Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Local Plan

Sustainability Appraisal Post Adoption Statement

On behalf of **Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council**

Document Control Sheet

Project Name: Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Local Plan

Project Ref: **42697**

Report Title: **Sustainability Appraisal Post Adoption Statement**

Doc Ref: **42697/r002i2**

Date: **April 2018**

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Revision	Date	Description	Prepared	Reviewed	Approved
Final	04.04.2018	Minor amendments in response to client review comments	DS	SS	SS

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1   Introduction

1.1   Context

1.1.1   Peter Brett Associates LLP (PBA) has been commissioned by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council (RCBC) to undertake the sustainability appraisal (SA) of the emerging Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan ('the RCLP'). This report provides a SA Post Adoption Statement to explain how the SA process and wider environmental considerations have informed the development of the RCLP, which was presented to RCBC for formal adoption in April 2018.

1.1.2   This report responds to the information requirements specified in Regulation 16 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 as amended ('the SEA Regulations') and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 as amended ('the Development Planning Regulations'). Read together, these regulations set out the core information and assessment requirements for undertaking a SA, incorporating strategic environmental assessment (SEA), of emerging plans and programmes.

1.2   Overview of the Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan

1.2.1   Section 38(3) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 ('the 2004 Act') defines the statutory Development Plan, which must be used to determine all planning applications unless material considerations indicate otherwise, as comprising adopted local development documents and adopted neighbourhood plans applicable to a local planning authority's area. Section 17(3) of the same Act requires all local planning authorities in England to prepare local development documents to "*set out the authority's policies relating to the development and use of land in their area*".

1.2.2   The existing statutory Development Plan for the RCBC area comprises:

- The Redcar and Cleveland Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) (July 2007);

- The Redcar and Cleveland Local Development Framework –Development Policies DPD (July 2007);

- Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD (September 2011); and,

- Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Policies and Sites DPD (September 2011).

1.2.3   To ensure compliance with statutory requirements and the UK Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2012), a new Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan (RCLP) has been prepared by RCBC. Once adopted, the RCLP replaces the Redcar and Cleveland Local Development Framework (July 2007) as part of the statutory Development Plan applicable to the RCBC area.

1.2.4   The RCLP presents a refresh of the existing planning strategy for the RCBC area. In doing so it provides an up to date, coherent and overarching vision, spatial planning strategy, suite of development management policies and set of site allocations. The RCLP therefore seeks to provide a clear picture of RCBC's spatial expectations, ambitions and plan for delivering sustainable development across the RCBC area. The document also interprets national planning policies, in particular the NPPF (2012), within the local context and seeks to guide future development across the RCBC area.

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1.3 Overview of the RCLP SA Process

1.3.1 In line with statutory requirements, SA incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) has previously been undertaken and reported at all stages in the preparation of the RCLP, namely:

- RCLP Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (July 2015);

- RCLP Draft Local Plan SA Report (May 2016);

- RCLP Publication Local Plan SA Report (November 2016);

- The RCLP Pre-Examination Modifications SA Addendum Report (April 2017); and

- RCLP Proposed Post Examination Modifications Addendum (November 2017).

1.3.2 In each case, SA reports or addendums were prepared by PBA to accompany the relevant iteration of the Plan. Both the SA report and the RCLP were consulted on in tandem, with representations on both documents influencing the evolution of the RCLP.

1.3.3 The RCLP has been subject to examination by an independent Inspector appointed by the Sectary of State. The Publication Local Plan was submitted to the Government for independent examination on the 19th April 2017 and hearing sessions were held between September and October 2017. Following the hearing, the Inspector published a schedule of proposed modifications which was considered necessary for the Plan to be 'sound'. The Council consulted on these proposed modifications to the Plan. Subsequently, the final Report of Examination in respect of the RCLP was published by RCBC on 28th March 2018.

1.3.4 The Report of Examination concluded that, subject to the modifications being made, the RCLP is sound, it satisfies the requirements of the 2004 Act and it provides an appropriate basis for planning in the Redcar and Cleveland Borough. The report further concludes that adequate SA and Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA) have been undertaken for the RCLP.

1.4 Structure of this Report

1.4.1 Reflecting Article 9 of European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment ('the SEA Directive'), Regulation 16(4) of the SEA Regulations requires responsible authorities (including RCBC) to produce a statement containing the following information as soon as reasonably practical after the adoption of a relevant and qualifying plan or programme:

- How environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme (**Section 2**);

- How the environmental report has been taken into account (**Section 3**);

- How opinions expressed in response to:

  i the invitation referred to in regulation 13(2)(d) (**Section 4**);

  ii action taken by the responsible authority in accordance with regulation 13(4), have been taken into account; (**Section 4**).

- How the results of any consultations entered into under regulation 14(4) have been taken into account (**Section 4**);

- The reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; (**Section 5**);

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■ The measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan or programme (regulation 16) (**Section 6**); and,

■ **Section 7** sets out some concluding remarks.

1.4.2 The remainder of this report responds to these six information requirements in turn. It should be noted that this SA Post Adoption Statement addresses the requirements of the SEA Regulations rather than providing a wider "*Adoption Statement*" or "*Consultation Statement*" for the purposes of the Development Planning Regulations.

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2 How environmental considerations have been integrated into the RCLP

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The SA process involves assessing the performance of a plan or a programme against a series of sustainability objectives to test whether it is likely to result in significant environmental, social or economic effects. SA incorporates SEA, which as required by the SEA Regulations focuses on assessing the likely significant effects from a plan or programme on the environment.

2.2 SA Framework

2.2.1 The first stage of the SA process is to define the scope of the SA itself, resulting in the production of an SA Framework which is subsequently used to assess the performance of the emerging plan or programme.

2.2.2 The SA Framework and methodology detailed within the RCLP SA Scoping Report (2015) was used to underpin the SA process for the RCLP. This scoping report identified key sustainability issues and associated SA Objectives for the SA of the RCLP. The RCLP SA Framework was subsequently amended throughout the SA process to ensure that it continued to address relevant sustainability issues affecting the Borough of Redcar and Cleveland.

2.2.3 The SA Framework for the RCLP was developed by considering the following:

- The environmental topics prescribed within Annex 1 of the SEA Directive and Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations for which any likely significant effects from the RCLP need to be addressed;

- The objectives of other relevant plans and programmes at local, national and international scales;

- The environmental, social and economic characteristics of Redcar and Cleveland and its sub-regional context;

- The key environmental and wider sustainability issues identified relating to Redcar and Cleveland; and,

- Responses received from the SEA Consultation Authorities[1] regarding the proposed SA Framework.

2.2.4 The final SA Framework used to assess the RCLP at various stages is provided in **Appendix A.**

Key Sustainability Issues Identified in Relation to the RCLP

2.2.5 A summary of the key sustainability issues identified through SA Scoping which needed to be considered throughout the development of the RCLP is provided in **Table 2.1** below. To ensure that these issues were sufficiently addressed, a dedicated SA Objective was devised within the SA Framework to assess the effects of the RCLP upon each issue.

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[1] Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England (previously English Heritage).

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Table 2:1 Key Sustainability Issues Identified in Relation to the RCLP

SA Objectives	Key Sustainability Issues
1. Biodiversity: Protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity.	The Borough contains a number of sites of nature conservation and biodiversity importance ranging from the international to local level. There is a need to protect these designated sites, and other unprotected areas of biodiversity interest and enhance where possible, as part of new development. This includes through direct effects from development on or adjacent to these sites, as well as giving consideration to indirect effects (e.g. recreational pressure), as well as effects on 'functional land' supporting qualifying species on European Sites. To help species adapt to the impacts of climate change it is important to ensure connectivity between habitats and across borders as part of permeable wildlife corridors. Brownfield sites can be equally, if not more, biologically diverse than greenfield sites. It is therefore an important issue to consider and to incorporate biodiversity where possible as part of many developments. There are important links between biodiversity and other key issues such as air quality, water quality and climate change. Promoting biodiversity can also help to create attractive locations.
2. Landscapes: Protect and enhance the quality, distinctiveness and setting of the area's seascapes and landscapes.	The Borough has a number of high quality seascapes, landscapes and landscapes, including the North York Moors National Park and the stretch of coast from Saltburn to Staithes that is designated as a Heritage Coast. Development pressures, including wind farm development and new housing, can have an impact on the character of areas. High quality design and sensitivity to local setting and views should be promoted as an important part of development in both urban and rural areas.
3. Historic and Built Heritage: Protect and enhance all heritage assets of special archaeological, historical and architectural interest.	Heritage is irreplaceable and is at risk from activity, development and land use. The sustainable future of this vulnerable and irreplaceable resource relies upon the management of change, as well as protecting this finite resource.

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SA Objectives	Key Sustainability Issues
	Sustainable heritage-led urban and rural development based on high quality design that reinforces local distinctiveness should be encouraged and supported. Traditional methods of construction and land management are often sustainable, though seen as inefficient.
4. Air Quality: Protect and improve local air quality.	There is a need to maintain the generally good air quality within the Borough through ensuring that development is promoted in sustainable locations and not where they are likely to impact negatively on air quality. Industrial emissions are significant but generally decreasing and emissions from road traffic are generally low, although this could increase with economic recovery and increased car use.
5. Water Resources: Protect and improve water quality and water resources.	There is a need to ensure that water is managed well and that the sustainable use of water resources is considered as part of development. Future economic growth coupled with changes in weather as a result of climate change will place pressure on the region's water resources. Increased storminess and unpredictable weather events are likely to result in increased risk of flooding incidents. Hotter, drier summers may increase demand for water based recreation and clean bathing waters.
6. Energy: Reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.	Potential increase in emissions during economic recovery. There is a need to encourage energy efficient design and construction. There is a need to encourage the use of renewable and low-carbon technologies. There is a need to minimise growth in greenhouse gas emission, and where possible reduce them.

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SA Objectives	Key Sustainability Issues
7. Climate Resilience: Reduce the impact of severe weather events and increase the resilience of the Borough.	Predicted increase in extreme weather events. There is a need to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. Developments, including buildings and landscapes, should be well designed to withstand future climates. Development should be located in areas less prone to flooding, taking climate change into account. Climate change could impact on agricultural practices. There is a need to ensure that new development does not increase the amount of impermeable hard surfaces which impede filtration and instead sustainable drainage systems should be promoted. There is a need to establish baseline and monitor implementation of any future Surface Water Management Plans.
8. Waste and Minerals: Minimise waste and increase the reuse, recycling and recovery of waste.	There is a need to ensure that existing high recycling rates, and low amount of waste set to landfill, are maintained. New housing and other development will increase the demand for building materials, and increase the amount of waste produced. The reuse of buildings and use of recycled aggregates and building material, and the minimisation of waste, should be promoted.
9. Design: Encourage high quality design and sustainable construction in development.	There is a need to ensure that high quality design and sustainability are embedded as an integral part of development. Good design should apply not only to the appearance and layout of development, for example designs which contribute to quality of place, crime reduction and healthier communities, but also to their sustainability in terms of energy efficiency, accessibility, use of local materials, etc.
10. Communities: Empowered and active communities who are proud of where they live.	There is a need to support communities to be active and involved in shaping their neighbourhoods. There is a need to promote cohesive and integrated communities.
11. Housing: Improve the quality, availability and accessibility of housing in the Borough.	The Borough's industrial past has resulted in an imbalanced residential offer with an excess of older urban terraces and planned social housing estates.

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SA Objectives	Key Sustainability Issues
	If the Borough is to attract and retain the key groups who will underpin its growing economy, provision of a wider choice of property type and size is needed to meet modern aspirations and needs. Whilst maintaining a housing stock for those on lower incomes and to accommodate and ageing population with shrinking household size.
	To help encourage people to move to the area there is also a need to improve the quality of the public realm and to create attractive and safe places for people to live and work.
	Facilitating the development of new housing in sufficient numbers to meet the Borough's needs and aspirations is a key issue. Developing houses in areas where people want to live, and where development is viable, may put pressure on the urban fringe and the surrounding high quality countryside
	Particular consideration must be given to the delivery of regeneration sites and addressing housing market failure, which may be challenging in the current economic climate, to create sustainable, coherent and cohesive communities.
	Improving the condition of the housing stock and bringing empty property back
	into residential use to create homes that are healthy, energy efficient and safe is also an important issue.
12. Safer Communities: Create safer communities and protect people from harm.	There is a link between poor health, high levels of crime and poverty.
	There is a need to ensure that development is well planned and promotes public interaction and natural surveillance as part of good design to create safer communities.
13. Health: Improve public health and provide opportunities for physical activity to promote healthier and longer lives for all.	In Redcar and Cleveland there are many health challenges to tackle, including high levels of illness linked to lifestyle and other risks. There is a need to create communities which are safe and encourage healthy lifestyle choices, including physical activity, as well as ensuring good access to primary/secondary care and other facilities.

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SA Objectives	Key Sustainability Issues
	There is a need to ensure good provision and access to good, healthy food, and facilities for formal and informal recreation, including green and open space. There is a need to ensure that opportunities for sustainable transport, including walking and cycling, are prioritised and incorporated into development.
14. Accessibility: Improve the accessibility and quality of key services and facilities.	There is a need to ensure that key services and facilities are located in accessible locations where they can serve local communities and benefit from good public transport access. There is a need to retain local community services and reduce the need to travel. Lack of accessibility can be a particular issue in rural areas and areas of multiple deprivation.
15. Transport: Increase sustainable transport options and usage.	Travel choices within the Borough can be more limited, particularly in more rural areas of the Borough and for those without access to a car, which can result in social exclusion. Car ownership is increasing, while public transport patronage is declining, which could lead to increased congestion and air quality issues. There is a need to ensure that development is well located and sustainable transport options are promoted and attractive.
16. Improve Employment: Increase employment and improve the level of education, skills, jobs and training.	There are high levels of unemployment and economic inactivity within the Borough. There are low levels of educational attainment. The closure of the SSI Steelworks in 2015 has a significant impact on the number of jobs in a sector that had characterised the Teesside area. While there are many high skilled jobs within the Borough, they are often taken by those who reside elsewhere and commute into the Borough. However, the proportion of people in 'professional and managerial' jobs in the Borough is lower than the average in the north east and Great Britain and the

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SA Objectives	Key Sustainability Issues
	proportion in machine operation and elementary jobs is higher (Nomis, Oct 14 to Sept 15).
	The Borough has relatively few jobs, with a job density of only 0.56, this is the ratio of total jobs to the population aged 16 to 64. This is very low compared to Great Britain (0.8) an event the north east (0.68).
	Women's average net full time weekly wage is almost £140 per week less than men's. Overall wages are better than the north east but less than the national average.
	There is a need to build a competitive workforce, by increasing aspirations and opportunities for employment within the Borough, as well as increasing the Borough's attractiveness to those with high educational attainment.
17. Economic Growth and Industrial Excellence: Encourage sustainable economic growth, diversify and strengthen the local economy and encourage enterprise and encourage industrial excellence.	Redcar and Cleveland has been reliant on chemical and steel processes. There has also been a great interdependency relationship of these uses within the remaining industrial economies, particularly so in the Petro-Chemicals cluster where business and products are strongly related and in many cases, dependant on shared infrastructure. However, with the closure of the SSI steelworks this has caused a change in the area and the focus on large employers that are reliant on the international market puts the economy of the Borough at risk of rapid change.
	The Borough also has a weak service sector which needs to be addressed. Delivering local economic benefit by shaping positive changes in the structure of the economy is an important issue.
	There is a need for modernisation of the business base. This applies to both the industrial and service sectors to create the conditions for further growth and diversify the Borough's economy.
	A number of existing industries at South Tees are of national and regional importance.
	There are opportunities to support the expansion, and/or diversification, of the port, petro-chemical and other industries.

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SA Objectives	Key Sustainability Issues
	There is limited site availability in South Tees and therefore a need to increase access to land in this area.
	There are opportunities to expand waste management and low carbon sectors within the Borough.
18. Leisure and Tourism: Increase leisure and tourism opportunities.	The Borough's tourism economy has not experienced the same growth as other areas of the UK.
	There is therefore considerable potential to strengthen the Borough's tourism offer over the next ten years, further helping to diversify the economy by building on a re-designed seafront at Redcar and East Cleveland as a high quality location for outdoor activities.

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2.3 SA Reporting and Outputs

2.3.1 In line with statutory requirements, SA incorporating SEA has been undertaken, reported and consulted on at each stage in the preparation of the RCLP. **Table 2**:2 below outlines the main sustainability issues reported on at each stage of the SA process.

Table 2:2 Iterations of RCLP SA Reports and Consultations

SA Reporting	Consultation Period	Summary of Issues Considered
RCLP Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (July 2015)	July – August 2015	This initial report assessed RCBC's intention to prepare the new Local Plan and the key issues set out by the Council to be addressed in the new Local Plan. This was consulted on with statutory consultees and other stakeholders.
SA Report for the Draft RCLP Local Plan (May 2016)	27th June - 8th August 2016.	The proposed policies and alternatives were appraised of the emerging new Draft Local Plan 2016 and an SA Report was prepared. The SA process completed in 2014 has informed the new draft version of the Local Plan (2016) and consultation responses received to the 2013 SA were taken into account. This report shared much in common with the current Publication Local Plan SA, as the plan has remained largely the same. Recommendations of the SA Report in 2016 were taken into account in preparing this Publication Version. Comments received specifically on this Draft Local Plan SA Report have also been taken into account in updating the SA.
SA Report for the RCLP Publication Local Plan (November 2016)	6th December 2016 – 31st January 2017	This stage of SA takes into account the appraisal that was carried out of this earlier plan, with many elements remaining similar to those previously proposed. This SA takes into account an updated baseline and other changes in the plan area and aspirations for the area for the revised Local Plan.
The RCLP Pre-Examination Modifications SA Addendum Report (April 2017)	5th September – 18th October 2017	Having reviewed all representations submitted in respect of the Publication RCLP, RCBC elected to submit the RCLP as drafted to the Secretary of Statement for a formal Examination in Public, but in doing so RCBC also provided a suite of suggested modifications to the plan. A SA (incorporating SEA) screening and assessment exercise was carried out for these suggested modifications to assess whether their incorporation into the RCLP would result in any new or different likely significant effects and thus would alter the conclusions reached within the previous SA Report for the RCLP Publication Local Plan (November 2016). This was reported in an SA Addendum Report which was published in April 2017.

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RCLP Proposed Post Examination Modifications Addendum (November 2017).	20th November 2017 – 10th January 2018	A further SA Addendum Report was published in November 2017 to consider the likely effects of incorporating the modifications recommended by the Examination Inspector into the RCLP. As with the previous Addendum, the purpose was to identify any new or different likely significant effects from the RCLP as modified compared with the effects previously identified within the SA Report for the RCLP Publication Local Plan (November 2016). In doing so, this SA Addendum confirmed all likely significant effects from the RCLP as proposed for adoption. The SA Addendum Report was subject to public consultation prior to the Examination Inspector finalising the Examination Report and recommendations in respect of the RCLP.

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3 How SA reporting has been taken into account in the RCLP

3.1 Overview

3.1.1 Each stage of the SA process identified likely significant effects (beneficial or adverse) from the emerging RCLP, as well as assessing the Plan's performance against the SA Framework (provided in **Appendix A**) more widely. These findings were detailed within an SA Report or Addendum which accompanied the RCLP at each stage of consultation. These SA Reports and Addendums incorporated all information necessary to constitute Environmental Reports for the purposes of the SEA Regulations.

3.1.2 Aside from complying with the requirements of the SEA Regulations, the main purpose of SA reporting was to allow consultees, the public and decision makers (i.e. RCBC and the Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State to undertake an Examination in Public of the RCLP) to consider the likely impacts of the RCLP on identified sustainability issues (see **Table 2.1** above). Each SA Report or Addendum also identified a suite of recommended mitigation and enhancement measures to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects from the RCLP and enhance the Plan's sustainability performance.

3.1.3 At each stage of the RCLP's preparation (see **Table 2.2**), a draft SA Report or Addendum was produced and the RCLP was subsequently amended to incorporate relevant mitigation and enhancement recommendations. A final version of each SA Report or Addendum was then published in tandem with the RCLP for public consultation.

3.2 SA Assessment Matrices and Scoring

3.2.1 To ensure the SA remained proportionate, a matrix based approach was adopted in all SA Reports and Addendums to report likely significant sustainability effects from the RCLP. These matrices allowed for the consistent identification of likely effects, uncertainties, key assumptions and recommended mitigation in relation to each substantive component within the RCLP, including its objectives and policies. Supporting text within the RCLP was not specifically assessed, as providing that this text was consistent with relevant objectives and policies, it could not itself result in any likely significant effects. Inconsistencies between supporting text and some policies were however identified and rectified through the SA process, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of the RCLP overall.

3.2.2 Detailed assessment matrices were provided in appendices to each SA Report, with the key findings reported in the main body of the Report and a Non-Technical Summary also provided. A consistent scoring system was adopted within all matrices, with each substantive component of the RCLP being scored against each SA Objective (from the SA Framework) as follows:

- Likely to contribute to the achievement of greater sustainability according to the identified objective;

- Likely to detract from the achievement of greater sustainability according to the identified objective;

- Likely effect but too unpredictable to specify, or multiple impacts potentially both positive and negative; or,

- No identifiable relationship between the topic covered in the policy and the SA Objective.

3.2.3 Where a sustainability effect was identified as being likely to arise from an individual component of the RCLP, a qualitative assessment was provided within the commentary box of

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each matrix to determine whether this effect would be "*significant*" in the context of the SEA Regulations. As detailed in **Section 3.3** below, mitigation and enhancement measures were then identified to address all likely significant adverse effects, enhance the level of predicted beneficial effects and allow all components of the RCLP to contribute positively to the achievement of the SA Objectives wherever possible.

3.3 SA Mitigation and Enhancement Recommendations

3.3.1 **Table 3.1** below provides an overview of how the mitigation and enhancement recommendations made at each stage of the SA process were taken into account in the development of the RCLP. For consistency, the same thematic approach used to appraise the RCLP at each stage is adopted in the table. This analysis demonstrates that the final RCLP being presented to RCBC for adoption (May 2018) has been closely informed by the SA process and that all identified sustainability issues and concerns have now been addressed.

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Table 3.1 Overview of SA Recommendations and Associated RCP Response (2010 – 2017)

Sustainability Theme	SA Recommendations	RCLP Response
Protecting, conserving and enhancing the Borough's built environment (SA Objectives 1 – 9)	- At the RCLP Publication stage (November 2016), the SA identified the need for the RCLP to comply with national policy and requirements by the Environment Agency. The SA recommended that general design related policies within the RCLP should be consolidated to remove duplication with other policies and national policies to create a more concise plan. Additionally, up-to-date development briefs or masterplans were recommended for all larger development sites to indicate suitable development in different locations. - One recommendation made consistently throughout the SA process was that, due to changing national policy, the RCLP could contain additional policies to cover potential gaps for the district. - No significant adverse effects were identified from the RCLP within the RCLP SA Addendum Report and RCLP Proposed Post Examination Modifications Addendum (November 2017).	The natural and built environment policies within the RCLP have evolved in response to SA recommendations, in particular by ensuring consistency with the NPPF and clarity of policies. Modifications also include the inclusion of preserving or enhancing the character of the historic environment in Policy REG1, H3.20 and H3.28. The Council have prepared additional SPDs and masterplans, including the South Tees Area SPD (currently a Consultation Draft), to support development in accordance with the Local Plan policies. The RCLP responded to SA recommendations by introducing a Recreation Management Plan and set out standard mitigation requirements for development proposals located within 6km of the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA and Ramsar Site in Policy N4.
Delivering healthy, sustainable, inclusive and cohesive communities (SA Objectives 10 – 13)	- At the RCLP Publication stage (November 2016), the SA recommended that, to control the location and scale of growth, the Local Plan could set out in greater detail what the roles are of different settlements and simplify the housing criteria to avoid too much duplication with allocations policies - No significant adverse effects were identified from the RCLP within the RCLP SA Addendum Report and RCLP Proposed Post Examination Modifications Addendum (November 2017).	The final version of the RCLP addresses these issues by clarifying the settlement hierarchy, the expected distribution of development between urban and rural areas and the acceptable scale of development in service villages and villages. Modifications to Policy H1 provide greater certainty that a continuous supply of effective housing land will be provided within the RCLP area over the Local Plan period.

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Sustainability Theme	SA Recommendations	RCLP Response
Improving connectivity (SA Objective 14 and 15)	• The SA of the RCLP Publication Local Plan identified the need for the RCLP to set requirements for developers, including travel plans, to show they have addressed sustainability and environmental concerns. The SA also recommended the separation or breakdown of Policy LS3 to reflect differing roles of towns and local service centres from villages due to difficulties in accessing services. • No significant adverse effects were identified from the RCLP within the RCLP SA Addendum Report and RCLP Proposed Post Examination Modifications Addendum (November 2017).	The final version of the RCLP revises transport policies to more directly address transportation impacts from development proposals, in particular on public transport and accessibility. The amendments more clearly prioritise accessibly, connectivity and public transport use.
Diversifying and strengthening the local economy (SA Objectives 16 and 18)	• The SA of the RCLP Publication Local Plan recommended that Policy ED3 could be integrated into ED1 to provide a single policy on town centre uses. The SA recommended that economic development related policies within the RCLP should be consolidated to remove duplication with other policies and national policies to create a more concise plan. • No significant adverse effects were identified from the RCLP within the RCLP SA Addendum Report and RCLP Proposed Post Examination Modifications Addendum (November 2017).	The final version of the RCLP provides additional criteria to Policy ED1 to support and safeguard shops and services both within local centres and outwith the hierarchy centres. Modifications were also made to Policy ED6 provide clear employment land strategy for the RCLP which directs specialist and general land uses to different sites, safeguards employment allocations and supports regeneration. The RCLP responded to SA recommendations by removing duplications of policy as well as providing greater clarity to implement policies.

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4 How the opinions raised during consultation have been taken into account

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 The SEA Regulations require the opinions expressed by consultees and the public regarding a SA to be taken into account during the preparation of the plan before its adoption. Each stage of the RCLP was subject to public consultation, with an SA Report or Addendum published and consulted on in tandem.

4.2 Consultation Opportunities

4.2.1 In total six stages of consultation took place for the SA of the RCLP:

- **RCLP Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report** (July 2015): July – August 2015;

- **Draft RCLP SA Report** (May 2016): 27th June - 8th August 2016;

- **RCLP Publication Local Plan SA Report** (November 2016): 6th December 2016 – 31st January 2017;

- **The RCLP SA Addendum Report** (April 2017): 5th September – 18th October 2017; and

- **RCLP Proposed Post Examination Modifications Addendum** (November 2017): 20th November 2017 – 10th January 2018.

4.2.2 **Section 4.3** below identifies how consultation responses of relevance to the SA have informed the development of the RCLP since 2015.

4.3 Impact of SA Related Consultation Responses on the RCLP

SA of RCLP Scoping Report (2015)

4.3.1 The consultation was open for a 6-week period between July and August 2015. A total of 52 responses, providing 248 comments, were received during the consultation. A summary of the issues raised in representations and how these were addressed through the Draft RCLP (June 2016) are summarised below.

Sustainability and Design

- The Environment Agency advised that the plan should ensure that groundwater is protected, include references to the Tees Valley Authorities Local Standards and plan for flooding and coastal erosion. Further to this, the Environment Agency recommended that the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment is used to determine baseline conditions and that the impacts of climate change are considered.

- Natural England recommended the inclusion of criteria for selecting development sites with the least environmental value and that design policies should include criteria which encourage the incorporation of natural greenspace within development sites.

Economic Development

- Guisborough Town Council recommended that the provision of more tourist accommodation be encouraged.

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- The RSBP noted that much of the Tees Estuary supports internationally and nationally important populations of waterbirds and, as such, the plan must ensure that the integrity of this network of sites is protected and, ideally, enhanced.

Housing

- The Local Plan housing requirements should reflect the full need for affordable housing provision.

Natural Environment

- The Environment Agency advised that policies which promote appropriate green infrastructure in new development, particularly in Redcar, should be included.

- Natural England would expect the Local Plan to demonstrate how public access and enjoyment of the coast will be improved and support creation (or evolution) of the England Coastal Path and manage coastal change.

- The RSPB is concerned about the apparent lack of positive planning in relation to landscape scale conservation and ecological networks and their importance for nature conservation.

Transport and Accessibility

- Natural England expect a specific policy to support the creation and maintenance of the current and future route of the National Trail around the coast. They would also encourage the Council to secure a coastal access route on the seaward side of development so that it affords sea views.

- North Yorkshire County Council requested to see that cross boundary traffic movement has been addressed.

SA of Draft RCLP (June 2016)

4.3.2   The consultation on the Draft RCLP and associated SA Report was open between 27th June and 8th August 2016. A total of 657 representations were received from 186 respondents during the consultation. Issues raised in the representations of relevance to the SA, and key changes made in response, are summarised below.

Housing

- Objections to specific sites, most notably Belmangate Field, Guisborough and Land adjacent to Rye Hills School, Redcar.

- Recent court judgements confirmed that sites of 10 or fewer dwellings are exempt from affordable housing requirements.

- Further support for new development regeneration on Loftus.

  Change: Further assessment was undertaken on these sites, with Belmangate Field being removed due to the impact its development would have on the Conservation Area. The land at Rye Hills School was retained as an allocation as it is not required for education purposes. Affordable housing policy amended to remove requirements on smaller sites, in line with relevant court judgements, and to clarify the requirements in respect of rural exception. A specific policy was included to set out the Council's commitment to achieving regeneration in Loftus. Additional housing land at the former Rosecroft School and the former Handale Primary school was also allocated to provide further development opportunities in Loftus.

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Economic Development

- New evidence recommends changes to district centre boundaries in Eston and Saltburn, to include town centre uses that are adjacent to the existing boundaries.

- The Habitats Assessment recommended the removal of Bran Sands Lagoon from employment allocation and development limits, to reflect its importance to protected species.

  Change: Changes were made to district centre boundaries at Eston and Saltburn. Bran Sands Lagoon and other marine areas were removed from employment allocation.

Transport and Accessibility

- A request was made to include safeguarded route of the new Dockside Road on the Policies Map.

  Change: Safeguard route included on the Policies Map.

General

- The SA Report recommended minor wording changes and the insertion of clarifications to ensure economic, environmental and social objectives are met, and that policies are suitably comprehensive and clearly worded.

- The HRA Screening Report recommended that the distance threshold for developments requiring an Appropriate Assessment be reduced from 16km to 6km (distance between development and the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Special Protection Area (SPA)). It was also advised that the Council should commit to preparing a Recreation Management Plan (RMP) to address identified disturbance issues which could arise in relation to the SPA.

  Change: Changes made to wording, threshold reduced in relevant policies and commitment to preparing a RMP were included.

SA of RCLP Publication Local Plan (2016)

4.3.3   The consultation on the Publication RCLP and associated SA Report was open between 6th December 2016 to 31st January 2017. In total 210 representations were received from 44 respondents during the consultation. Issues raised by the representations of relevance to the SA are summarised below. It should be noted that these issues were subsequently addressed through the preparation of a schedule of suggested modifications to the RCLP, which was subject to SA screening and then provided to the Examination Inspector for their consideration.

Housing

- Some developers and landowners contended that the housing requirement was too low to meet the Objectively Assessed Need for the Borough, whilst other consultees though it was too high.

- A number of allocation sites were put forward for allocation, mainly housing sites.

- Concerns over the type of housing planned which does not meet the needs of the Borough.

- The policy obligations including the 15% affordable housing contribution requirement and other developer contributions will have a severe impact on development viability.

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Natural Environment

- Natural England and the RSPB raised concerns over the impact on the Special Protection Areas.

Transport and Accessibility

- Highways England did not consider the plan to be sound due to outstanding evidence base for detailed traffic modelling (Tees Valley Area Action Plan) to understand the implications of development allocations on the strategic road network.

- An individual has alleged that the Council has failed to engage on the Strategic Cross Boundary issue of the East Middlesbrough Transport Corridor.

Heritage

- Historic England raised concerns over the potential impact of development allocations on the historic environment.

Economic Development

- Land which has been allocated within an employment allocation in Guisborough should not be.

General

- There were objections to specific sites, most notably Belmangate Field, Guisborough and Land adjacent to Rye Hills School, Redcar.

- Sports England raised concerns over the loss of playing fields at two locations.

SA Addendum in respect of Proposed Post-Examination Main Modifications (2017)

4.3.4   An SA Addendum Report was published in November 2017 to consider the likely effects of incorporating the modifications recommended by the Examination Inspector (including those previously suggested by RCBC in April 2017) into the RCLP. The purpose was to identify any new or different likely significant effects from the RCLP as modified compared with the effects previously identified within the SA Report for the RCLP Publication Local Plan (November 2016). In doing so, this SA Addendum confirmed all likely significant effects from the RCLP as proposed for adoption.

4.3.5   The SA Addendum Report was consulted on between 20th November 2017 - 10th January 2018, Following which the Examination Inspector prepared their final Report of Examination in respect of the RCLP. There were no major changes to the Inspector's proposed post-examination modifications as a result of the public consultation.

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5 Reasons for choosing the Plan as adopted, in light of other alternatives dealt with

5.1 Overview

5.1.1 In accordance with the SEA Regulations, the SA undertaken in respect of the RCLP considered the likely effects from both the preferred approach and all reasonable alternatives which could be identified at each stage of the RCLP's development. This section provides an overview of the preferred approach and the reasonable alternatives that were considered. However, it should be noted that three distinct strategy options were put forward for consideration.

5.2 Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Spatial Distribution

5.2.1 A Previous Draft Local Plan in 2013 considered four options for the proportional split of development to the urban/coastal and rural areas. Following evaluation by RCBC and informed by the SA findings, the preferred approach was selected from the four presented.

5.2.2 The four options were:

- to maintain the existing Core Strategy target of 70% of new housing in the conurbation and 30% in rural areas;

- pursue a revised target of 60% in the urban/coastal and 40% rural (preferred option);

- only 55% in the conurbation and 45% rural; and

- an option to not have a 'locational strategy' target.

70:30 Option

5.2.3 This option would be the theoretical 'business as usual' as it would be a continuation of the Core Strategy. However, in practice this proportional split was never achieved due to issues of the viability of sites in urban areas and attractiveness of rural areas for development. Therefore, despite an aspiration for a greater proportion of development in the urban area in, reality this may not be deliverable. There is also the risk that this focus would mean that the vitality and viability of some rural settlements could not be maintained, with no new housing growth to support growing populations in these areas.

5.2.4 It was therefore considered that pursuing this 70:30 split is unlikely to be effective in halting the population stagnation and decline currently experienced in the Borough and achieve the aspirations for population growth in the Borough with younger people choosing to stay in the area.

60:40 Option

5.2.5 The 60:40 strategic distribution option was the preferred option and investigated in further detail in the SAs.

55:45 Option

5.2.6 This option may not be sufficient to meet regeneration needs in the urban/coast area, especially where there have been housing clearance over recent years. Focusing 45% of

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growth in more dispersed rural areas may lead to unsustainable travel patterns where people rely on car travel to get to essential services and jobs.

No Intended Distribution Option

5.2.7   It is the role of the RCLP to guide development to locations that are compatible with sustainable development. It will not be possible to deliver the desired outcomes of the Local Plan without having a strategy in place. This option may also not be reasonable to consider as the NPPF requires that plans identify development locations.

Housing Growth Options

5.2.8   In addition to the consideration of overall spatial growth options, RCBC also considered a number of distinct housing growth options when preparing the Publication RCLP (November 2016). The six housing options were assessed within Appendix F of the SA Report for the Publication RCLP and are shown in **Table 5.1** below.

Table 5:1 Publication RCLP Housing Growth Options (November 2016)

	Dwellings per annum	Total dwellings in the Plan Period 2015-2032[1]	Would this require land on greenfield sites beyond the development boundaries?	Estimated population increase above predicted population growth[2]
Option 1: Objectively Assessed Need	132	2,482	No	25
Option 2: Historical Average Delivery	186	3,478	Yes: 200+	125
Option 3: Sustainable Population Growth	234	4,369	Yes: 1000+	250
Option 4: Significant Population Growth	290	5,435	Yes: 2000+	375
Option 5: Aspirational Population Growth	340	6,358	Yes: 3000+	500
Option 6: Exceptional population growth	404	7,548	Yes: 4000+	625

[1]These figures contain a 10% additional buffer to promote flexible and continuous supply
[2]Sub-National Population Projections 2012 (SNPP-2012: ONS) estimates a decline of 5 persons per year over the plan period (as reported in the SHMA ONS February 2012)

5.2.9   As set out in the context sections of the SA, one of the main objectives for the RCLP is to help deliver a sustainable and demographically diverse population, as well as supporting the economy through supporting and retaining a resident workforce by reducing out-migration of

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younger people. The SA undertaken demonstrates that medium growth options, such as Option 3 and 4, are potentially better able to meet these objectives, with risks of population decline and a more rapidly ageing population with lower growth and the risk of overstretched services through higher growth.

5.2.10 The SA Report for the Publication RCLP (November 2016) noted that risks related to the natural environment and resource use are likely to increase with higher rates of housing growth. However, many of these types of impact can be avoided and mitigated through the choice of site allocations and policies to help manage the delivery of development in the Borough.

Alternative Sites

5.2.11 To meet the SEA requirements, it is necessary to show as part of the SA the relative environmental impacts of preferred site allocations and their alternatives. Site assessment, including appraisal against criteria related to the SA objectives, was part of the site selection process.

5.2.12 RCBC officers undertook an appraisal of alternative sites. All reasonable sites were assessed in a comparable way to ensure the relative effects could be identified. The assessment also identified where specific mitigation measures should be implemented to ensure that the delivery of the site contributes to achieving sustainable development. These mitigation measures are taken forward in the housing site allocation policies in the RCLP (Policy H3).

5.2.13 Some changes in the allocated sites form the Draft RCLP (June 2016) to the Publication RCLP (November 2016) included:

- Additional focus on Loftus as a location for regeneration, as justified through the aspirations of the 'Living in Loftus: Delivery Strategy' prepared for the RCBC in February 2016. This includes a new housing allocation at the former Handale Primary School and an increased area and therefore increased yield at the former Rosecroft School;

- There was also an additional site in Boosbeck, which previously had no housing allocations. This site will help support services in the village and redevelop the site of a former abattoir building; and,

- One site (Belmangate Field, Guisborough) was removed from further consideration between the Draft and Publication Draft RCLP versions due to the consideration of potentially unacceptable impacts on the conservation area.

5.3 Rationale for adoption of the RCLP as prepared

5.3.1 The Report of Examination in respect of the RCLP presents the findings of a formal Examination in Public (EiP) of the Publication RCLP, as modified by RCBC's suggested changes (see above). The EiP addressed unresolved issues raised in representations and sought to test the soundness of RCLP against the following questions:

- Has the plan been positively prepared i.e. based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed requirements?

- Is the plan justified?

- Is it based on robust and credible evidence?

- Is it the most appropriate strategy when considered against the alternatives?

- Is the document effective?

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- Is it deliverable?

- Is it flexible?

- Will it be able to be monitored?

- Is it consistent with national policy?

5.3.2 The Examination Report concludes that the RCLP provides an appropriate basis for planning in the Borough, provided the recommended main modifications are made.

5.3.3 The Report of Examination concluded that, subject to a suite of modifications being made, the RCLP is sound, it satisfies the requirements of the 2004 Act and it provides an appropriate basis for planning in the Redcar and Cleveland Borough. The report further concludes that adequate SA and Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA) have been undertaken for the RCLP.

5.3.4 The modifications required by the Report of Examination are based upon both the pre-examination modifications suggested by RCBC in April 2017 and other modifications identified through the EiP as being required. These modifications address a wide range of issues, including:

- the policy mechanisms needed to protect the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA from adverse effects; and,

- the preparation of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to guide the regeneration of the former Sahaviriya Steel Industries (SSI) steelworks and adjacent land, known as the South Tees Development Corporation (STDC) area.

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6　Measures that are to be taken to monitor the likely significant effects of the implementation of the Plan

6.1　Overview

6.1.1　The SEA Regulations require details to be provided regarding a mechanism(s) to monitor the likely significant effects on the environment of a plan or programme. Monitoring is required to ensure that the approach set out in the RCLP continues to be relevant and effective.

6.1.2　Regular monitoring will include analysis of data and trends and reviews of the evidence base and provides the basis to trigger a review of actions, strategies and policies to reflect changing circumstances.

6.2　RCLP Monitoring Framework

6.2.1　A series of suggested indicators and, where appropriate, targets, to monitor the implementation of the RCLP's policies and proposals were set out in the SA Report for the Publication RCLP (November 2016) and has been considered by the Examination Inspector. This framework, which will be used to monitor its implementation through annual monitoring reports, is detailed in **Table 6.1** below.

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Table 6:1 RCLP Implementation and Monitoring Framework

Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
Policy SD1: Sustainable Development			
RCBC Developers	Local Plan. Determination of Planning Applications	Covered by other indicators within the framework.	Plan, monitor and manage through the AMR. Review implementation of policy if necessary.
Policy SD2: Locational Policy			
RCBC Developers	Local Plan. Determination of Planning Applications	Percentage of housing/employment development on previously developed land. Percentage of development within urban and coastal areas.	Plan, monitor and manage through the AMR. If 60% not being met on average over medium term, consider obstacles to progress and implementation. Review policy and consider release of more sites within the conurbation.
Policy SD3: Development Limits			
RCBC Developers	Local Plan. Determination of Planning Applications	Number of planning applications granted outside of development limits without justification	Plan, monitor and manage through AMR. If a number of applications are being granted contrary to policy over medium term, investigate need to review policy.
Policy SD4: General Development Principles			
RCBC Developers	Local Plan/SPDs Determination of Planning Applications Building Regulations	Percentage of housing/employment development on previously developed land. Percentage of development within urban and coastal areas. Percentage change in area of designated biodiversity sites Number of designated heritage assets lost. Percentage of major developments with artistic element provided.	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if target not being met over medium term.
Policy SD5: Developer Contributions			

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
RCBC Developers	Local Plan/SPDs Determination of Planning Applications	Number and type of developer contributions secured/received	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. A qualitative assessment of planning contributions will be undertaken over a medium term period. If necessary review policy and consider potential barriers to implementation.
Policy SD6: Renewable Energy			
RCBC Developers/Energy Industry	Local Plan/SPDs Determination of Planning Applications	Number and nature of renewable energy proposals approved/refused, including potential contribution to energy supply. Number of renewable energy proposals granted at appeal.	Plan, monitor and manage through AMR. If a number of applications are being granted contrary to policy or it is considered that inappropriate development is being delivered, review policy.
Policy SD7: Flood and Water Management			
RCBC Developers Environment Agency Northumbrian Water Ltd	Determination of Planning Applications Determination Drainage Applications	Number of proposals approved in areas at risk of flooding contrary to Environment Agency advice. Quality of water bodies.	Plan, monitor and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered that inappropriate development is being delivered.
Policy LS1: Urban Spatial Strategy			
RCBC RPs Private House Builders Commercial Developers Private Sector	Local Plan Regeneration Masterplan Determination of Planning Applications Empty Homes to Happy Homes Improvement of social rented housing through investment by RPs. Commercial retail development.	Number of houses permitted/developed. Vacant dwellings area. Number type and tenure of new homes developed. Number and floorspace of retail developments and other town centre uses permitted/developed in	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
DfT	Commercial employment development. Wide range of employment support and training initiatives including Routes to Employment. Environmental improvement through planning contributions from housing and commercial development.	centre/out of centre. Number of vacant shops Visual appearance and shopfronts. Number of gyspy and traveler pitches provided/occupied. No. of community facilities permitted/completed. Amount of safeguarded employment land developed and floorspace completed. Local school exam results	
Policy LS2: Coastal Area Spatial Strategy			
RCBC RPs Private House Builders Town Centre Manager Private Developers Tees Valley Nature Partnership	Local Plan Regeneration Masterplan Determination of Planning Applications Coatham Masterplan Visitor Destination Plan Kirkleatham Enterprise Zone LDO Business rate relief at Kirkleatham Enterprise Zone site Commercial retail development Commercial employment development Environmental improvement through planning contributions from housing and commercial development. Individual Enhancement Schemes	Number and floorspace of retail developments and other town centre uses permitted/developed in centre/out of centre Number of vacant shops. Visual appearance of shopfronts. Number of houses permitted/developed. Number of community/education facilities permitted/completed. Amount of safeguarded employment land developed and floorspace created. No. of new leisure and tourism proposals permitted/developed. Condition of SSSIs. Completion of environmental enhancement schemes.	Plan, monitor and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
Policy LS3: Rural Communities Spatial Strategy			
RCBC RPs Private House Builders Private Developers Landowners	Local Plan Regeneration Masterplan Determination of Planning Applications Visitor Destination Plan Skelton Industrial Estate LDO Commercial retail development Commercial employment development Environmental improvement through planning contributions from housing and commercial development.	No. and floorspace of retail developments and other town centre uses permitted/developed in centre/out of centre No. of vacant shops Visual appearance of shopfronts No. and type of houses permitted/developed Number of community/education facilities permitted/completed. Amount of safeguarded employment land developed and floorspace created. No. of new leisure and tourism proposals permitted/developed.	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.
Policy LS4: South Tees Spatial Strategy			
RCBC Private Sector Tees Valley Unlimited Tees Valley Nature Partnership	Local Plan Regeneration Masterplan Private sector commercial development Enhanced capital allowances on enterprise zone sites PPAs on Enterprise zone sites Public sector investment (including Reginal Growth Fund) Determination of Planning Applications Individual enhancement schemes	Area of land and floorspace created on Enterprise Zone sites. Area of land developed for various types of employment development. Floorspace of new employment development. Unemployment rates. No. of jobs created Investment in major businesses. Condition of SSSIs Completion of environmental enhancement schemes	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
Policy REG1: Coatham			
RCBC Private Sector	Local Plan Regeneration Masterplan Determination of Planning Applications Visitor Destination Plan Coatham Masterplan	Number of leisure and tourism developments permitted/developed Amount of new leisure and tourism floorspace created No. of jobs created	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Consider any barriers to implementation. Review policy if necessary.
Policy REG2: Kirkleatham			
RCBC Historic England	Local Plan Heritage Lottery Fund Historic England grants. Determination of planning applications	No. of heritage assets 'at risk'	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Consider any barriers to implementation. Review policy if necessary.
Policy REG3: Skelton			
RCBC Private House Builders Private Commercial Developers Landowners	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Individual enhancement schemes	Amount of land developed by type. Amount of commercial floorspace created.	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Consider any barriers to implementation. Review policy if necessary.
Policy REG4: Loftus			
RCBC Private Sector	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Individual enhancement scheme Conservation Area Management Plan	No. and floorspace of retail developments and other town centre uses permitted/developed in centre/out of centre No. of vacant shops Visual appearance of shopfronts	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Consider any barriers to implementation. Review policy if necessary.

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
		No. and type of houses permitted/developed. Delivery of 'Living in Loftus' project. Delivery of a Conservation Area Management Plan.	
Policy ED1: Protecting and Enhancing the Borough's Centres			
RCBC Town Centre Manager Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	No. of vacant shops Visual appearance of shopfronts Additional floorspace of retail, leisure and office development within/outside defined town and district centres Number of town centre uses less than 200m^2 approved outside of centres Percentage of units in Primary Shopping Areas in A1 use	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary, including if considered that inappropriate development is being delivered.
Policy ED2: Cleveland Retail			
RCBC Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	Additional retail floorspace provided	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary, including if considered that Inappropriate development is being delivered.
Policy ED3: Hot Food Takeaways			
RCBC	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	No. of planning applications for hot food takeaways approved at appeal in town, district and local centres.	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. If a number of applications are being granted contrary to policy, review policy.
ED4: Retail Development on Industrial Estates and Business Parks			

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
RCBC Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	Amount of new retail floorspace on safeguarded employment land	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered Inappropriate development is being delivered.
ED5: Advertisements			
RCBC Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Shop Fronts and Advertisements SPD	No. of advertisement applications allowed at appeal Visual appearance of shopfronts	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
ED6: Protecting Employment Areas			
RCBC Private Developers Tees Valley Unlimited	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Regeneration Masterplan Private sector commercial development LDO at Kirkleatham Business Park Enterprise Zone incentives such and business rate relief and enhanced capital allowances Public sector funding (including Regional Growth Fund)	Number of hectares developed Amount of additional employment floorspace provided No. of jobs created Amount of employment land lost to non-employment uses	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Consider any barriers to implementation. Review policy if necessary including if considered that Inappropriate development is being delivered.
ED7: Cleveland Gate and Morgan Drive Mixed Commercial Site			
RCBC Private Developers	Local Plan Private sector commercial development	Amount of commercial floorspace provided by use	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
ED8: Rural Economy			
RCBC Tees Valley Unlimited Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Regeneration Masterplan	No. of leisure and tourism proposals approved/refused in the rural areas. No. of farm diversification	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
	Visitor Destination Plan	proposals approved/refused	
ED9: Leisure and Tourism Development			
RCBC Tees Valley Unlimited Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Regeneration Masterplan Visitor Destination Plan	No. of permissions/completions for leisure and tourism development	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.
ED10: South Tees Motorsports Park			
RCBC Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	Amount of land developed for off-road motorcycle use	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
ED11: Caravan Sites and Tourist Accommodation			
RCBC Tees Valley Unlimited Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Regeneration Masterplan	No. of sites/pitches approved/refused	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.
ED12: New Hotel and Guest House Accommodation			
RCBC Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	No of applications for conversions from residential to tourist accommodation approved/refused	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.
ED13: Equestrian Development			
RCBC Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	No. of equestrian developments approved/refused	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.
H1: Housing Requirements and Delivery Phasing			

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
RCBC Private house builders RPs	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Regeneration Masterplan Housing Strategy	Net additional dwellings provided	Plan, monitor and manage through AMR and SHMA/SHLAA. If actual or anticipated rates of delivery consistently fall below the housing requirements, or the Council cannot demonstrate a five-year housing supply, we will seek to address the shortfall using appropriate mechanisms which will depend on the scale and nature of potential under delivery. Options for remedial action will include the actions identified at para.6.14. The actions will be kept under annual review and additional actions identified where significant progress to meeting the housing requirements and/or five year supply has not been made. Part of regular review of Local Plan.
H2: Type and Mix of Housing			
RCBC Private house builders RPs	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Regeneration Masterplan Housing Strategy	No. of dwellings provided by type	Plan, monitor and manage through AMR and SHMA/SHLAA. If targets not met, meet with landowners/agents to discuss obstacles to progress, review options and agree an action plan to get completion back on track. If ongoing lack of progress, consider scope to work with other partners. Part of regular review of Local Plan.
H3: Housing Allocations			
RCBC Private house builders RPs	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Regeneration Masterplan	No. of planning permissions on allocated sites No. of dwellings completed on allocated sites	Plan, monitor and manage through AMR and SHMA/SHLAA. If targets not met, meet with landowners/agents to discuss obstacles to progress, review options and agree an action plan to get completion back on track.

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
	Housing Strategy Development Briefs		If ongoing lack of progress, consider scope to work with other partners. Part of regular review of Local Plan.
H4: Affordable Housing			
RCBC Private house builders RPs	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Affordable Housing SPD Housing Strategy	No. and type of affordable dwellings provided	Plan, monitor and manage through AMR and SHMA. If targets not met, consider barriers to implementation of policy and review policy if necessary.
H5: Sub-division and Conversion of Buildings to Residential Uses			
RCBC Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Housing Strategy	No. of subdivisions or dwelling conversions approved at appeal	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
H6: Houses in Multiple Occupation			
RCBC Private Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Housing Strategy	No. of applications approved/refused for HMOs No. of applications approved at appeal	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
H7: Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation			
RCBC Gypsy and traveller site manager	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Housing Strategy Gypsy and Travellers Strategy	Net additional Gypsy and Traveller Pitches	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.
N1: Landscape			

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
RCBC	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Landscape Character SPD	No. of applications permitted in heritage coast No. of applications permitted in historic landscape of the Eston Hills No. of applications permitted in sensitive landscape areas	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
N2: Green Infrastructure			
RCBC	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Green Space Strategy	Net amount of open space lost to development No. of proposals approved/refused in Green Wedges	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
N3: Open Space and Recreation			
RCBC Private house builders Sport England Commercial leisure operators Sports clubs and community organizations	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Developer Contributions SPD Playing Pitch Strategy New provision on large housing sites Developer contributions towards open space provision/improvements	Net amount of open space lost to development Amount of new open space provided No. of planning applications approved/completed for leisure facilities	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
N4: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation			
RCBC Tees Valley Nature Partnership Developers	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Developer Contributions SPD	Percentage change in area of designated biodiversity sites Percentage of SSSIs in favourable condition	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
HE1: Conservation Areas			
RCBC Historic England	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans	Loss of open space (ha) in conservation areas Up-to-date conservation appraisals for all conservation areas	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
HE2: Heritage Assets			
RCBC Historic England	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	No. of heritage assets classified as 'at risk' on Heritage at Risk Register No. of designated heritage assets lost	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
HE3: Archaeological Sites and Monuments			
RCBC Historic England	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	No. of developments on archaeological sites where mitigation measures have not been implemented and/or agreed	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if considered inappropriate development is being delivered.
TA1: Transport and New Development			
RCBC Tees Valley Unlimited Developers Transport Operators Neighboring Local Authorities Sustrans	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Local Transport Plan	Annual rail patronage Annual no. of bus passenger journeys	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.
RCBC Tees Valley Unlimited	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications	No. of major applications requiring travel plans No. travel plans agreed	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.

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Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators	Trigger Point/Remedial actions
Developers Transport Operators Neighboring Local Authorities Sustrans	Local Transport Plan	Annual rail patronage Annual no. of bus passenger journeys	
TA2: Improving Accessibility within and beyond the Borough			
RCBC Tees Valley Unlimited Transport Operators Neighboring Local Authorities Network Rail	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Local Transport Plan	Annual rail patronage Annual no. of bus passenger journeys Progress with highway infrastructure schemes	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.
TA3: Sustainable Transport Networks			
RCBC Local Access Forum Neighboring Local Authorities Sustrans	Local Plan Determination of Planning Applications Local Transport Plan Rights of Way Improvement Plan	Length of new path in public use (add to definitive map or permitted) Length of improved path	Plan, monitor, and manage through AMR. Review policy if necessary.

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7   Conclusion

7.1.1   This Post Adoption Statement for the RCLP has reported on the following details:

- How environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme (**Section 2** of this Statement);

- How the environmental report has been taken into account (**Section 3**);

- How opinions expressed in response to:

i   the invitation referred to in regulation 13(2)(d);

ii   action taken by the responsible authority in accordance with regulation 13(4), have been taken into account; (**Section 4**).

- How the results of any consultations entered into under regulation 14(4) have been taken into account (**Section 4**);

- The reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; (**Section 5**) and

- The measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan or programme (regulation 16) (**Section 6** of this Statement).

7.1.2   **Section 3.3** of this report in particular has demonstrated that the final RCLP being presented to RCBC for adoption (April 2018) has been closely informed by the SA process and that all identified sustainability issues and concerns have now been addressed. In particular, the post-examination modifications to the RCLP have enhanced previously predicted beneficial effects and now result in no significant adverse effects being likely to result from the final RCLP.

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Appendix A   RCLP SA Framework

A.1.1   Table A.1 below sets out the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Framework which has underpinned the SA of the RCLP.

Table A.1 RCLP SA Framework

Headline	Objective	Supporting objective
Core Theme: Protecting, conserving and enhancing the Borough's built, historic, cultural and natural environments		
1.Biodiversity*	Protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity	• provide a strong level of protection to sites designated for the national or international importance for nature conservation • allow people to have better access to suitable areas of nature conservation importance to help everyone better understand and value their natural environment • secure opportunities to achieve a net gain in biodiversity through development • ensure new development does not cause the further fragmentation of habitats and protect and enhance network routes for flora and fauna movement • support landscaping that makes use of native species • protect habitats that provide migration routes for species in response to a changing climate • designated nature conservation sites should be afforded a level of protection appropriate to their status, from European/intentionally designated sites such as SPA and SAC, to areas of local importance such as LNRs and SINCs.
2. Landscapes	Protect and enhance the quality, distinctiveness and setting of the area's seascapes and landscapes.	• help protect and enhance the rural and coastal landscapes, including Heritage Coast, views from the National Park • protect the setting of towns and villages in the landscape and enhance the transition of urban to rural • help in the positive management of landscapes and historic features within them to protect and enhance their character

Headline	Objective	Supporting objective
		• ensure that new landscaping planting can adapt to a changing climate, including increased summer temperatures and storm events and fewer frosts. • Protect landscape features that provide character to streets and public spaces
3. Historic and Built Heritage	Protect and enhance all heritage assets of special archaeological, historical and architectural interest	• ensure new development takes account of and protects and enhances where necessary the cultural and historic environment • where possible identify historic features at risk and help restore these bringing them back into good use • ensure buried archaeological assets are protected from harmful impacts of development, or other appropriate management where suitable • ensure that the features of historic landscape are respected in new development • ensure that locally important heritage is suitably considered in planning for new development • protected designated features from development that would adversely impact on their integrity, including conservation areas, listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments. • where planning permission is required ensure the restoration and repair of historic built heritage is carried out to withstand the impacts of climate change, including adverse weather events
4. Air quality	Protect and improve local air quality	• help reduce reliance on car travel by making sure there are real viable alternatives available for all people • ensure new development in town centre locations does not lead to worsening air quality • help to reduce energy use and thereby help to reduce emissions from coal, oil and gas power generation • control the locations of polluting development to ensure it is not located near residential areas • help reduce waste to landfill, and set standards for management, to avoid methane emissions • help reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reducing car travel, waste management and reduce energy demand from non-renewable resources

Headline	Objective	Supporting objective
5. Water resources	Protect and improve water quality and water resources.	• ensure new development has sufficient sewerage and waste water treatment to avoid harm to water quality • help protect groundwater sources by improving water efficiency, this is vital to maintain river health and drinking water supply • ensure contaminated land is suitability remediated to avoid water quality impacts • implemented suitable SuDS to avoid run-off of potential polluted water to water courses or aquifers • ensure that new development does not exacerbate diffuse water pollution, eg from contaminated runoff or from surface water runoff relating to roads or railways • help move towards meeting Water Framework Directive objectives of 'good' chemical and biological water quality for the rivers of the Borough • ensure new development makes the best use of potable water, incorporating re-use of grey water in new development • ensure development takes into account the impacts of climate change and reduce summer water availability in planning outdoor spaces
6. Energy	Reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions	• promote energy generation from renewable resources, promoting micro-generation as part of the energy requirements of new development • ensure that energy is used more efficiently, including in the design of new development, through promoting local energy generation and reducing car travel • help to implement energy schemes that will help meet North East targets for renewable energy generation, where suitable • promote community or district heat and power schemes • ensure the layout and design of new development helps reduce energy demand and therefore greenhouse gas emissions
7. Climate resilience	Reduce the impact of severe weather events and increase the resilience of the Borough	• ensure that new development is located so as to avoid the risks of fluvial and tidal flooding associated with climate change • aim for greenfield water run-off rates from new development • make use of SUDS to avoid run-off to rivers • ensure that new development does not give rise to increased risk, either on site or through development that exacerbates flooding elsewhere

Headline	Objective	Supporting objective
		• take into account climate impacts in urban design, including natural cooling and avoidance of urban heating and micro-climate impacts
8. Waste and minerals	Minimise waste and increase the reuse, recycling and recovery of waste	• Ensure development is designed to make space for waste sorting, collection and storage. • safeguard mineral resources • encourage better building practices that reduce construction waste and ensure demolition waste is reused in development • help to reduce the use of primary resources by providing appropriate sites for more sustainable waste management, including re-processing, recycling and storage • help reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reducing waste to landfill and suitable management of landfill gases
9. Design	Encourage high quality design and sustainable construction in development	• ensure new development is designed so as to create places that support people making good quality places for living, working and leisure • develop towns that promote walking and cycling and are not focused on car use • ensure that the design of new building adds to the character of the area through high quality design and layout • promote and protect design led development and buildings of local as well as national architectural importance • ensure that development identifies and responds to the character of the area, working with it to protect or enhance it.
Core Theme: Delivering healthy, sustainable, inclusive and cohesive communities		
10. Communities	Empowered and active communities who are proud of where they live	• ensure services and facilities that serve to support local communities are maintained and enhanced as part of new and existing development • allow the communities to be involved in the planning decisions that affect them • help support rural communities, including by helping people remain living in their local area

Headline	Objective	Supporting objective
		• support a demographic and social range in the population of all towns and villages, including children, young people, working age and retired people • help in creating development of the type and design that can help avoid adverse impact on the community, such as development that deters anti-social behaviour • help communities retain and strengthen their unique character through planned growth
11. Housing	Improve the quality, availability and accessibility of housing in the Borough	• provide more affordable housing to meet the needs in rural and urban locations • provide homes that will secure a social and demographic mix of people within the Borough • provide a range of size homes to meet the diverse needs residents, including family homes and smaller flats and retirement units • build good quality housing throughout the Borough
12. Safer communities	Create safer communities and protect people from harm	• protect people from the negative health impacts of polluted air and water • ensure that new development is designed in such a way as to reduce crime and fear of crime • protect people from the risks of unstable or contaminated land • ensure new development is not in areas at known risk of flood • protect people for the negative impacts of climate change, such as increased summer temperatures, adverse weather and flooding, through the design and location of new development. • ensure that appropriate flood risk protection measures are in place to protect residents well-being
13. Health	Improve public health and provide opportunities for physical activity to promote healthier and longer lives for all	• enhance opportunities for healthy living and help support more healthy lifestyles through access to open space and prioritised cycling and walking routes • ensure equitable access to health services • help create places that help people make healthy lifestyle choices, including encouraging walking and cycling and allowing people access to fresh food.
Core Theme: Improving connectivity		

Headline	Objective	Supporting objective
14. Accessibility	Improve the accessibility and quality of key services and facilities	• reduce reliance on car use to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions • reduce disparities in access to services through a combined approach of suitable facility and service provision and public transport links • support the access of rural communities to jobs and services, ideally within villages but also through good public transport networks • support the role of town and village centre, help secure the long-term viability of local shops.
15. Transport	Increase sustainable transport options and usage	• support the growth of mixed use area at transport hubs that have good accessibility by a variety of modes of transport • prioritise walking and cycling, then public transport and finally car users in town centres • prioritise development in locations with public transport links, especially in proximity to train stations.
Core Theme: Diversifying and strengthening the local economy		
16. Improve employment	Increase employment and improve the level of education, skills, jobs and training.	• retain a motivated, highly skilled and educated workforce • promote diversification in the type of jobs available in the Borough • maintain access to skills training and education
17. Economic growth and industrial excellence	Encourage sustainable economic growth, diversify and strengthen the local economy and encourage enterprise and encourage industrial excellence.	• support the diversification of the rural economy and continued support to farming, encouraging food production for the local market • support dispersed employment areas to provide local jobs • provide an infrastructure of transport, communications and land that helps attract new business, including the start-up and growth of indigenous businesses • maintain a coherent and successful range of businesses and build up local supply and distribution chains
18. Leisure and tourism	Increase leisure and tourism opportunities	• help in increasing the income to the area through tourism • encourage use of the heritage and historic environment for tourism • promote higher tourism and leisure spend per capita • protect visitor accommodation, including B&B and hotel accommodation in addition to self-catering options.

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