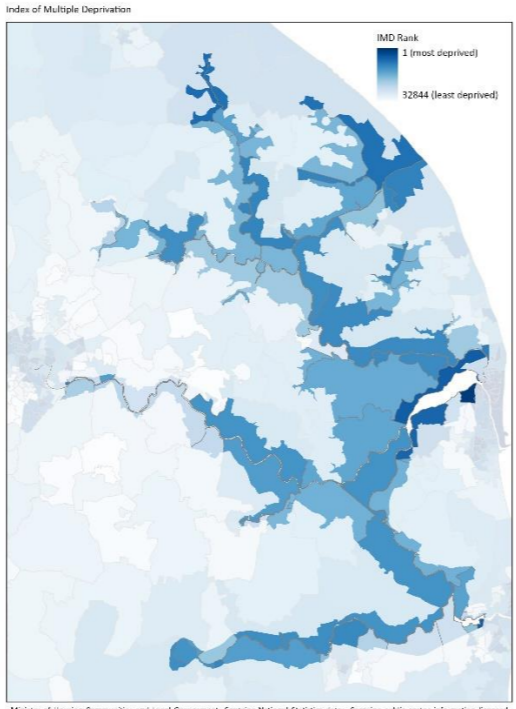
¹¹ Taken from the Climate Change Adaptation Plan: Open water in lakes and rivers, Breydon Water (estuary), Fens / reed beds, Grazing marshes and ditches, Wet woodlands, Historic buildings, especially mills, Boating and the riverside economy, Farmland (including rights of way), Open landscapes, big skies and tranquillity and the coast.

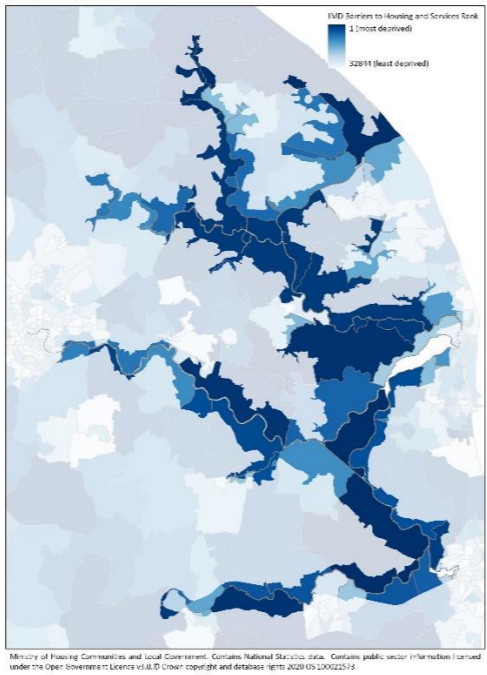
SA Objective	SEA General Theme	Reason	Decision making criteria/prompting questions
to flood risk and coastal change.		further up the rivers during spring tides and storm surges, drought and flooding events as well as erosion or breach of the sea defences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On site? ○ In the vicinity? ○ Elsewhere? ● Is the allocation in the area of highest risk of flooding? ● Is the allocation appropriate to the flood risk on site? ● Does the policy consider different sources of flooding¹²? ● What is the impact of climate change on flood risk? ● Can flood risk be reduced? ● How vulnerable is the proposed land use¹³? ● Does it reduce run-off rates? ● Does it increase water absorption / management? ● Does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect risk to people or property? ● Does the policy affect opportunities for future coastal management? ● Does the allocation/policy/strategic action restrict choice for managing the coast in the future? ● Does the allocation/policy/strategic action consider the effect of or potential for damage (e.g. to a structure)?
ENV7: To manage resources sustainably through the effective use of land, energy and materials.	Land, water and soil resources.	The efficient and effective use of resources is a key consideration in plan making, especially with regards to not sterilising mineral resources, the re-use of Brownfield land appropriately and reducing energy consumption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is the allocation on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brownfield Land? ○ Greenfield Land? ● Does the allocation use land effectively? ● Does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect energy efficiency? ● Are there any safeguarded mineral sites? ● Will it prevent the sterilisation of known or suspected mineral resources by development? ● Does the policy consider origin of resource/where resource derived from?
ENV8: To minimise the production and impacts of waste through reducing what is wasted, and re-using and recycling what is left.	Population and human health. Climate change, air and pollution.	National and local policy aims to reduce the amount of waste produced and to reduce the amount and proportion of waste disposed of to landfill, in accordance with the waste hierarchy, to meet the Landfill Directive targets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does the policy help reduce waste, reuse waste or recycle/compost?
ENV9: To conserve and where appropriate enhance the cultural heritage and archaeological importance of the area.	Cultural heritage, landscape and townscape.	The cultural heritage includes the landscape and built environment, archaeology, conservation areas, and local skills, crafts and traditions. The Broads is of significant cultural value. Its landscape reflects historic patterns of human activity over thousands of years, and contains features particular to the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The quality and local distinctiveness of the Broads towns/villages/buildings? ○ Designated and undesignated heritage assets? ○ Conservation Areas? ○ Archaeology? ○ Local culture and traditions? ○ The wider cultural heritage of the broads?

¹² Including from rivers and the sea, directly from rainfall on the ground surface and rising groundwater, overwhelmed sewers and drainage systems, and from reservoirs, canals and lakes and other artificial sources.

¹³ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/flood-risk-and-coastal-change/flood-zone-and-flood-risk-tables/table-2-flood-risk-vulnerability-classification/>

SA Objective	SEA General Theme	Reason	Decision making criteria/prompting questions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The history, traditions, customs and the spaces and places these rely upon or relate to?
<p>ENV10: To achieve the highest quality of design that is innovative, imaginable, and sustainable and reflects local distinctiveness.</p>	<p>Cultural heritage, landscape and townscape.</p>	<p>Design is crucial in a protected landscape like the Broads. Development needs to take account of the characteristics of the site as well as what is distinctive in the wider Broads setting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does the allocation/policy/strategic action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appreciate what is special about the site? ○ Relate to the site's setting in the landscape/townscape? ○ Appreciate the rich cultural heritage of the area? ● Are these issues considered? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ local character (including landscape setting) ○ safe, connected and efficient streets ○ a network of greenspaces (including parks) and public places ○ crime prevention ○ security and lighting measures in the context of dark skies ○ access and inclusion ○ efficient use of natural resources ○ cohesive & vibrant neighbourhoods ○ layout – the way in which buildings and spaces relate to each other ○ form – the shape of buildings ○ scale – the size of buildings ○ detailing – the important smaller elements of building and spaces ○ materials – what a building is made from ○ sensitive design of road infrastructure? (E.g. reduced signage road markings, use of local materials and alternative traffic calming methods).
<p>ENV11: To improve air quality and minimise noise, vibration and light pollution.</p>	<p>Population and human health. Climate change, air and pollution.</p>	<p>Air quality, noise and light can affect health, well-being and biodiversity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Air quality? ○ Noise production? ○ Vibration? ○ Light pollution/dark skies? ● How does the allocation/policy/strategic action relate to Air Quality Management Areas? ● Would the allocation make additional noise or be sensitive to the prevailing acoustic environment? ● Have cumulative impacts of development/change been considered? ● Does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect the tranquillity of the Broads?
<p>ENV12: To increase the proportion of energy generated through renewable/low carbon processes without unacceptable adverse impacts to/on the Broads landscape</p>	<p>Climate change, air and pollution. Cultural heritage, landscape and townscape.</p>	<p>National policy seeks renewable energy generation to reduce carbon emissions and potentially have economic benefits, but generating equipment and supporting infrastructure can affect landscape character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Renewable/low carbon energy generation? ○ Renewable/low carbon energy transmission? ○ The setting of the Broads? ○ The perception of the Broads? ○ The Landscape Character? ○ The special qualities of the Broads?

SA Objective	SEA General Theme	Reason	Decision making criteria/prompting questions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have Cumulative impacts of renewable/low carbon energy generation been considered?
SOC1: To improve the health of the population and promote a healthy lifestyle.	Population and human health.	Mental health, healthy life styles, wellbeing and reducing health inequalities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the allocation/policy/strategic action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Affect physical and/or mental health? ○ Affect wellbeing? ○ Promote active lifestyles? ○ Promote active travel? • Does the allocation/policy/strategic action include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publicly accessible open space? ○ Sports facilities? ○ Health infrastructure? • Does the policy enable active use of water space?
SOC2: To reduce poverty, inequality and social exclusion.	Population and human health. Inclusive communities.	 <p>The darker the blue, the more deprived.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect any of these domains? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Income ○ Employment ○ Health and Disability ○ Education, Skills and Training ○ Barriers to Housing and Services ○ Crime ○ Living Environment • Does the allocation/policy/strategic action affect inclusive communities? • Does it affect community cohesion? • Does it affect quality of life? • Does the policy avoid potential for inequality or serve to positively address existing identified inequalities through its implementation?
SOC3: To improve education and skills including those related to local traditional industries.	Population and human health. Economic Activity.	Children and young people in Norfolk schools achieve less well than in other parts of England. Suffolk is still performing poorly in comparison with national averages and its statistical neighbours. 'Special qualities' of the Broads include cultural heritage, wetland landscape, biodiversity, navigable waterways. National policy supports heritage and cultural skills training and employment in traditional Broads industries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the allocation/policy/strategic action for an education/skills establishment? • Does the policy/allocation/strategic action enable improved understanding of the special qualities, pressures and management of the Broads to all? • Does it relate to Traditional Broads industries? • Will it facilitate improved access to vocational training, education and skills for all, including young people? • Will it facilitate opportunity for delivery and uptake of traditional skills training which may benefit wider Broads purposes?
SOC4: To enable suitable stock of housing meeting	Population and human health. Inclusive communities.	The BA will have a housing need figure for the Local Plan to address. With constraints on new development, meeting the residential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the policy/allocation/strategic action affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Housing? ○ Affordable Housing?

SA Objective	SEA General Theme	Reason	Decision making criteria/prompting questions
local needs including affordability.		needs of the local community for affordable housing is a key challenge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gypsy and Traveller accommodation? ○ Residential moorings/boats used as residences?
SOC5: To maximise opportunities for new/additional employment	Economic activity.	Local planning authorities should have a clear understanding of business needs within the economic markets operating in and across their area. Sustainable economic development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does the policy/allocation/strategic action affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Employment land uses? ○ Numbers of jobs? ○ Tourism? ○ Does it relate to Traditional Broads industries?
SOC6: To improve the quality, range and accessibility of community services and facilities and to ensure new development is sustainability located with good access by means other than a private car to a range of community services and facilities.	Population and human health. Inclusive communities.	 <p>The darker the blue, the more deprived. With a sparse population, it can be difficult to maintain essential rural services such as shops, post offices and public transport.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is the allocation/policy/strategic action within walking distance (800m) from Key Services? ● Is the allocation within a settlement boundary? ● Is the allocation/policy/strategic action for a key service? ● Will the allocation/policy/strategic action affect public transport, walking and cycling? ● Does the policy/allocation/strategic action relate to Local Green Space? ● Will routes be functional and accessible for all? ● Will routes be safe and attractive public spaces? ● Does it consider the needs of the most vulnerable users first: pedestrians, then cyclists, then public transport users, specialist vehicles like ambulances and finally other motor vehicles? ● Will it support the retention of key facilities and services ensuring that local needs are met locally wherever possible or alternative sustainable access is provided?
SOC7: To build community identity, improve social welfare and reduce crime and anti-social activity.	Population and human health. Inclusive communities.	The planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does the policy/allocation/strategic action relate to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Designing out crime? ○ Designing in community safety? ○ An inclusive environment? ○ Robust structure and identity? ○ Interaction with other uses positively? ○ Avoiding opportunities for conflict?
ECO1: To support a flourishing and sustainable economy and improve economic performance in rural areas.	Economic activity.	Local planning authorities should have a clear understanding of business needs within the economic markets operating in and across their area. Sustainable economic development. Planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt. Planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it provide the spaces and infrastructure to support self-employment opportunities and business start-up? ● Will it support existing business viability and local employment growth? ● Does it contribute to a thriving rural community? ● Does it contribute to a prosperous rural community?

SA Objective	SEA General Theme	Reason	Decision making criteria/prompting questions
ECO2: To ensure the economy actively contributes to social and environmental well-being.	Economic activity. Population and human health. Inclusive communities	Local plans need to positively and proactively encourage sustainable economic growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the policy/allocation/strategic action affect 'Social Capital'? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Skills development ○ Community cohesion ○ Amenity ○ Job provision ○ Quality of life • How does it affect 'Low Carbon'? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Innovation ○ Resource efficiency • How does it affect 'Natural Capital'? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Landscape ○ Biodiversity
ECO3: To offer opportunities for Tourism and recreation in a way that helps the economy, society and the environment.	Economic activity. Population and human health. Inclusive communities.	Tourism is important to the Broads economy and promoting the area for enjoyment and recreation is a statutory purpose of the Broads Authority. The Broads is one of the most extensive and varied inland waterway systems in the UK, offering 190km of boating on lock-free tidal navigable rivers, including navigation to the sea. Wetland and coastal habitats and species can be negatively affected by recreational disturbance. Land based tourism is popular (and the Broads Authority would like to encourage more land-based activity) and contributes significantly to the local tourist economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the policy/allocation/strategic action affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sustainable tourism. ○ Responsible tourism. • Does it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promote enjoyment and understanding of the Broads? ○ Raise awareness of the Broads as a special destination? ○ Drive up the quality of the visitor experience? ○ Strengthen tourism performance across the whole Broads area? ○ Maintain the Broads' position as a premier inland boating destination in the UK? ○ Respect the sensitive environment of the Broads? ○ Provide the right conditions for successful tourism businesses? ○ Will it maximise benefits and minimise impacts from visitors to communities?

Appendix 6: Compatibility of SA Objectives

This table compares the SA Objectives against each other. Green indicates there is no conflict, - indicates the SA objectives are not really connected and orange indicates where there is some potential conflict. Numbers reference explanation that is on the following page.

	ENV1	ENV2	ENV3	ENV4	ENV5	ENV6	ENV7	ENV8	ENV9	ENV10	ENV11	ENV12	SOC1	SOC2	SOC3	SOC4	SOC5	SOC6	SOC7	ECO1	ECO2	ECO3	
ENV1																							
ENV2																							
ENV3																							
ENV4																							
ENV5																							
ENV6																							
ENV7																							
ENV8																							
ENV9																							
ENV10																							
ENV11																							
ENV12																							
SOC1																							
SOC2																							
SOC3																							
SOC4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	-	8														
SOC5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	-	8		9												
SOC6																							
SOC7																							
ECO1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	-	8		9												
ECO2																							
ECO3																							

Environment

ENV1: To reduce the adverse effects of traffic.

ENV2: To safeguard a sustainable supply of water, to improve water quality and to use water efficiently.

ENV3: To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.

ENV4: To conserve and enhance the quality and local distinctiveness of landscapes and towns/villages.

ENV5: To adapt to and mitigate against the impacts of climate change.

ENV6: To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk and to become more resilient to flood risk and coastal change.

ENV7: To manage resources sustainably through the effective use of land, energy and materials.

ENV8: To minimise the production and impacts of waste through reducing what is wasted, and re-using and recycling what is left.

ENV9: To conserve and where appropriate enhance the cultural heritage and archaeological importance of the area.

ENV10: To achieve the highest quality of design that is innovative, imaginable, and sustainable and reflects local distinctiveness.

ENV11: To improve air quality and minimise noise, vibration and light pollution.

ENV12: To increase the proportion of energy generated through renewable/low carbon processes without unacceptable adverse impacts to/on the Broads landscape

Social

SOC1: To improve the health of the population and promote a healthy lifestyle.

SOC2: To reduce poverty, inequality and social exclusion.

SOC3: To improve education and skills including those related to local traditional industries.

SOC4: To enable suitable stock of housing meeting local needs including affordability.

SOC5: To maximise opportunities for new/ additional employment

SOC6: To improve the quality, range and accessibility of community services and facilities.

SOC7: To build community identity, improve social welfare and reduce crime and anti-social activity.

Economic

ECO1: To support a flourishing and sustainable economy and improve economic performance in rural areas.

ECO2: To ensure the economy actively contributes to social and environmental well-being.

ECO3: To offer opportunities for tourism and recreation in a way that helps the economy, society and the environment

1. More housing or employment development in an area is likely to result in more car movements. By locating housing allocations in areas with public transport, services and facilities, or within walking and cycling distance (and having safe, attractive and quality routes) and locating employment near areas of housing the effect of traffic could be reduced.
2. More housing or employment development will result in more use of water and production of waste water. However, the effect of more people in an area on water resource and waste water could be reduced by water efficiency measures.
3. Housing and employment development could be on brownfield land or greenfield land. Both areas have the potential to provide biodiversity benefits. However, the effect of development on biodiversity and geodiversity depends on the location, type, scale, characteristics and design of any scheme.
4. Housing and employment development could potentially harm the local distinctiveness. However, there are other SA objectives relating to design and cultural heritage of the area. However, the effect of development on local distinctiveness depends on the location, type, scale, characteristics and design of any scheme.
5. Housing and employment development are likely to result in greenhouse gas emission due to the embodied carbon or transport of materials or people for example. However, by using local materials (such as on-site minerals), locating development to minimise transport requirements (as well as provide smarter choices) and by considering design, which are all other SA objectives, the conflict could be reduced.
6. According to the NPPF flood risk technical guidance, housing is classed as highly or more vulnerable and the vulnerability of employment depends on the end use. There are tests that need to be undertaken if proposals are contrary to flood risk policy. As such, flood risk will be a constraint to consider for any site allocation.
7. The Broads is likely to not have a housing need. As such, it is unlikely that greenfield land will be allocated for development through the plan. In conjunction with the Minerals and Waste Core Strategies of NCC and SCC, mineral resources will not be sterilised by development. Whilst energy will be used in development, energy efficiency of the resulting development could be addressed through policies or scheme design.
8. Housing and employment development could potentially harm the archaeology or cultural heritage of the area. However, the effect of development on local distinctiveness depends on the location, type, scale, characteristics and design of any scheme.
9. Employment development could potentially affect air quality, noise, vibration and light pollution. However, the effect depends on the location, type, scale, characteristics and design of any scheme.