

Blofield parish Neighbourhood Plan

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

December 2015



To accompany Version 2: Neighbourhood Plan submission draft for examination

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1. Introduction

1.1 The Neighbourhood Plan

The Blofield parish Neighbourhood Plan (NP) is a community-led document for guiding the future development of the parish. It is the first of its kind for Blofield and a part of the Government's current approach to planning.

In 2011 the Localism Act introduced Neighbourhood Planning into the hierarchy of spatial planning in England, giving communities the right to shape future development at a local level. The Blofield parish Neighbourhood Plan complements existing local, national and strategic planning policy, providing valuable detail that has come directly from residents of Blofield parish.

The Neighbourhood Plan is about the use and development of land over the next twenty years. It sets out a number of policies, developed by the local community, to shape development for the period 2016 to 2036.

1.2 The Sustainability Appraisal

One of the documents that Broadland Council recommends Neighbourhood Plan groups to produce in support of the Plan is a Sustainability Appraisal. A Sustainability Appraisal is a systematic process undertaken during the preparation of a plan or strategy, as required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (S19[5]). There is also a requirement for Development Plan Documents to undergo an environmental assessment, (known as a Strategic Environmental Assessment) under European Directive 2001/42/EC (transposed into UK legislation by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004).

It is intended that the Sustainability Appraisal incorporates the Strategic Environmental Assessment in accordance with the Act and Regulations. This means that in addition to environmental issues, on which a Strategic Environmental Assessment focuses, social and economic matters will also be addressed as part of the overall assessment of sustainability, within a single joint appraisal.

1.3 The Sustainability Appraisal report

This is the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) report for the pre-submission draft of the Blofield parish Neighbourhood Plan. It has been written to test and inform the content of the Neighbourhood Plan.

This SA follows the issuing of a Screening Opinion provided by Broadland District Council and the subsequent production of the 'Blofield parish Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report – July 2015' (found at: www.blofieldplan.wordpress.com).

The initial Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (July 2015) has been subject to consultation. Minor amendments were based on comments received from the Environment Agency, Norfolk County Council, Natural England and Historic England in July/August 2015. This has been used to inform the Sustainability Appraisal.

It is intended that this Sustainability Appraisal will incorporate the Strategic Environmental Assessment in accordance with the regulations. The Sustainability Appraisal process will:

- Adopt a long-term view of development within the area covered by the plan, with particular interest on the social, environmental, an economic effects of the proposed plan
- Develop an effective system for ensuring that sustainability objectives are transformed into sustainable planning policies
- Reflect global and national concerns, as well as concerns at the regional and local levels
- Provide an audit trail of how the NP has been revised to take into account the findings of the sustainability appraisal.
- Incorporate the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive
- Produce and consult on a Scoping Report early in the process for the plan.

1.4 Stages in producing a Sustainability Appraisal

Government guidance on undertaking Sustainability Appraisal of Local Development Documents (to which the NP will be comparable) presents a five-stage process, each of which contains criteria to fulfill that requirement. These stages are described in Government guidance in the following manner, shown overleaf.

Stage C in the SA process involves documenting the appraisal findings and preparing an SA Report (this incorporates the material required for inclusion in the ‘Environmental Report’ under the ‘SEA Directive’). The full SA Report is to be published for consultation alongside the ‘pre-submission’ version of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Stage D in the SA process involves consulting on the ‘pre-submission’ version of the plan and the accompanying SA Report. This is the final community engagement stage, whereby residents are shown the draft Plan at the beginning of the formal six-week consultation period. An exhibition of policies will take place on 17 October at the Margaret Harker Hall (Blofield) and 18 October 2015 at Heathlands Community Centre (Blofield Heath). Hard copies of the Neighbourhood Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal will be put in a number of community locations and an electronic copy on the blog, www.blofieldplan.wordpress.com. The NP and the SA will then be submitted to Broadland District Council for further consultation and examination.

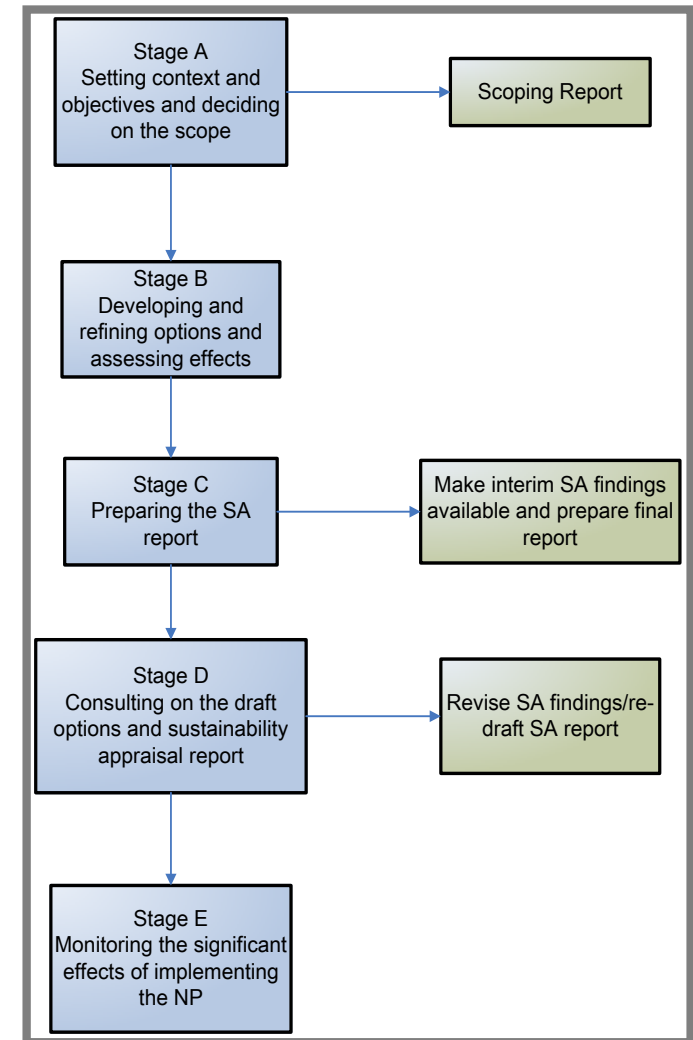


Figure 1 above: Stages in producing a Sustainability Appraisal

2. Compatibility of the Neighbourhood Plan objectives and SA objectives

2.1 The Neighbourhood Plan objectives

The draft Neighbourhood Plan objectives were developed to reflect the themes gathered during the first stage of community engagement for the Neighbourhood Plan. ‘Walkabout and Workshop’ events were held in Blofield and Blofield Heath during February 2015. Six themes were developed – Housing and the Built Environment, Environment, Community, Economy, Services, Transport and Connectivity.

The objectives were tested with the community through a series of ‘Consultation Conversations’ with a variety of community and interest groups, at two ‘Policy Workshops’ in Blofield and Blofield Heath in May and June 2015, and at Blofield School Fete in June and Blofield Heath Village Fete in July 2015.

All objectives were agreed unanimously with the community. The SA objectives were tested with statutory agencies during the SA Scoping Report consultation in July/August. The objectives of the Blofield parish Neighbourhood Plan are as follows:

Theme	Objectives
Housing and the Built Environment	1. To provide sufficient and appropriate high quality housing, in small-scale developments, to meet local needs, within a balanced housing market. 2. To provide mixed-use development that complements the character and heritage of the rural villages of Blofield and Blofield Heath.
Environment	3. To protect and enhance the countryside, including wildlife habitats and open spaces. 4. To create cleaner, safer and greener neighbourhoods and maintain pleasant public spaces.
Community	5. To provide opportunities for cultural, leisure, community, sport and other activities, fostering social interaction and good life chances for all in Blofield parish.
Economy	6. To encourage and support local businesses, in order to retain them within the parish. 7. To retain and enhance the village centres of Blofield and Blofield Heath.
Services	8. To ensure sufficient school places and facilities to meet the needs of the local community.

	9. To ensure sufficient primary health care provision to meet the needs of the community.
Transport and Connectivity	10. To achieve the best possible road infrastructure for the parish. 11. To improve car parking, public transport and traffic management, enabling better travel within Blofield and between communities. 12. To create facilities to encourage safe local walking and cycling, between and within Blofield and Blofield Heath.

2.2 Compatibility of Neighbourhood Plan objectives and SA objectives

The following table sets out which of the Neighbourhood Plan objectives meets the Sustainability Appraisal objectives. The Sustainability Appraisal objectives are the same Environmental, Social and Economic objectives found in the Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk Joint Core Strategy.

Sustainability Appraisal objectives	Neighbourhood Plan objectives											
	Housing and the Built Environment		Environment		Community	Economy		Services		Transport and Connectivity		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
ENV1 – To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.											Compatible	Compatible
ENV2 – To improve the quality of the water environment.												
ENV3 – To improve environmental amenity, including air quality.			Compatible	Compatible								
ENV4 – To maintain and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.			Compatible	Compatible								
ENV5 – To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes, townscapes and the historic environment.		Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible							
ENV6 – To adapt to and mitigate against the impacts of climate change.												
ENV7 – To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.			Compatible									
ENV8 – To provide for sustainable use and sources of water supply.												
ENV9 – To make the best use of resources, including land and			Compatible									

energy, and to minimise waste production.												
SOC1 – To reduce poverty and social exclusion.	Compatible				Compatible			Compatible	Compatible			
SOC2 – To maintain and improve the health of the whole population and promote healthy lifestyles.			Compatible	Compatible	Compatible				Compatible			
SOC3 – To improve education and skills.								Compatible				
SOC4 – To provide the opportunity to live in a decent, suitable and affordable home.	Compatible	Compatible										
SOC5 – To build community identity, improve social welfare, and reduce crime and anti-social activity.				Compatible	Compatible							
SOC6 – To offer more opportunities for rewarding and satisfying employment for all.							Compatible					
SOC7 – To improve the quality of where people live.	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible		Compatible	Compatible	Compatible		Compatible	Compatible
SOC8 – To improve accessibility to essential services, facilities and jobs.							Compatible			Compatible	Compatible	
EC1 – To encourage sustained economic growth.							Compatible	Compatible		Compatible		
EC2 – To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.							Compatible	Compatible		Compatible		
EC3 – To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth.							Compatible			Compatible		
EC4 – To improve the social and environmental performance of the economy.							Compatible					

All Sustainability Appraisal objectives are met through the Neighbourhood Plan objectives, except ENV8 ('to provide for sustainable use and sources of water supply')

3. Compatibility of the Neighbourhood Plan policies and SA objectives

3.1 The Neighbourhood Plan policies

The development of policies within the Neighbourhood Plan has been an iterative process involving community engagement, data collection and checking against strategic policy. A full list of policies can be found in the 'Blofield parish Neighbourhood Plan'. A summary is found in the table below, showing the headlines for each policy.

3.2 Compatibility of Neighbourhood Plan policies and SA objectives

The following table sets out which of the Neighbourhood Plan policies meets the Sustainability Appraisal objectives. Again, the Sustainability Appraisal objectives are the same Environmental, Social and Economic objectives found in the Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk Joint Core Strategy.

	Neighbourhood Plan policies																										
	HOU1: Local housing need	HOU2: Supported housing	HOU3: Valued community assets	HOU4: Rural image, height and massing	HOU5: Parking for new developments	ENV1: Allotments, orchard and green space	ENV3: soft site boundaries and trees	ENV4: Drainage	ENV5: Agricultural land	ENV6: Dark skies	ENV7: Distinct villages	ENV8: Approaches to Blofield and Blofield Heath	ENV9: Important views and vistas	COM1: New land for community use	ECO1: New business and employment	ECO2: Retention of retail or services in the village centre	SER1: Primary school places	SER2: Preschool provision	SER3: Primary Health Care	SER4: Library service	SER5: Internet connection	TRA1: Access to and from A47	TRA2: Local traffic generation	TRA3: Off-road parking and safe drop offs	TRA4: Walking and cycling		
ENV1 – To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.																											
ENV2 – To improve the quality of the water environment.																											
ENV3 – To improve environmental amenity, including air quality.																											
ENV4 – To maintain and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.																											
ENV5 – To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes, townscapes and the historic environment.																											
ENV6 – To adapt to and mitigate against the impacts of climate change.																											
ENV7 – To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.																											
ENV8 – To provide for sustainable use and sources of water supply.																											
ENV9 – To make the best use of resources, including land and energy, and to minimise waste production.																											
SOC1 – To reduce poverty and social exclusion.																											
SOC2 – To maintain and improve the health of the whole population and promote healthy lifestyles.																											
SOC3 – To improve education and skills.																											

SOC4 – To provide the opportunity to live in a decent, suitable and affordable home.																						
SOC5 – To build community identity, improve social welfare, and reduce crime and anti-social activity.																						
SOC6 – To offer more opportunities for rewarding and satisfying employment for all.																						
SOC7 – To improve the quality of where people live.																						
SOC8 – To improve accessibility to essential services, facilities and jobs.																						
EC1 – To encourage sustained economic growth.																						
EC2 – To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.																						
EC3 – To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth.																						
EC4 – To improve the social and environmental performance of the economy.																						




All Sustainability Appraisal objectives are met through the Neighbourhood Plan policies, except ENV8 ('to provide for sustainable use and sources of water supply').


4. Sustainability Appraisal Framework

4.1 Sustainability Appraisal Framework for Blofield parish Neighbourhood Plan

Below is the framework used for the Sustainability Appraisal. This is based on the framework prepared for the Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk Joint Core Strategy and uses the same Environmental, Social and Economic objectives.

The commentary sets out what effects the plan will have on the SA objectives. To help qualify the likely effects of producing a Neighbourhood Plan, a 'do nothing' option has also been assessed, i.e. if there was no Neighbourhood Plan, what would be the sustainability impacts that would occur if only national, regional and district plans were in place.

 Positive effect
  Neutral effect
  Negative effect

SA Objective	Decision making criteria / Points to consider	Indicators and targets	Relevant policies	Short, Medium & Long Term Effects	Assessment of Effects	Commentary
Environmental						
ENV1 – To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.	Will it reduce traffic volumes, ease the flow of traffic and reduce congestion?	Increase in the percentage of people travelling to work by more environmentally friendly means	TRA2: Local traffic generation	Medium term		Effects of the plan – the plan ensures that new developments do not add to the problem of congestion, particularly on The Street in Blofield village. By not addressing this, the problem is very likely to increase. An enhanced and joined-up network will likely increase the number of short local journeys residents are prepared to do on foot or cycle. Existing policies – the Broadland Joint Core Strategy Sustainability Scoping Report (2007) references traffic congestion. The Plan identifies local issues and solutions.
	Will new development be in the best locations to reduce the need for people to travel / encourage travel by		TRA4: Walking and cycling	Medium term		

	methods other than the car?					
ENV2 – To improve the quality of the water environment.	Will it improve the quality of the water environment (streams, rivers, lakes etc)? Will it help to support wetland habitats and species?	Increase in biological and chemical quality of water environment	ENV1: Allotments, orchard and green space	Long term		Effect of the plan – Enhancing wildlife corridors and has the potential to have a positive impact on the quality of the adjacent water environment and ecological state. The Plan should also ensure that future development does not cause or contribute to the problem of flooding or drainage. Existing policies – the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires development proposals to take account of water resources. By setting out specific policies for enhancing local wildlife corridors, the Neighbourhood Plan could potentially increase any positive effects.
			ENV4: Drainage	Long term		
ENV3 – To improve environmental amenity, including air quality.	Will it improve air quality and reduce the emission of atmospheric pollutants?	Look to decrease the number of designated Air Quality Management Areas and the concentration of air pollutants	TRA4: Walking and cycling	Medium term		Effect of the plan – seeking to improve movement by cyclists and pedestrians between residential areas will help the parish improve local air quality. However, proposals for new housing could increase the need for car travel in the area due to its rural location. Both positive and negative effects are likely to increase over time as development takes place. Existing policies – the Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland sets out to improve air quality. The Plan identifies more sustainable movement patterns.
ENV4 – To maintain and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.	Will it conserve/enhance natural or semi-natural habitats, species diversity and promote habitat connections? Is it likely to have a significant effect on sites designated for international, national or local importance?	Look at changes in the conditions of SSSIs, CWS and natural / semi – natural habitats	ENV1: Allotments, orchards and green spaces	Medium term		Effect of the plan – the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to promote and protect local green spaces and areas of particular environmental importance. The area of the Witton Run/Lackford Run is promoted as a green corridor that separates the settlements of Blofield and Blofield Heath. New development site boundary edges should be soft, therefore encouraging biodiversity. Existing policies – the NPPF and the Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) Green Infrastructure Strategy could result in similar positive effects. However, the Plan set out specific areas and requirements for development locally.
			ENV2: Soft site boundaries and trees	Medium term		
ENV5 – To maintain and enhance the	Will it protect and enhance the quality of landscapes, townscapes and countryside	Increase in the number of new developments on previously	ENV4: Agricultural land	Long term		Effect of the plan - proposals for new development within and around Blofield parish have the potential to undermine the character of the area and built heritage. By recognising the importance of high quality agricultural land, the importance of
			ENV5: Dark	Long term		

quality of landscapes, townscapes and the historic environment.	<p>character, including the character of the Broads and its setting where relevant?</p> <p>Will it maintain and enhance the distinctiveness of the landscapes/townscapes and heritage?</p> <p>Will it reduce the amount of derelict, underused land?</p> <p>Will it protect and enhance features of historical, archaeological and cultural value?</p>	<p>developed land. Increase in areas placed into Environmentally Sensitive Area schemes.</p>	skies			<p>dark skies (though the restricting of streetlights and lighting of commercial structures), the physical separation between the settlements of Blofield, Blofield Heath and Brundall, enhancing the village entrances, and protecting important views and vistas, the policies will ensure that the quality is not only maintained, but also enhanced.</p> <p>Existing policies – Local and national policies should ensure the continued protection of landscapes, townscapes and the historic environment. However there is a particular and greater risk that housing developments could take precedent over these locally important considerations. The Plan could potentially achieve a greater positive effect in this respect, particularly regarding approaches to Blofield and Blofield Heath.</p>
			ENV6: Distinct villages	Long term		
			ENV7: Approaches to Blofield and Blofield Heath	Long term		
			ENV8: Important views and vistas	Long term		
ENV6 – To adapt to and mitigate against the impacts of climate change.	<p>Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases?</p> <p>Will more energy needs be met from renewable sources?</p> <p>Will it increase the capacity of the area to withstand the effects of climate change, minimising risks to lives, land and property?</p>	<p>Decrease in Total CO2 emissions per capita (million tonnes carbon equivalent) and reduction of Carbon Footprint of area.</p> <p>Increase in renewable energy generation capacity.</p>	ENV1: Allotment, orchard and green space	Long term		<p>Effect of the plan – seeking improved movements by cyclists and pedestrians within the parish, providing for new public rights of way and delivering improved broadband should help to reduce CO2 emissions that could arise from an increase in the number of journeys generated by new development. Enhancing green spaces in the parish could also help realise the benefits of green infrastructure in relation to climate change.</p> <p>Existing policies – The NNPF requires local planning authorities to adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The Plan adopts a proactive approach to this that is in line with the wishes of the community and locally appropriate.</p>
			TRA4: Walking and cycling	Long term		
			SER5: Internet	Long term		

<p>ENV7 – To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.</p>	<p>Will it minimise the risk of flooding to people and property?</p>	<p>Development permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flood risk. Number of dwellings permitted within the high risk flood-risk areas (Env. Agency Flood Zones 2&3).</p>	<p>ENV1: Allotments, orchard and green space</p>	<p>Long term</p>		<p>Effect of the plan – parts of Blofield parish are identified as localised flooding areas. To minimise further risk permeable materials are to be used on freestanding areas. The protection, maintenance and enhancing of green corridors should enable run off to soak into the land. Existing policies – National and local policy sets out specific guidance on the management of flood risk and therefore the Plan contributes to this at a local level.</p>
			<p>ENV3: Drainage</p>	<p>Long term</p>		
<p>ENV8 – To provide for sustainable use and sources of water supply.</p>	<p>Will it conserve groundwater resources and promote water efficiency?</p>	<p>Look at patterns of daily domestic water use (per capita consumption).</p>	<p>None</p>			<p>None</p>
<p>ENV9 – To make the best use of resources, including land and energy, and to minimise waste production.</p>	<p>Will it minimise consumption of materials and resources? Will it use land efficiently? Will it minimise the loss of “Greenfield” land? Will it avoid the loss of good quality agricultural land and preserve soil resources? Will it minimise energy consumption and promote energy efficiency alongside</p>	<p>Increase the % of dwellings built on previously developed land. Look at Kilograms of waste produced per head of population; and % change on previous year. Look for increase in % of household</p>	<p>ENV4: Agricultural land</p>	<p>Long term</p>		<p>Effect of the plan – high quality agricultural land is recognised as particularly important in the Plan and should be used for development only second to areas of poorer quality land. Existing policies – this is in line with the NNPF, however this is of particular importance locally and so the NP highlights this.</p>

	<p>promoting renewable energy sources? Will it lead to less waste being produced and/or promoting more recycling and composting? Will it increase waste recovery for other means e.g. energy generation?</p>	waste recycled and composted.				
Social						
SOC1 – To reduce poverty and social exclusion.	<p>Will it reduce poverty, deprivation and social exclusion in those areas most affected?</p>	<p>Reduce % of children living in low-income households. Key benefit claimants - % of working age population claiming benefits</p>	HOU1: Local housing need	Medium term		<p>Effect of the plan – the Plan seeks to provide housing for older people and the disabled, smaller homes to downsize to, starter homes and supported housing, to ensure there is sufficient and appropriate high quality housing to meet local needs. Existing policies – the Plan identifies local issues and solutions.</p>
			HOU2: Supported housing	Medium term		
SOC2 – To maintain and improve the health of the whole population and promote healthy lifestyles.	<p>Will it improve access to high quality health facilities for existing and new communities? Will it encourage healthy lifestyles? How? Will the links between poorer health and deprivation be addressed? Will links to the countryside be maintained and enhanced?</p>	<p>Look at % of population receiving incapacity benefits. Is there an increase in Life expectancy of residents?</p>	SER3: Primary Health Care	Medium term		<p>Effects of the plan – the Plan seeks to ensure that provision is made for further primary health care to meet the needs of a growing population. Also, by enabling more walking and cycling to village amenities and the countryside, the Plan is encouraging healthy lifestyles. Existing policies – the Plan identifies local issues and solutions.</p>
			TRA4: Walking and cycling	Medium term		

SOC3 – To improve education and skills.	<p>Will adequate education infrastructure be provided for existing and new communities? (by improving and retaining qualifications and skills for both young people and amongst the workforce and promoting lifelong skills) Will links between lower levels of education and deprivation be addressed?</p>	<p>Workforce qualifications - % of working age population with qualifications at NVQ Level or above. School leaver qualifications - % of school leavers with 5 or more GCSEs at A*-C grades.</p>	SER1: Primary school places	Long term		<p>Effect of the plan – ensuring provision is made for further school places, applications will be supported for further preschool provision, and the library service will be retained and enhanced. These policies provide a package of local education infrastructure that should only improve as the population expands. Existing policies – The ‘Plan for Growth’ policy requires a contribution towards education and skills development. The Plan focuses on three areas that are pertinent to a community that is growing substantially</p>
			SER2: Preschool places	Long term		
			SER4: Library service	Long term		
SOC4 – To provide the opportunity to live in a decent, suitable and affordable home.	<p>Will it increase the range of types, sizes and affordability of housing for all social groups? Will it reduce the housing need and ensure that housing provision addresses the needs of all?</p>	<p>An increase in % of housing stock that is affordable housing & a decrease in number of unfit dwellings in housing stock.</p>	HOU1: Local housing need	Medium term		<p>Effect of the plan – the Plan seeks to ensure there will be mixed use development meeting local housing need, in particular housing for older people and the disabled, smaller homes for downsizing, starter homes and supported housing. Given Blofield’s rural location and poor public transport, adequate parking for new developments is set out with specific requirements for starter homes. Existing policies – The Plan supports an appropriate level of affordable housing, complying with national and district guidelines of affordable housing.</p>
			HOU5: Parking for new developments	Medium term		
SOC5 – To build community identity, improve social welfare, and reduce crime and anti-social activity.	<p>Will it encourage engagement in community activities contributing to a mixed and balanced community? Will it reduce fear and instances of crime?</p>	<p>Incidences of crime committed per 1,000 households</p>	COM1: New land for community use	Long term		<p>Effect of the plan – the Plan allocates land for community use, which over times is likely to include a new multiuse community building, formal and informal recreation space, a children’s play area and car parking. This will enable and encourage further engagement in community activities and allow new residents to be involved. Existing policies – the Plan identifies local issues and solutions.</p>

<p>SOC6 – To offer more opportunities for rewarding and satisfying employment for all.</p>	<p>Will it reduce unemployment overall? Will help to improve earnings?</p>	<p>Look for decrease in % of the economically active population who are unemployed. Look for decrease in % of unemployed people who are long-term unemployed.</p>	<p>ECO1: New business and employment</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Effect of the plan – the Plan supports planning application for new businesses and the retention of retail or services in the village centres, which would potential increase and retain employment locally, as would the policy to provide fast internet connections to enable home/office working. Unemployment is low locally, but local employment opportunities would be welcomed. Existing policies – National and local policies would allow proposals for economic development in rural areas. The Plan identifies local issues and solutions.</p>
			<p>ECO2: Retention of retail or services in the village centre</p>	<p>Long term</p>	
			<p>SER5: Internet connection</p>	<p>Medium term</p>	
<p>SOC7 – To improve the quality of where people live.</p>	<p>Will it improve the quality of dwellings? Will it improve the quality of local open space? Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods?</p>	<p>Decrease % of overall housing stock not meeting the ‘Decent Homes Standard’. Increase in % of public housing stock built to the standard of the Code for Sustainable Homes (pending).</p>	<p>HOU4: Rural image, height and massing</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Effect of the plan – the Plan seeks to maintain and enhance the village image as rural and green, and plan positively for high quality and inclusive design. By respecting the character, height and massing, being similar in density, footprint, separation, scale and massing of buildings in the surrounding area, and being in small clusters with open spaces, there is likely to be satisfaction with the parish. Also there are a number of valued community assets recognised where either loss or significant harm should be strongly resisted. The Plan recognises the need for housing for older people and the disabled and this is to be built in accordance with Lifetime Homes Standards. Existing policies – National and Local policies lead to an improving of place. The Plan identifies local issues and solutions.</p>
			<p>HOU3: Valued community assets</p>	<p>Long term</p>	
			<p>HOU1: Local housing needs</p>	<p>Long term</p>	
<p>SOC8 – To improve accessibility to essential services, facilities and jobs.</p>	<p>Will it improve accessibility to key local services and facilities (including health, education, leisure, open space, the countryside and community facilities)?</p>	<p>Increase % of residents who travel to work by public transport; foot or cycle; and reduce private car journeys</p>	<p>SER1: Primary school places</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Effect of the plan – ensuring provision is made for further school places, applications will be supported for further preschool provision, provision is made for further primary health care, the library service will be retained and enhanced and a fast internet connection will improve key services. This will in turn enable more people to use local services and reduce the dependence on the private car. An enhanced and joined-up network will likely increase the number of short local journeys</p>
			<p>SER2: Preschool provision</p>	<p>Long term</p>	
			<p>SER3: Primary Health Care</p>	<p>Long term</p>	
			<p>SER4: Library</p>	<p>Long term</p>	

	Will it improve access to jobs and services for all whilst reducing dependency on the private car?	Reduce average distance travelled to the workplace by residents.	service			residents are prepared to do on foot or cycle.
			SER5: Internet connection	Medium term		Existing policies – Blofield village is located within the Norwich Policy Area (NPA) and is identified as a ‘Key Service Centre’ in the Joint Core Strategy (JCS). And Blofield Heath village is within the NPA and is identified as a ‘Service Village’ in the JCS. The Plan ensures that the provision of services and facilities is prioritised, so that the centres are not just housing, but thriving communities. This is supported by ‘The Plan for Growth’
			TRA4: Walking and cycling	Medium term		
Economic						
EC1 – To encourage sustained economic growth.	Will it assist in strengthening the local economy? Will it improve business development and enhance competitiveness? Will it increase vitality & viability of town centres and improve economic diversity?	Look for increase in % change in the total number of VAT registered businesses. Look for increase in average weekly pay for full-time employees.	ECO1: New business and employment	Long term		Effect of the plan – the Plan seeks to support the enable new businesses and employment, whilst also retaining retail and services in the village centres. Off-road parking and safe drop offs are key to the viability and vitality of businesses on The Street in Blofield village. Existing policies – Blofield village is located within the Norwich Policy Area (NPA) and is identified as a ‘Key Service Centre’ in the Joint Core Strategy (JCS). And Blofield Heath village is within the NPA and is identified as a ‘Service Village’ in the JCS. The Plan ensures that the provision of services and facilities is prioritised, so that the centres are not just housing, but thriving communities. This is supported by ‘The Plan for Growth’
			ECO2: Retention of retail or services in the village centres	Medium term		
			ECO2: Off-road parking and safe drop offs	Medium term		
EC2 – To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.	Will it encourage indigenous business? Will it encourage inward investment? Will it make land and property available for business? Will it improve economic performance across the Parish? Will it support/encourage diversification?	Look for increase in number of small businesses	ECO1: New business and employment	Long term		Effect of the plan – the Plan seeks to support the enable new businesses and employment, whilst also retaining retail and services in the village centres. Off-road parking and safe drop offs are key to the viability and vitality of businesses on The Street in Blofield village. Also solving the problems of traffic congestion in the parish may enable more businesses to thrive in Blofield village centre. Existing policies – Blofield village is located within the Norwich Policy Area (NPA) and is identified as a ‘Key Service Centre’ in the Joint Core Strategy (JCS). And Blofield Heath village is within the NPA and is identified as a ‘Service Village’ in the JCS. The Plan ensures that the provision of services and facilities is prioritised, so that the centres are not just housing, but thriving communities. This is supported by ‘The Plan for Growth’
			TRA3: Off-road parking and safe drop offs	Medium term		
			TRA2: Local traffic generation	Medium term		

<p>EC3 – To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth.</p>	<p>Will it improve provision of local jobs? Will it improve accessibility to work, particularly by public transport, walking and cycling? Will it reduce journey times between key employment areas and key transport interchanges? Will it improve efficiency and sustainability of freight distribution? Will it support provision of key communications infrastructure?</p>	<p>Increase % of residents who travel to work by public transport; foot or cycle; and reduce private car journeys Reduce average distance travelled to the workplace by residents.</p>	<p>TRA1: Access to and from A47</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Effect of the plan - the Plan requires that major developments (of 10+ dwellings) in the parish should demonstrate safe and efficient means of access for vehicles to and from the A47 at the west and east ends. This would reduce journey times between employment areas (notably Norwich and Great Yarmouth). Solving the problems of traffic congestion and parking provision on The Street in Blofield village will also enable businesses to thrive. An enhanced and joined-up network will likely increase the number of short local journeys residents are prepared to do on foot or cycle and thus accessibility to work. Existing policies – The Plan identifies local issues and solutions that are found in local and national policy.</p>
			<p>TRA3: Off-road parking and safe drop-offs</p>	<p>Medium term</p>	
			<p>TRA2: Local traffic generation</p>	<p>Medium term</p>	
			<p>TRA4: Walking and cycle</p>	<p>Medium term</p>	
<p>EC4 – To improve the social and environmental performance of the economy.</p>	<p>Will it reduce the impact on the environment from businesses? Will it reduce the impact on residents from businesses? Will it attract new investment and skilled workers to the area? Will existing business and employment provision be maintained? Where would employment provision best be located to serve urban and rural residents?</p>	<p>Increase amount of various employment development on previously developed land or conversions Ecological footprint – decrease hectares required per capita to support current production & consumption. Decrease</p>	<p>ECO1: New businesses and employment</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Effect of the plan – the Plan supports planning application for new businesses and employment that fit within the rural surroundings and which are appropriate both in scale and environmental impact. Existing policies – The Plan identifies local issues and solutions that are found in local and national policy.</p>

		unemployment benefit receipt				
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5. Conclusions and next steps

5.1 Appraisal of policies

The appraisal has revealed that when measured against the Sustainability Appraisal objectives, the Neighbourhood Plan should perform well and will help to deliver sustainable development in the Parish. The assessments found that all policies will have positive or neutral impacts in the short, medium and long term.

5.2 Monitoring

Following adoption, Blofield Parish Council will monitor the effects of the Blofield parish Neighbourhood Plan.

5.3 Next steps

The SA report will now be made available for public consultation alongside the 'Pre-submission version' of the Neighbourhood Plan. Comment can be written on the same forms.