



## **King Somborne Neighbourhood Plan**

# **Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment) Environmental Report**

**June 2022**

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## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

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The following Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment) (SA/SEA) has been carried out to assess the effect of the King Somborne Neighbourhood Plan on the environment of the Parish and its surroundings and the contribution it is making to delivering sustainable development.

A Strategic Environmental Assessment assesses the effects of plans on the environment. A Sustainability Appraisal looks beyond purely environmental matters and also incorporates both social and economic aspects of sustainable development.

The King Somborne Neighbourhood Plan contains policies that will control how development takes place in the Parish. These include policies on design, conservation, landscape and biodiversity. It also allocates land for housing development to meet identified local needs. The sites allocated are small to medium sized and have been chosen to be close to services and facilities. A key requirement is to ensure that the character of the settlement which is predominantly based on the valley floor is protected.

In preparing the plan a number of alternative approaches have been considered and assessed. It was concluded that providing significantly more or significantly less houses than the 41 that are being proposed was likely to lead to a range of negative effects. It was also concluded that the best way of delivering the housing was on sites of a small to medium size within or adjoining King Somborne settlement boundary.

The individual policies have also been assessed and the significant effects of the plan are as follows:

- The proposed biodiversity, flooding, archaeology, landscape, local gap and local green space policies are likely to have a significant positive effect on various sustainability objectives.
- The sites proposed to be allocated result in positive effects when tested against the sustainability objectives in terms of their proximity to services and facilities, landscape character, health & wellbeing and providing for a mix of homes.

Some sites are within or adjoining the Conservation Area and in some cases there are listed buildings and potential for archaeological remains. Policy mitigation and design guidance is being developed (and now consulted on) which seeks to avoid significant negative effects in relation to the historic environment. Consultation feedback is sought, particularly from Historic England, to reduce uncertainties in this respect.

This assessment has been prepared alongside the Neighbourhood Plan. Consultation responses will help to establish whether any further mitigation or assessment is required.

# I. INTRODUCTION

- I.1. King Somborne Parish Council is preparing a neighbourhood plan for the parish of King Somborne. To support the development of the plan, a **sustainability appraisal, incorporating strategic environmental assessment (SA/SEA)** was prepared by South Downs National Parks Authority and has been updated by King Somborne Parish Council following its first round of statutory consultation (known as, and henceforth referred to as, Regulation 14 consultation) in June 2018, incorporating subsequent reports by AECOM associated with the evidence base and site selection. It is being published alongside the second Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan in a re-run of Regulation 14 consultation, to demonstrate how the plan contributes to achieving sustainable development and what alternatives have been considered. Comments on both the plan and the SA/SEA will be considered by the Neighbourhood Planning Steering group and revisions made as necessary as part of the statutory and iterative process.

## What is an SA/SEA?

- I.2. King Somborne Parish Council as the body preparing the Neighbourhood Plan is required to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) following formal screening in 2018. The aim of a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is to promote sustainable development by assessing how well or otherwise a plan will help achieve environmental, economic and social objectives. A Strategic Environmental Assessment or SEA is an assessment undertaken when preparing a plan to ensure that a high level of protection is given to the environment. These should be undertaken in a proportionate manner depending on the scope and objectives of the plan and the likely levels of development proposed.
- I.3. It is normal to combine the processes of SEA and SA, as they share a number of similarities. Whilst there are formalised approaches for both SA and SEA, only the SEA has legal obligations (with regards to the neighbourhood plan) that require certain activities to be performed, as defined by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regs). The SEA Regs transposed into national law (and is intrinsically linked to) the EU Directive 2001/42/EC (the SEA Directive).

### **Compliance with Regulations**

Where this report addresses the requirements of the SEA Regs/ SEA Directive, for clarity this will be set out in a box like this.

- I.4. The aim of the overall process is to make a plan more sustainable and more responsive to its effects by identifying its likely significant environmental, social and economic impacts and ways of minimising its negative impacts and maximising positive opportunities. To be effective, the appraisal process must be fully integrated into the plan making process and undertaken at each stage of document production; hence its update and publication at this stage alongside the Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan in a re-run of Regulation 14 consultation. It will also be used to monitor the effectiveness of the plan during its implementation.

### **Compliance with Regulations**

**Screening opinion** - Regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 requires that the responsible authority (Test Valley Borough Council) shall determine whether or not a plan is likely to have significant environmental effects.

In March 2018, Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England, as the statutory consultation bodies for the Regulations, were consulted on this SEA screening request.

Having considered the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan and the consultation responses from the three statutory bodies, it was Test Valley's opinion that the proposed Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects. On this basis, a proportionate and focussed Strategic Environmental Assessment would be required for the proposed King Somborne Neighbourhood Plan.

### **What are the stages in its preparation?**

- I.5. To undertake the SA/SEA process the following five stages should be completed:
- Stage A - Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding the scope;
  - Stage B - Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects;
  - Stage C – Preparing the sustainability appraisal report;
  - Stage D – Seeking representations on the sustainability appraisal report; and
  - Stage E – Post adoption reporting and monitoring.
- I.6. A Scoping Report forms the first stage, Stage A, and brings together the evidence base early in the plan-making process in order to identify significant problems, act as a base for future assessment, monitor the effects and inform the identification of reasonable alternatives to what is being proposed. It was completed and consulted on in December 2018. Consultees included the statutory consultation bodies, Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency, and their responses have been used to refine the assessment and update some of the information. This SA/ SEA Report contains Stages B & C. It will be consulted on alongside the Pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan, this consultation will form part of Stage D.
- I.7. This report includes the following sections:
- 1) Context and vision for the King Somborne Neighbourhood Plan
  - 2) Baseline Information
  - 3) The Scope and Assessment Framework
  - 4) Assessment Findings

## 5) Monitoring

- I.8. The report also includes a 'Non-Technical Summary' at the beginning and appendices at the end containing further detailed information, such as previous SEA work, consultation responses and a compliance review against the SEA requirements to demonstrate how they have been met, undertaken by AECOM.

## 2. CONTEXT AND VISION FOR THE KING SOMBORNE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

### Compliance with Regulations

Outline the contents, main objectives of the plan and relationship to other plans

- 2.1. The Neighbourhood Plan area is shown in Figure 1 and covers the entire Parish. The Parish is comprised of six settlements, the largest being King Somborne together with the three smaller linear settlements strung out along single roads of Up Somborne, Horsebridge and Brook and the two small hamlets of Compton and Marsh Court.

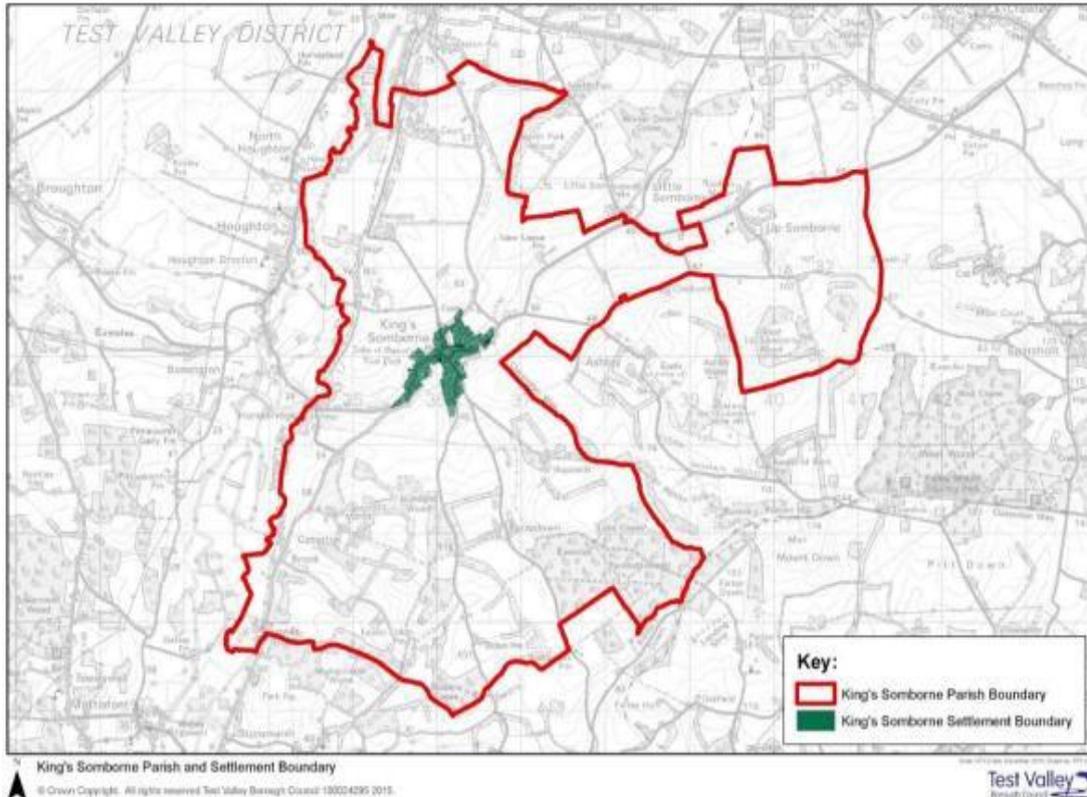
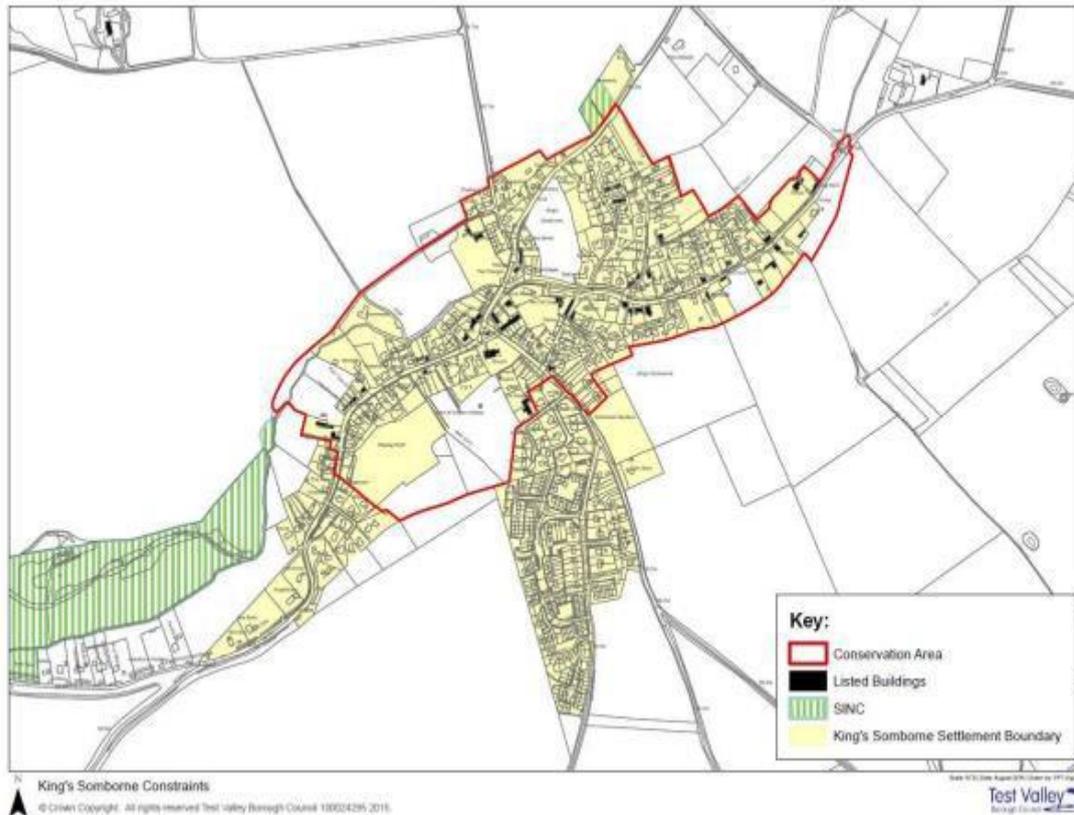


Figure 1: King Somborne Parish Boundary

- 2.2. The village of King Somborne and its significant features are shown in Figure 2. The village is a predominately linear settlement sitting at the bottom of a minor V-shaped valley. It sits alongside the ephemeral winterbourne stream (the Somborne) which is one of the tributaries of the River Test. The village lies within a wider landscape of open chalk downland that has a gently rolling, undulating landform. This landscape comprises predominantly expansive and open, large arable fields with very few intervening hedgerows or trees. In contrast, a small number of woodlands, shrubs and trees are located in the valley bottom adjacent to the village providing shelter and a sense of enclosure.



**Figure 2: Key features of King Somborne village**

2.3. In summary, the principal features of the Parish (as relevant to this study) are:

- 1) The King Somborne Conservation Area (Figure 2).
- 2) The 148 predominately Grade II listed buildings of the Parish of which 60 fall within the village of King Somborne concentrated within the Conservation area including the medieval church of St Peter and St Paul.
- 3) Flood Zones 2 & 3 associated with the Somborne which flows through King Somborne and is one of the tributaries of the River Test joining it at Horsebridge.
- 4) Sites of importance to Nature and Conservation (SINC) close to King Somborne and throughout the Parish.
- 5) Proximity of Mottisford SAC, important for Barbestelle bats.
- 6) River Test SSSI, of which the Somborne is a tributary.
- 7) Historic linear valley bottom settlement character of King Somborne is still clearly recognisable.
- 8) Trees typical at the break in slope between valley bottom and sides.
- 9) Rural ridgeway tracks and narrow drove roads. Secondary routes run perpendicular to the main road.
- 10) Views towards ridgelines.
- 11) The agricultural setting of King Somborne is tangible from within the village.

## Summary of the proposals within the NDP

- 2.4. The NDP has been developed through a programme of community consultation, public steering group meetings with Q&A sessions, attendances at various public events and workshops building on an original NDP survey. A consultation was held on a first draft of the plan in May / June 2018.
- 2.5. The Community vision set out within the plan focusses on ensuring that King Somborne Parish retains its cherished rural identity whilst striving to be a sustainable and forward-looking community which is an attractive place to live, work and visit; supporting people of all ages. The plan therefore proposes to:
- 1) Safeguard important Local Greenspaces, protect the character and environment of the Parish including the rivers, landscape features, views, settlement form, open space, biodiversity and historic buildings.
  - 2) Allocate land for housing within and adjoining the village of King Somborne.
  - 3) Establish design guidelines based on the King Somborne Design Guide.
  - 4) Seeks a mix of housing types and sizes.
  - 5) Safeguard and support community facilities and shops.
- 2.6. However, the Plan does not stand on its own and must be read alongside Test Valley Revised Local Plan 2011 – 2029 adopted in January 2016, which contains a multitude of policies relevant to development in the Parish. Where possible, these are not repeated and therefore a lack of policy in the NDP does not signify a lack of importance attached to the issue, rather that it is already sufficiently covered and the NDP can add no further detail of relevance. Of key relevance, the Test Valley Revised Local Plan identifies the parish as part of the Rural Test Valley. This area contains the rural parishes in the predominantly central part of the Borough and in total is expected to deliver a minimum of 648 homes in the plan period through the development of rural exception affordable housing, community led development or other applications coming forward.
- 2.7. **Appendix I** sets out the plans and programmes that underpin the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan and much of the evidence and data is incorporated into the Scoping Chapter (Chapter 3) below.

### 3. SCOPE OF THE SA/SEA

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- 3.1. A scoping report was published and consulted on in December 2018. The purpose was to review key environmental and sustainability objectives of relevant plans and policies; collect baseline data for the area; identify key sustainability issues; and, establish a Sustainability Appraisal Framework against which the Neighbourhood Plan can be assessed.
- 3.2. Responses to the consultation on the scoping report and what changes have been made as a result are contained in **Appendix 2**.

#### **Compliance with Regulations**

The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan.

The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.

Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance, such as areas designated as SPAs and SACs.

The environmental protection objectives established at international, community or national level which are relevant to the plan and how they have been taken into account.

- 3.3. The environmental characteristics that the report must assess the likely significant effects on are biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscapes and the interrelationship between the above factors. The baseline information in this chapter therefore includes what is known about all these factors in respect of King Somborne.

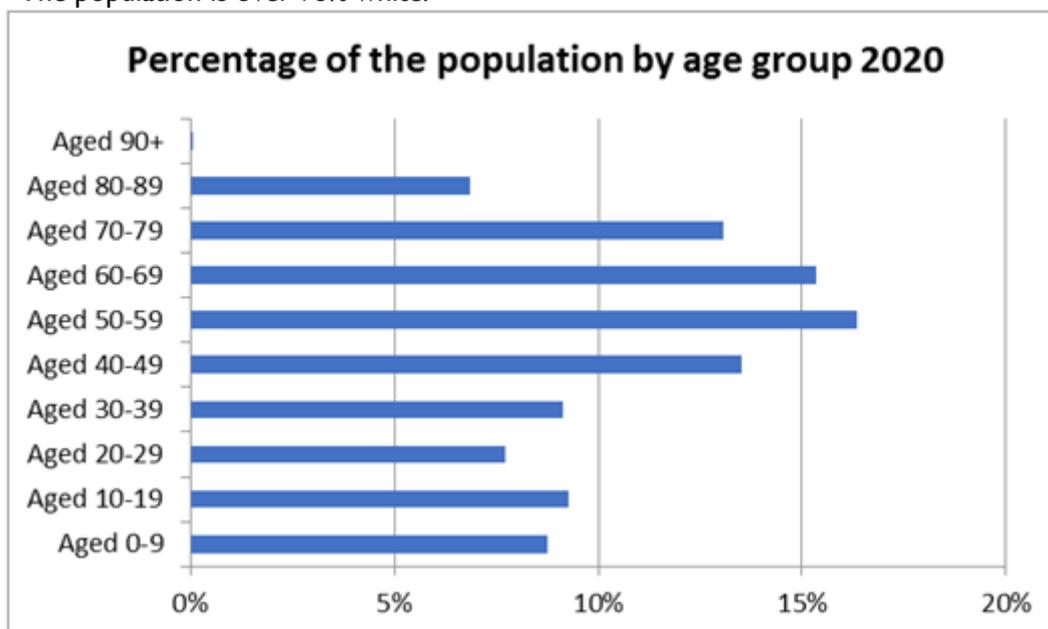
- 3.4. It is important to identify the current state of the environment in order to judge the impact and effectiveness of the plan during implementation. This is achieved by collecting baseline data that will provide a starting point for predicting and monitoring social, economic and environmental effects and identifying sustainability issues within the area. It focuses on the key issues that the plan may have a significant effect on.
- 3.5. The SEA Directive also requires consideration of the likely evolution of the area without the implementation of the plan or programme. It is important to recognise that this situation would not result in a policy vacuum as the Parish is already covered by a significant number of designations and planning policies, such as those contained in the Test Valley Local Plan, that must be met before permission is granted for a development.
- 3.6. The collection of baseline information is grouped by topic and is closely linked to that collected and included in the **Test Valley Scoping Report (2020), published by Test Valley Borough Council** to be used in the preparation of planning policy documents in the Borough. This baseline information is followed by the establishment of a range of sustainability objectives against which the policy options within the Neighbourhood Plan will be tested. These are generally a simplified or more focused version of the objectives in the Test Valley Scoping Report. They have been refined as a result of the consultation on the Scoping Report.

## Social Sustainability

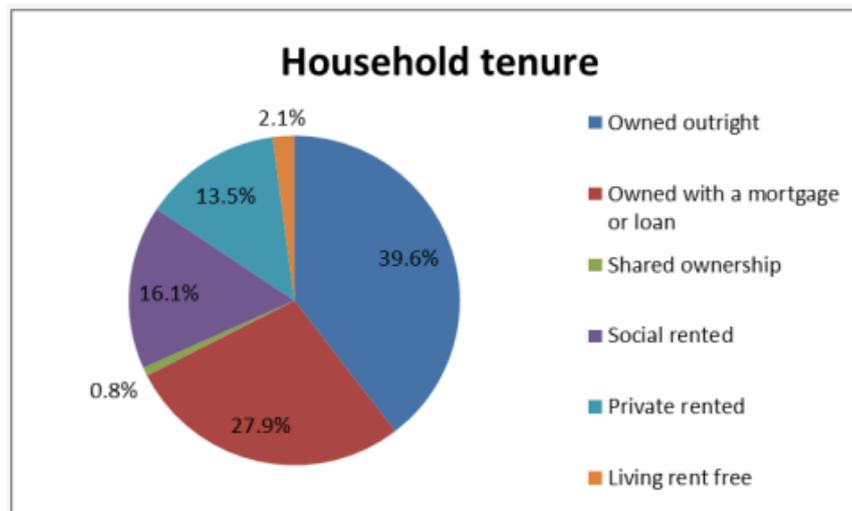
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### 3.7. Population and community

- 3.7.1. The estimated 2020 population of King Somborne parish is 1,782. This is expected to remain almost constant till 2027 (forecast population 1,780). Young people (0-19) currently make up 18.7% of King Somborne's population; this is expected to fall to 18.1% by 2027. The percentage of young adults (20-39) is expected to fall 0.9% between 2020 and 2027. Whilst the number of middle age residents (40-69) is expected to remain fairly constant during this period. An increase of 1.6% of over 70s is anticipated between 2021 and 2027. The population is over 98% white.



3.7.2. King Somborne has 708 households split by tenure as shown below.



3.7.3. There are very slightly more privately rented and socially rented properties in the Parish than the Test Valley average. Almost 42% of properties are occupied by 2 people, followed by approximately 22% being occupied by 1 person. In April 2017, 31 households were on the housing register seeking properties in the Parish. Test Valley Borough Council give priority for vacancies to households with a relevant local connection.

3.7.4. According to Zoopla, the average house price in King Somborne (as of 2021) was £658,240. This has increased by about 9% in the last five years. In 2016 it was estimated that 39.4% of households in central rural Test Valley cannot afford to buy a private property. The King Somborne Housing Needs Survey Final Report January 2017 Completed by Action Hampshire (see Annex 2.7) concludes the following: “The majority of survey respondents seek owner occupied accommodation with many wanting to downsize to a smaller property. The survey has identified a high demand for detached homes and bungalows from survey respondents. A demand for retirement housing has also been identified. The majority of survey respondents seek alternative accommodation with two or three bedrooms.” The current two-bedroom housing stock represents approximately twelve percent of the total.

3.7.5. Residents of the Parish are generally highly educated. 41.6% of King Somborne's residents have achieved level 4 qualifications and above compared to 30.5% in Test Valley as a whole. 16.9% of King Somborne's residents have no qualifications, compared to 18.4% in the Borough.

3.7.6. The parish has a range of services centred on King Somborne. This includes:

- King Somborne C of E Primary School which has an annual admissions number of 20 pupils and has 4 classes.
- There is a thriving pre-school located in the newly installed community building.
- 4 public / village halls, including King Somborne Village Hall which can hold up to 200 people and the Somborne Working-men’s club.
- St Peter & St Paul’s Church.
- Two public houses with one in the centre of King Somborne and the other in neighbouring Horsebridge.
- Small number of shops including Cross Stores and Post Office.

3.7.7. Outdoor sports facilities are available with a football pitch, cricket pitch, MUGA and

playground located in the centre of King Somborne, a trim trail located in the area adjacent to John O'Gaunt palace and a further recreation ground on Muss Lane. There is also a fully equipped playground and recreation area in Up Somborne. The Parish has a strong sense of community with many activities and events taking place throughout the year.

- 3.7.8. King Somborne lies within one of the least deprived parts of the Borough but the physical and financial accessibility of housing and key local services is a key issue (Source: Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019).
- 3.7.9. The key sustainability issues are therefore the potential for slight population loss, particularly in the younger age group coupled with an aging population. This is compounded by high house prices and limited availability of property particularly at the less expensive and smaller end of the market. The King Somborne NDP through the allocation of sites for housing can deliver a small increase in the mix and type of housing available focussed on smaller homes, particularly 2 bedroom homes. There is also a need for ongoing support to retain and even increase local services and facilities.
- 3.7.10. Without the Neighbourhood Plan the material assets of the Parish in the form of housing and community facilities will remain and are protected by existing planning policies in the Test Valley Local Plan; with the Neighbourhood Plan there may be a slight increase in housing and the community will be given the opportunity to highlight facilities of local significance. There are strong links between the population and community theme and the health and wellbeing theme within this assessment.

**Main Data Sources**      King Somborne Parish Profile 2016  
                                 Parish Council website  
                                 Test Valley Scoping Report (2020)

### 3.8. **Health and wellbeing (including leisure and culture)**

- 3.8.1. The Test Valley Sustainability Appraisal (2020) reports that generally the health of residents in the Borough is good and in some regards is better than the average for England; however, there are variations within the Borough associated with deprivation levels. Life expectancy (at birth) for residents of Test Valley is 81.3 years for males and 84.3 years for females, which is above the average for England. The only indicator reported within the health summary for Test Valley where the local position is significantly worse than the England average relates to those killed and seriously injured on roads.
- 3.8.2. People are living longer, but with this comes additional pressures on health and social care resources and infrastructure. There are also growing numbers of people with dementia. Changes in the age structure of the area may have implications on the types of healthcare and associated infrastructure that would be required.
- 3.8.3. When considering wellbeing, it is worth recording that the Parish contains a number of local leisure facilities:
- Sports Grounds / Formal Recreation -1.7ha (consisting of the King Somborne Recreation Ground)
  - Informal Recreation areas – 2.3ha (King Somborne Recreation Ground, Muss Lane, Hunters Close and the Recreation Ground, Up Somborne)
  - 3 \* Childrens play space – 0.12ha
  - Furzedown Road Allotments – 0.96ha
- 3.8.4. It is noted by the Parish Council that the allotments centrally located on Furzedown Road help bring the community together. The Public Open Space Audit (2012) identified that the provision of children's play space in the Parish was low. In the wider area there are larger

attractions such as Mottisfont Abbey, Houghton Lodge Gardens and Farley Mount Country Park. Nearby, Romsey and Winchester contain a far greater range of leisure and cultural facilities including leisure centres, theatres and museums. It is important to ensure continuing availability of local facilities to support communities and new residential development which may increase pressure on existing resources or support their retention. One of the strengths of the Parish is the active community and access to a wide variety of clubs, facilities and events.

3.8.5. Green infrastructure can include a variety of types of space, many of which can provide multiple benefits, including links to biodiversity, access to green space (with potential health benefits) and in some cases supporting the local economy. A Green Infrastructure Strategy (2014 – 2019) has been prepared for Test Valley. Within it the following initiatives are identified for the rural Test Valley area:

- Retaining the settlement character and pattern e.g. through supporting Neighbourhood Plans.
- Maintaining and creating green corridors through identifying opportunities to link existing areas of ecological importance.
- Maintaining and creating green spaces through supporting community led initiatives to enhance existing green spaces and create new green spaces.
- Improving access to natural greenspace through identifying opportunities to improve the links from villages to the adjoining countryside through the Test Valley Access Plan and Borough Cycle Strategy.

3.8.6. In conclusion the health of residents is generally good, but an ageing population will bring with it increasing demands for health and social care. In rural locations social isolation can become an issue due to the high car dependency of residents. These trends in health and wellbeing will continue with or without the Neighbourhood Plan but the plan can add value by identifying and protecting specific areas of open space, local community buildings, creating further green infrastructure and linking areas of ecological character.

3.8.7. Health and wellbeing is linked to many other topics within the assessment e.g. population, air quality, access to sustainable modes of transport, facilities and services section.

<b>Main Data Sources</b>	Hampshire’s Joint Strategic Needs Assessment / Joint health & Wellbeing Strategy. Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 Test Valley Green Space Strategy (2021 - 2031) Test Valley Scoping Report (2020) Test Valley Public Open Space Audit (2019)
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### 3.9. Employment and retail

- 3.9.1. The percentage of economically active residents in King Somborne is 71.1%, which is slightly lower than Test Valley as a whole.
- 3.9.2. Test Valley Scoping Report 2019 indicates the number of jobs available in the Borough is forecast to continue to grow. However, there are a number of uncertainties, particularly at present, for example taking account of the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic (both now and in the longer term)
- 3.9.3. The availability of appropriate infrastructure will continue to be important in supporting the local economy, this includes transport, utilities and broadband. In relation to the latter, Hampshire County Council is rolling out a Hampshire Superfast Broadband Programme.
- 3.9.4. King' Somborne, the largest settlement in the parish is identified as a rural village in the Test Valley Revised Local Plan 2011 - 2029 Settlement Hierarchy. Rural villages are recognised as having a limited range of facilities and employment opportunities; experience the highest proportion of out-commuting in the Borough; and, have the highest proportion of highly qualified people. Residents of King Somborne Parish will tend to travel to large towns in the borough (such as Andover, Romsey and Stockbridge) or to the cities outside the Borough (Salisbury, Winchester and Southampton) for employment. The proximity of Winchester is also key for those commuting to London. The decline in rural facilities and local employment has been taking place for some time with changes in lifestyles and availability of services via the internet having a significant impact. In recent years, King Somborne has seen the closure of a basket shop. The village garage and general building and construction contractor have also both closed, the sites sold off and the businesses replaced with housing. This has reduced employment premises within the Parish.
- 3.9.5. The key sustainability issues are therefore the limited employment premises in the parish which combined with limited access to public transport means there is a reliance on the car with most journeys to work via this mode. There is therefore a need to support people who are working at home who in turn might also make greater use of local services and facilities during the day. The trend towards working from home is likely to increase and small businesses operating from home will provide local very small-scale employment. The NDP may have a role to play in supporting this and promoting continued advancements in Information Technology infrastructure within the Parish. There will be an ongoing need to support the remaining services in the village through a range of community measures as well as use of planning powers to protect the premises and their use.

**Main Data Sources**      King Somborne Parish Profile 2016  
                                 Parish Council website  
                                 Test Valley Scoping Report (2020)

### 3.10. Transport

- 3.10.1. The Test Valley Local Plan reports that the rural nature and the relative wealth of most of the Borough is reflected in high car ownership rates. The 2011 Census identified that the percentage of households without a car was 13.5%. This high ownership rate is reflected in the high use of cars for travelling to work and low number of residents using public transport. Accessibility to services in the area is quite poor with households located further

away from key facilities than both the rural county and regional averages.

- 3.10.2. Based on the 2011 Census, the top five destinations for out-commuting from Test Valley were Southampton, Winchester, Eastleigh, Wiltshire and Basingstoke and Deane. It is also understood that many people in the village and parish commute to London from Winchester Station.
- 3.10.3. The availability of public transport to and from King Somborne has reduced significantly over recent years. A limited bus service is provided by Stagecoach to Winchester and. There is no longer a bus service to Andover, Romsey or Winchester necessitating travelling by car or taxi to link with rail services if travelling further afield
- 3.10.4. The Test Valley Cycle Strategy and Network SPD describes a section of the Test Way as providing a good off-road route north to south through rural areas of Test Valley and has recently been designated as part of NCN 246. Where possible the Borough Council will seek to improve this and links to it, and to NCN 24 which crosses east to west. This will enable more residents within the rural villages safe access to the cycle routes and at the same time will allow cyclists access to the services and facilities in the rural settlements such as King Somborne.
- 3.10.5. Two significant long-distance footpaths pass through the parish: the Monarch's Way and the Clarendon Way. The parish also has a network of local public rights of way.
- 3.10.6. In conclusion the key sustainability issue is an over reliance on non-sustainable forms of transport and limited public transport. The dual aims of increasing accessibility to services and facilities (thereby reducing the need to travel) and supporting more sustainable modes of travel is shared by a number of plans and policies already covering the King Somborne area. The NDP will not have a significant role to play in increasing levels of public transport but has a role to play in protecting and improving the services and facilities already within the Parish thereby reducing the need to travel. In addition, the NDP can look to support or improve footpath links.

**Main Data Sources**            On-line public transport information.  
Test Valley Cycle Strategy and Network SPD (2015)  
Test Valley Scoping Report (2020)

### 3.11. Air quality

3.11.1. Air quality within the Borough is reported as being generally good, with road transport being one of the main sources of pollution. The most recent monitoring within the Borough did not identify any exceedances of the current air quality objectives. Although there are no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) within the Borough, there are AQMAs in neighbouring authorities and so traffic flows to and from Test Valley will to some degree have implications for air quality in these locations.

3.11.2. The Test Valley SA concludes that it is difficult to predict likely future changes in air quality, when accounting for the range of factors that can influence it. Air quality targets should continue to provide an impetus to improve air quality / reduce levels of pollutants, for example with continuing improvements in emissions from vehicles.

3.11.3. No air quality issues specific to the parish have been identified and the level and type of development proposed within the NDP will have a minimal impact. This is assessed through the Local Plan and can be scoped out for the purposes of this SEA process.

**Main Data Sources**      Test Valley Scoping Report (2020)

### 3.12. Biodiversity

3.12.1. No Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) or Ramsar sites lie within the Neighbourhood area. However, King Somborne is within 2.5km of the Mottisfont Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which is designated for its important population of the rare barbastelle bat. Mottisfont contains a mix of woodland types including hazel coppice, broadleaved plantation and coniferous plantation which the bats use for breeding, roosting, commuting and feeding. Habitat deterioration can be caused by:

- fragmentation of habitats (on-site);
- direct loss of supporting habitats (i.e. off-site), including fragmentation of foraging areas and severance or disruption of commuting routes;
- declining water quality (effects on supporting habitats);
- declining water resource (effects on supporting habitats).

3.12.2. The plan therefore needs to be assessed on the basis of any effect of development on the loss of bat foraging or commuting habitats and disturbance to the species. To ensure this happens, a shadow assessment as required by the Habitats Directive has been undertaken and is published alongside the Plan. It concludes that the Plan will not give rise to likely significant effects on the Mottisfont Bats.

3.12.3. The Somborne feeds into the River Test which is a designated SSSI. The River Test is a chalk stream and one of the most species-rich lowland rivers in England. Therefore development proposals should be assessed for potential impacts on the SSSI.

3.12.4. The village of King Somborne is situated in a river valley amidst open rolling chalk downland, principally used for cereal and other crops, interspersed with wooded areas.

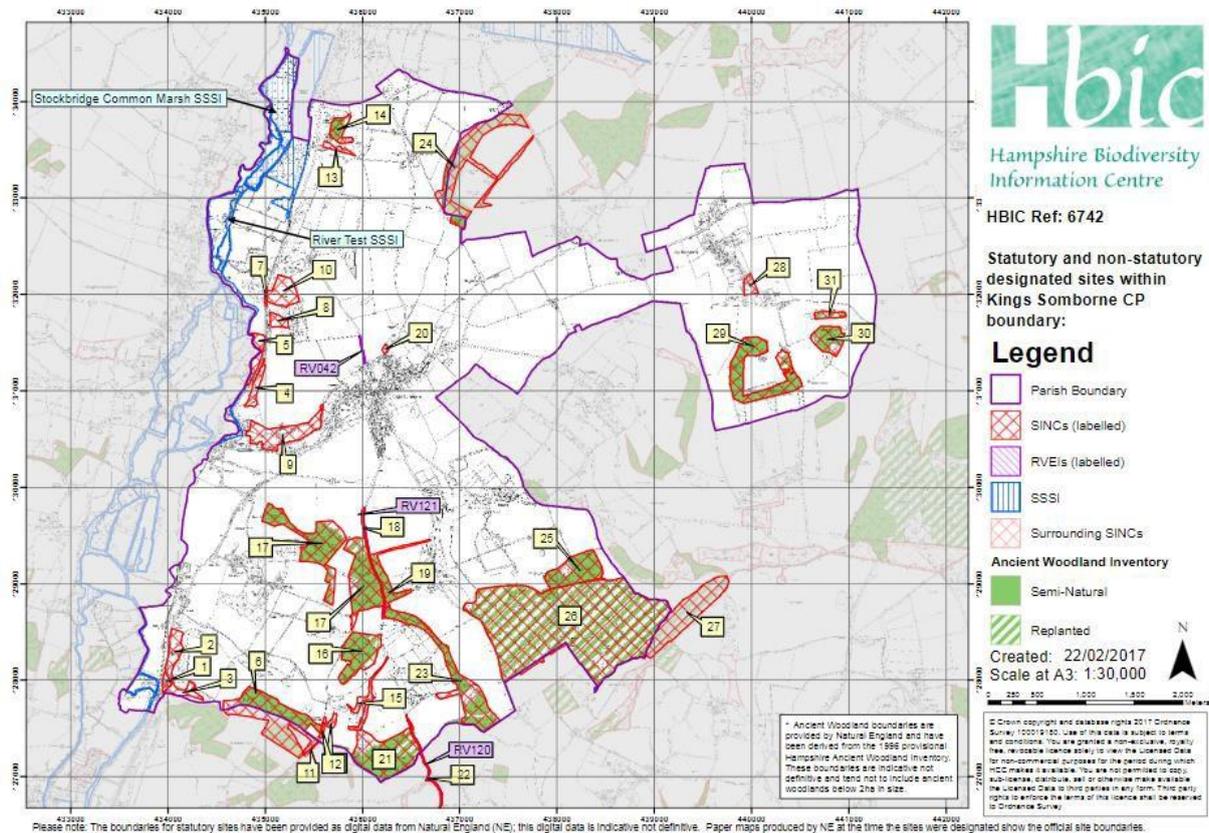


Figure 3: Key habitats within King Somborne

3.12.5. To the south of the parish is Bere Ashley Biodiversity Opportunity Area. The Hbic entry describes the area as lying on the Hampshire Upper Chalk plateau. It contains the Crab Wood SSSI in the east, and several ancient semi-natural woodland and relic downland SINC. The SINC are a mixture of relic downland and remnant ancient semi-natural woodland, and plantations on ancient woodland sites which retain a good ground flora. Key targets for habitat creation centre around Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland and Lowland Calcareous Grassland.

3.12.6. To the north of the parish is the Somborne Woods Biodiversity opportunity Area. The Hbic entry describes this area as comprising the Windovers Farm Woodlands & the Heath House Estate Woods and sits adjacent to Stockbridge Down SSSI. Together these woods form the largest concentration of worked hazel coppice in south east England and have had a

history of continuous coppice management for at least several centuries. Some areas have become derelict in recent years. The woodlands are all SINCs and are also important for Pearl-bordered fritillary, Duke of Burgundy and Grizzled skipper. Relic areas of chalk grassland occur and there is a large area of chalk downland which supports over 30 species of butterfly. Part of the area is also important for rare arable weeds. Key targets for habitat creation centre on Lowland Calcareous Grassland and Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland.

- 3.12.7. All the SSSI's in the Parish are in favourable or unfavourable but recovering condition.
- 3.12.8. Pressures on biodiversity within the Parish can be as a result of the direct effects of development including the loss or degradation of habitats including those used by foraging bats and a reduction in the water quality of the Somborne. Indirect effects as a result of development can include increased pressures from the use of sites and disturbance to wildlife. Development can also provide opportunities to enhance or restore biodiversity, in particular Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Lowland Calcareous Grassland and the riverine environment alongside the Somborne which may not otherwise be deliverable. Changes to the environment is also predicted to arise as a result of climate change (through direct and indirect routes).

**Main Data Sources**      Test Valley Habitats Regulations Assessment  
The Local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for Test Valley  
Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre  
Test Valley Scoping Report (2020)  
King Somborne NDP Shadow Habitats regulation Assessment

### 3.13. **Climate change**

- 3.13.1. The climate is forecast to get warmer and wetter in winter and hotter and drier in summers, with an increased risk of extreme weather events.
- 3.13.2. The Test Valley Scoping report (2020) explains that given the legal requirements, greenhouse gas emissions should continue to reduce into the future. In Test Valley, a key source of emissions relates to transport, which is difficult to address in a largely rural parish like KingSomborne.
- 3.13.3. It is anticipated that the generation of renewable energy is likely to continue to grow in the future, although changes to funding mechanisms and government policies may influence the rate of increase and the specific technologies that provide this growth. Finally, it should be noted that average recycling rates in Test Valley are lower than the national average.
- 3.13.4. The Test Valley Scoping Report (2020) explains that climate changes are likely to occur without the impact of any new / updated planning policy documents within Test Valley. Given the scale on which the climate is affected, any proposals within plans for Test Valley are unlikely to significantly alter these predictions but may have a cumulative effect in combination with other plans and policies.
- 3.13.5. At this very local level the impact of a Neighbourhood Plan on climatic factors is likely to be negligible. The plan is required to be in conformity with the policies already in the Test Valley Local Plan and Building Regulations will be used to ensure sufficient carbon reduction methods are incorporated into new build properties. The cumulative long-term effects are therefore already considered through the assessment of these overarching plans. Climate change will be most readily felt within the Parish as a result of increasing risks from flooding.

3.13.6. The nearest watercourse is the Somborne which flows south-west through King Somborne to its confluence with Park Stream. The Somborne rises from a number of springs and is culverted in some place including beneath a number of roads and driveways. Flooding occurs following extreme rainfall and / or when groundwater levels are high including most noticeably in 2014 when a number of properties were damaged.

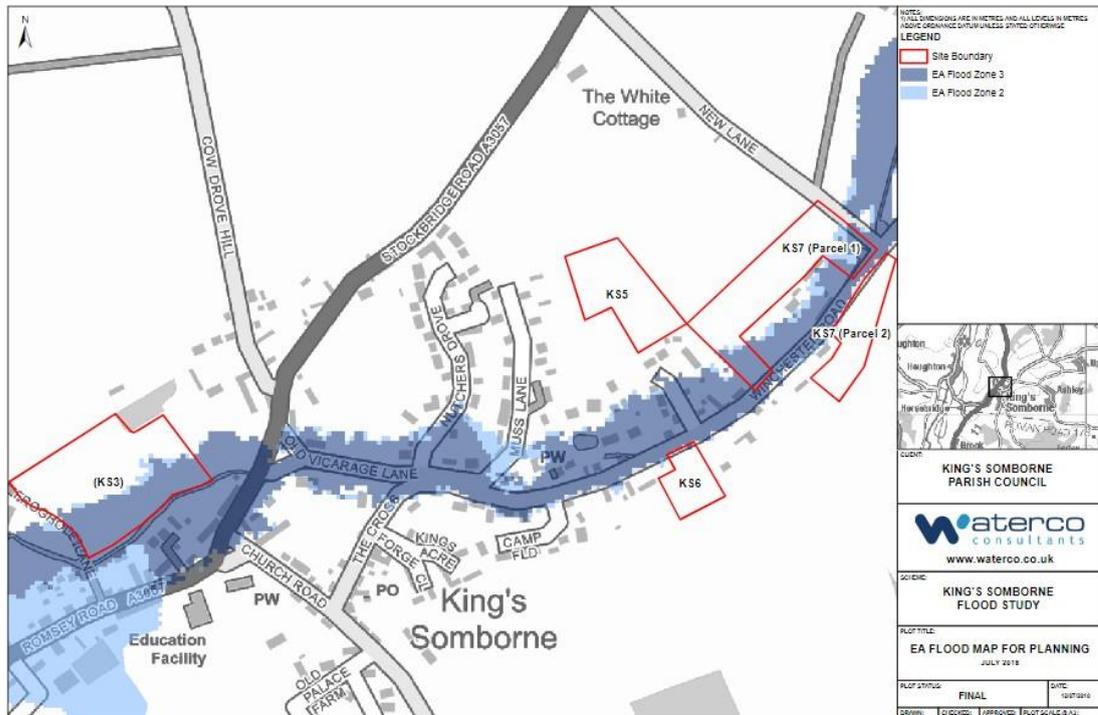
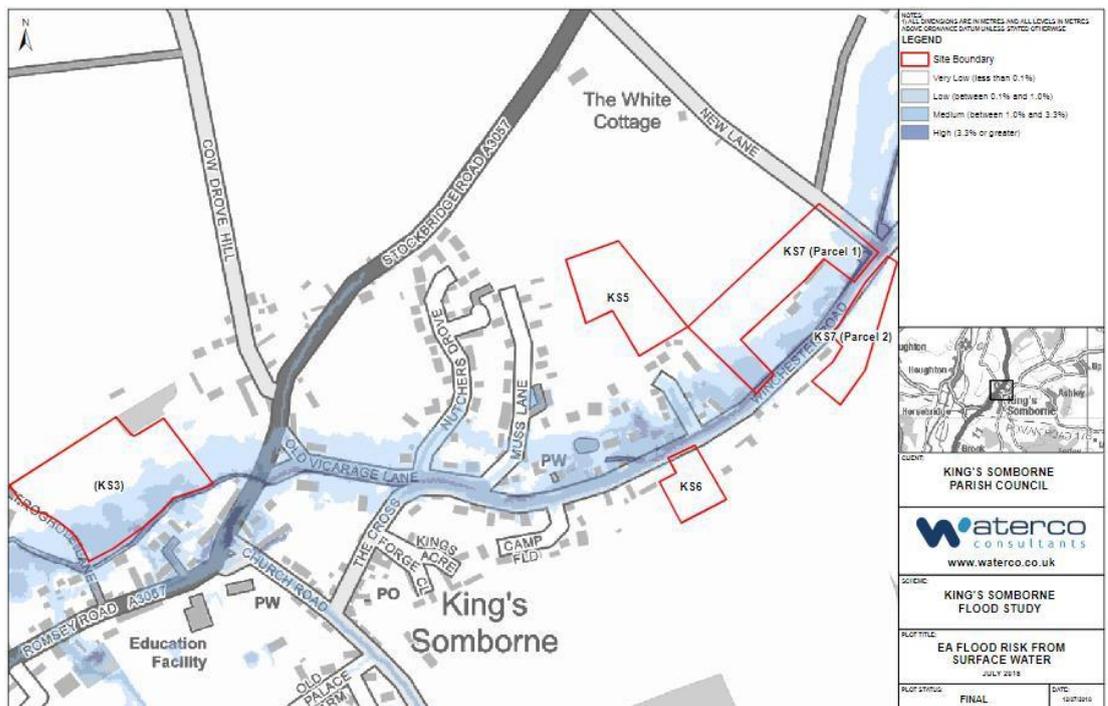


Figure 4: Fluvial flood risk

3.13.7. Surface water flooding occurs in places throughout the Parish when rainwater does not drain away through the normal systems. King Somborne Parish have also identified a number of occasions of flooding as a result of high groundwater levels.



**Figure 5: Surface water flood risk**

- 3.13.8. The flood risk assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan concluded that fluvial and groundwater flooding are the main potential sources of flood risk in the Parish. The frequency and magnitude of flood events could increase for example as a result of changes in rainfall patterns (including total amount, seasonality and intensity).

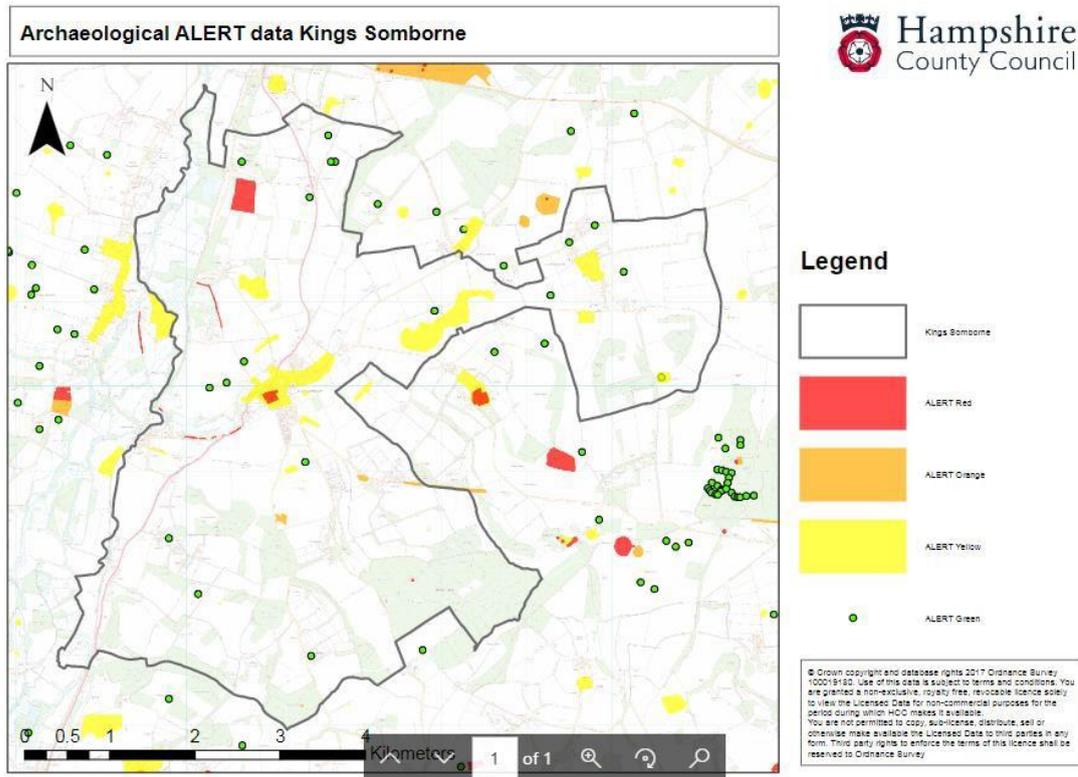
<b>Main Data Sources</b>	Test Valley Scoping Report (2020) Test Valley Borough SFRA King Somborne Neighbourhood Plan Flood Risk Assessment (2018) King Somborne Hydraulic Modelling Report (2021)
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### 3.14. **Historic environment**

- 3.14.1. King Somborne was included in the Domesday survey in 1086 when it was owned by the King in lordship and known as 'Sunburne'. The population included 25 villagers, 8 smallholders, 2 slaves and 7 freedmen. Three mills and two churches are also noted in the survey together with land for 10 ploughs and areas of meadow land and pasture. The present church of St Peter and St Paul, part of which dates to the early 13th century, probably occupies the site of one of the original churches.
- 3.14.2. The 'Sombornes' comprise the scattered village of King Somborne, together with the hamlets of Little Somborne, Up Somborne, and Ashley. Little Somborne has the small but charming church of Saxon origin, redundant but conserved in the 1970s and now used for two services a year. Up Somborne, a ribbon of houses among farmland, is under one mile from Little Somborne.
- 3.14.3. Between King Somborne and the river at Horsebridge lies John of Gaunt's Deer Park and to the south the Romans had a river crossing. The Deer Park covers an area of almost 200ha, was created in the late 1100's and contains a number of ancient yew trees.
- 3.14.4. At Ashley, near Farley Mount, the Normans built a large castle. At Eldon is the tiny 12th-century Church of St John the Baptist, (now redundant). The ecclesiastical Parish of Somborne with Ashley has three restored or conserved redundant churches within its boundaries.
- 3.14.5. King Somborne is described as a nucleated settlement, however it is not densely developed for the most part. The roads and spaces between built forms, contribute significantly to its character. Traditional building materials include brick and flint, brick and chalk cob walls with thatch, clay tile and slate roofs. Within the Conservation Areas there are a number of notable buildings, and the site of John of Gaunt's Palace, which ranks as an Ancient Monument. The conservation area has seen an amount of infill development since its designation and, whilst this may have been deemed appropriate, it is notable that a part of its rural character and village settlement pattern with houses and cottages set among large gardens and paddocks (or 'crofts') has been lost. This has affected both the character of the conservation area and the setting of its numerous listed buildings. Further development may contribute to a cumulative adverse impact.
- 3.14.6. There are over 2,000 listed buildings in Test Valley. None are on the Heritage at Risk Register (which covers Grade I and II\*). King Somborne Conservation area is one of 36 in the Borough and was designated in 1971 and extended in 1987. The Conservation Area pamphlet Published in 1986 provides helpful detail on the special historic and architectural interest of the area and a map of important hedgerows and open spaces that contribute to the areas character. The lack of an up to date conservation area appraisal is a data-gap that

if filled would provide a fuller assessment against which to judge policies and site allocations.

- 3.14.7. Many parts of the Parish are covered by archaeological alert zones giving a general indication of where there is the greatest potential for archaeological finds.



- 3.14.8. With a high-quality built environment which contributes significantly to residents sense of place and community, it is important to ensure new development is planned for sensitively taking account of potential implications on all heritage assets (and their setting) not just designated heritage assets. The existing planning and regulatory system help to achieve this but the Neighbourhood Plan can add local detail and understanding. The allocation of land for development has the potential to impact on heritage assets and their setting.

**Main Data Sources**

- King Somborne Conservation Area Appraisal, 1986
- Listed building entries
- Hampshire Historic Environment Rectors
- Scheduled Ancient Monument records
- Historic Park and Garden Register

### 3.15. **Landscape and Townscape**

- 3.15.1. The Landscape Character Assessment for Test Valley provides a comprehensive assessment of the landscape within the Borough. The King Somborne Chalk Downland is part of the Open Chalk Downlands landscape character type. The King Somborne Chalk Downland is described as being distinguished by its openness and more limited vegetation cover. The overall strategy is therefore to conserve the openness whilst restoring a pattern of hedgerows and small copses across the downs.
- 3.15.2. Built development guidelines for the Open Chalk Downloads landscape character type are:
- Development to respond to the local characteristics of the landscape
  - Seek opportunities to enhance roadside planting and minimise visual and noise intrusion Avoid intrusive development of tall and large structures except where **they can be successfully integrated into the landscape**
- 3.15.3. King Somborne River Valley Floor is part of the River Valley Floor character area which is noted as providing a river setting to King Somborne within an open arable landscape. The overall strategy is therefore to enhance and restore the small-scale riverine character of King Somborne River Valley Floor.
- 3.15.4. The Parish is not within an AONB.
- 3.15.5. The Test Valley Scoping Report (2020) identifies many potential sources of change in the landscape including the impact of climate change, agricultural / land management and pressure from built development, traffic, tourism and recreation. In some areas of the Borough there has also been an increase in telecommunications and overhead transmission lines and windfarms. Finally use of the land for minerals and waste managements as well as for the military can lead to change. The key objectives are therefore:
- to maintain the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, in the chalk downlands;
  - restore lost hedgerows on former hedgerow lines; and,
  - protect / restore unimproved chalk grassland.
- 3.15.6. Alongside this there is a need to preserve the pastoral character of the winterborne areas including traditional hedge management. The allocation of sites in the Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to affect the landscape and townscape quality of the Parish on an individual basis and in combination with each other, this impact would be permanent.

#### **Main Data Sources**

Test Valley Landscape Character Assessment  
King Somborne Landscape Assessment January 2018 to  
be read in conjunction with the associated AECOM  
technical review of this assessment

### 3.16. **Geology and soil**

- 3.16.1. The basic underlying geology of both Test Valley and King Somborne Parish is chalk. At a more local level along the course of the Somborne there are superficial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel some of which are fluvial in origin.
- 3.16.2. There are no Regionally Important Geological sites in the Parish.
- 3.16.3. There are a mix of soil types in the Parish ranging from shallow lime-rich soils over chalk which are freely draining to a small spur of freely draining slightly acid loamy soils with high fertility along the valley of the Somborne.

- 3.16.4. No specific land or soil contamination issues have been identified in the Parish. Test Valley does not have a heritage of extensive heavy industry and therefore at a District level this has not created many highly contaminated sites.
- 3.16.5. Given the very rural nature of the Parish, there is only very limited previously developed land as evidenced through survey work undertaken by the Parish Council and therefore future development will take place predominantly on greenfield sites.
- 3.16.6. The Test Valley Scoping Report states that it is difficult to predict how the soil environment will change in the future. Additional development on greenfield sites is likely to have a direct and permanent impact on soil resources through the development itself and associated changes (e.g. systems to manage the movement / drainage of water). Changes in climate may also have an effect on the condition / quality of soil, for example in relation to soil moisture levels, whilst other uses of the land may equally have an effect (e.g. through agricultural and other land management activities / operations). There is nothing to indicate that King Somborne Parish differs from this assessment and it is considered that the preparation of the NDP is likely to have only minimal influence on these key sustainability issues.

**Main Data Sources**      Test Valley Contaminated Land Strategy 2017  
 Test Valley Community Landscape Project  
 Test Valley Scoping report 2020

### 3.17. **Water quality**

- 3.17.1. The Somborne is a chalk stream and feeds into the River Test. The River Test dominates the geography of the Borough. The Parish is underlain by chalk which is a principal aquifer. Across the Borough there are a large number of public and private water supplies drawing from this aquifer. The River Test and its tributaries are also fed by groundwater. The protection of groundwater is essential. The Parish falls within a Groundwater Safeguarding zone and parts are within groundwater source protections zones where it is particularly important to avoid risks of pollution.
- 3.17.2. The Test Valley Scoping Report covers issues of water supply, identifying the difficulties in forecasting future requirements and limitations on some waste water treatment works. It is concluded that the position needs to be kept under review and that it is important to ensure that sufficient infrastructure capacity is available to support new development. Minimising the amount of water required by new development and maximising the replenishment of groundwater sources are particularly important within the Borough. The picture in King Somborne reflects the trends in the Borough as a whole.
- 3.17.3. The quality of the water in the Somborne is important to the health of the River Test into which it flows. The River Test is a chalk fed stream and designated as a SSSI.
- 3.17.4. The river Test and its major tributaries flow into the Solent. The water environment of the Solent region is one of the most important for wildlife in the UK. It is internationally important for its wildlife and is protected with Government Regulations and also has national protection for many parts of the coastline and the sea. There are high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus entering the Solent and evidence is showing that these nutrients are causing excessive growth of algae. These nutrients are arising from wastewater from existing housing and agricultural sources. The resulting dense mats of green algae are impacting on the Solent's protected habitats and bird species. There is uncertainty as to whether new housing development will add to the problem. This issue has been examined by local planning authorities in association with Natural England, the Environment Agency and water companies. One way to address this

uncertainty is for new development to achieve nutrient neutrality, which is a means of ensuring that development does not add to existing nutrient burdens.

- 3.17.5. The use of sustainable drainage systems is advocated in the Test Valley SA and the Flood Risk Study accompanying the Neighbourhood Plan as a way to try and manage flood risk, whilst also potentially having opportunities in relation to water quality (maintaining quality or potentially improving it). Such systems need to be tailored to the specific area and circumstances, for example, accounting for geology, soil types and topography. In addition, it recommends that finished floor levels should be set above surrounding ground levels to avoid groundwater flooding.
- 3.17.6. In summary the key sustainability issues are the protection of water quality and the risks associated with groundwater and fluvial flooding. Development may have effects on water quality and biodiversity well beyond the boundary of the Parish, for example through the increase of nutrients entering the River Test and the Solent catchment area. Policies exist at both national and Borough level to prevent inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, but the Neighbourhood Plan can add further value by looking at where there are opportunities for improvement and enhancement, particularly in relation to development proposals.

**Main Data Sources**

King Somborne Flood Risk Study, 2018, Waterco Consultants  
King Somborne Drainage Note, 2021, Waterco Consultants  
King Somborne Hydraulic Study 2021, Waterco Consultants

3.18. **The interrelationship between the above factors**

- 3.19. The geology, soils and topography of the parish drive much of the land-use and the location of development, particularly the historic development which tends to be alongside the Somborne. This strongly dictates the character of the parish and therefore where further development is or is not appropriate.
- 3.20. The lack of rural public transport means people have to use the car for many services, facilities and employment. Therefore there is a pressing need to retain as many services in the village as possible to help to maintain a living, vibrant atmosphere as well as support residents with less ability to travel through lack of transport, health or age related matters. Support for home working helps to counter the loss of employment premises albeit this may provide work in different sectors. Home working can also lead to greater numbers of people being present during the day and supporting services and facilities.
- 3.21. There are interrelationships between the population profile and the need or otherwise for housing. Some development will result in the population remaining stable or growing slightly. This supports services and facilities. However, too much development leads to harm to the landscape and biodiversity amongst others.
- 3.22. The Somborne is a defining feature of the Parish, determining many of its landscape character features. It is also intrinsically linked to water quality and biodiversity. The impact of climate change may lead to more flooding and greater impacts on the communities nearby.

### 3.23. **The likely evolution of these characteristics without a neighbourhood plan**

A neighbourhood plan is one part of the Development Plan and without it development pressures would still be managed via the Test Valley Local Plan. However, a neighbourhood plan allows local people to steer development at a more fine-grained level and influence how and where it occurs to conserve and enhance the characteristics of the area that they most value. None of the characteristics are likely to evolve in a significantly different manner with or without the NDP but it gives people a greater say in what development goes where and an increased sense of ownership of the plan and the decisions made.

## 4. SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OBJECTIVES

- 4.1. The key sustainability issues identified overleaf have been used to formulate the following objectives against which the King Somborne NDP will be tested. These were amended as a result of the consultation on the scoping report 2018. The decision aiding questions help to break down a broad objective into manageable chunks which assists in assessing a policy against that objective.

	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Decision aiding questions</b>
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	Will it help to deliver affordable homes for the Parish? Will it provide smaller or specialist homes to meet local needs including those wishing to downsize?
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	Will it support existing facilities and services? Will it provide new facilities / services to meet existing or growing needs in locations close to those they serve? Will it provide housing in locations with easy access to a range of local services and facilities?
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	Will it provide or enhance access to the countryside and areas of open space Will it provide opportunities for improved health and wellbeing of the Parish?
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	Will it support the Parish's economy e.g. existing shops / businesses? Will it support job creation? Will appropriate infrastructure be provided to support business (particularly information technology)?
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	Will it ensure that residents can use sustainable forms of transport? Will it reduce the need to travel?
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	Will it ensure that designated sites within or adjoining the Parish are protected? Will it help avoid loss, deterioration or harm to priority habitats and species including the Barbastelle Bat? Does it help to retain or restore biodiversity, including the connectivity of habitats, in particular Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Lowland Calcareous Grassland and the riverine environment alongside the Somborne
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	Will it involve inappropriate development within flood zones 2 and 3? Will it be at risk of ground or surface water flooding? Will it help to reduce the risk of flooding elsewhere (e.g. through use of sustainable drainage systems)?
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	Will it conserve or enhance built heritage, their significance, and their setting? Will it conserve the King Somborne Conservation Area and its setting? Will it provide for increased access to and enjoyment of the historic environment?
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	Will it conserve or enhance the Open Chalk Downs landscape character area or the King Somborne River Valley Floor character? Will it conserve or enhance settlement character including

		maintaining a distinction between settlements and creating a sense of place? Will it ensure that the design of new development does not detract from the local townscape?
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	Will it encourage the re-use of previously developed land, or the reuse of buildings? Will it encourage the efficient use of land?
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	Will it conserve and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment? Will it safeguard groundwater resources?

4.2. When used to test a policy, the impacts will be scored as follows:

Symbol	Predicted effect	Example
++	Significant positive effects – the allocation or policy would significantly help in achieving the objective. It may provide more benefits than would normally be expected.	<i>If a substantial increase in affordable housing is the objective, an allocation that delivers 100% such housing would score ++, a policy that delivers affordable housing in accordance with more standard policies such as 40% on sites of 15 or more homes would score + as it does not achieve above any beyond expectations but is still making a positive contribution.</i>
+	Positive effect – the allocation or policy would help in achieving the objective.	<i>An objective of the plan is to seek to support local services. An allocation for housing located within easy and convenient walking distance of the services would score + as it provides the opportunity for residents to make use of them. The allocation of land for a new local service would score ++.</i>
0	Neutral or minimal effect – the allocation or policy would neither help nor hinder the achievement of the objective.	<i>An objective seeking to conserve soil resources will generally be neither positively nor negatively affected by a policy on safeguarding existing community facilities.</i>
-	Negative effect – the allocation or policy would be in conflict with the objective.	<i>The redevelopment of a site containing business units for housing would be in conflict with an objective seeking to protect such uses.</i>
--	Significant negative effect – the allocation or policy would be in significant conflict with the objective.	<i>An allocation of land for housing in Flood Zone 3 is likely to significantly conflict with an objective seeking to reduce the occurrence and risk of flooding on residents.</i>
?	Uncertain	<i>There may be both positives and negatives and the overall outcome is uncertain or there may not be sufficient information to assess the impact at this point in time.</i>

## 5. ASSESSMENT OF REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

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### Compliance with Regulations

The Environmental Report should consider 'reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme' and give 'an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with' and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information'

- 5.1. It is not only necessary to assess policies against the SA objectives but it is also a requirement of the SEA process to consider and assess the impact of what the alternative approaches might be.
- 5.2. The NDP group has been considering alternatives throughout the preparation of the plan. In the first instance the strategic options particularly in relation to housing have been assessed. This is the area of policy making most likely to lead to significant adverse effects.

### Alternative i: The number of homes to be developed in King Somborne during the plan period

- 5.3. The Local Plan seeks to deliver a minimum of 10,584 in the period 2011 – 2029. King Somborne falls within the area categorised as Rural Test Valley. This area contains the rural parishes in the predominantly central part of the Borough and in total is expected to deliver a minimum of 648 homes in the plan period through the development of rural exception affordable housing, community led development or other applications coming forward. Any homes built within King Somborne will contribute towards this total.
- 5.4. Within this context, the following alternatives have been considered:

*ia) Provide significantly more houses* – significantly more homes means more affordable housing and a greater mix of homes. The increased population that would result from this can also help to secure or provide more services and facilities and may generate some employment opportunities.

However, in order to build greater numbers of homes there will be a requirement for more greenfield land (given that evidence shows there is insufficient previously-developed land available in suitable locations within the Parish – see below). Therefore when taking into consideration the characteristics of the Parish and the valley location of King Somborne, it is possible to conclude that extensive areas of new development will lead to potentially significant landscape harm. There may also be harm to biodiversity, an increased risk of flooding and there is potential for water quality and historic environment impacts. It will also lead to greater use of the car due to the lack of sustainable transport options. The current utilities capacity to expand is also limited especially that of the the sewage system which is closeto capacity.

*ib) Provide significantly less houses* – This is not a realistic alternative. King Somborne has been identified as a settlement where some development may be appropriate. Given the wish for affordable housing and smaller homes this strategy would be counter to these ambitions and do little to support any of the sustainability objectives. In addition it is likely that the Neighbourhood Plan would not make a sufficient contribution to delivering the housing required in the Test Valley Local Plan.

## Alternative ii: The location of new homes within the Parish

- 5.5. The Test Valley Local Plan comments that the settlements within the 'Rural Villages' category do not contain the range and number of facilities and services or have the accessibility to support strategic development allocations. However, because of the level of facilities available to help support and sustain communities either individually or shared, some additional development may be appropriate.
- 5.6. The Plan goes on to state that Parish Councils may wish to bring forward Neighbourhood Development Plans which include proposals for additional development. The choice of sites could be either within or outside of settlement boundaries provided that the site selection takes into account the principles of sustainable development and the relevant policies within the Local Plan.
- 5.7. Within this context, the following alternatives have been considered:

*ii) Locate it within a number of settlements within the Parish.*

Only King Somborne has a designated settlement boundary as established by Test Valley through their local plan. The other settlements contain very few, if any, services and facilities and are not identified by Test Valley as suitable places for development (with the exception of that which is essential to the countryside). Providing more homes through the use of land further from the village centre will result in people living in locations detached from the main settlement with poor access to services and facilities leading to greater use of the car and less social integration with the village and community. Therefore it is not reasonable to test locations within other settlements or the countryside beyond the immediate environs of King Somborne as this would be contrary to adopted policy. As a result, potential development sites in such locations have not been considered in any detail at this stage (see Section 6).

*ii) Locate it on redundant industrial sites / sites in commercial or industrial use which might be able to relocate or agricultural premises.*

Community consultation identified that these were the most preferred locations for new development but examination of the available sites shows that this is not realistic as they are just not available, are well outside of the settlement boundary or require the conversion of buildings which will not deliver either the numbers of homes expected or any affordable housing. However, where such development is appropriate it has the potential to safeguard soil resources as it makes use of pdl.

*ii) Locate it on infill sites within the King Somborne settlement boundary.*

The call for sites demonstrated that there was insufficient land available within the settlement boundary to deliver the number of homes being planned for, without resulting in levels of density far removed from what is characteristic of the village. In addition to this, infill sites are often very small by nature will not deliver affordable housing on site.

The historic nature of the core of the village means that the use of infill sites only, would mean that there was potential to negatively impact on the character of the village, Listed Buildings and the Conservation Area. Conversely, the development would be centrally located which would give residents the opportunity to easily access the existing services and facilities and would be unlikely to harm the landscape setting of King Somborne, particularly by reducing the potential for housing to creep up the sides of the valley. The cumulative impact of high levels of intensification within the Conservation Area could have a negative, permanent impact on the historic environment.

The existence of the flood plain through the village leads to the potential of increasing flood risk and risk to water quality by concentrating development in these locations.

*iiid) Locate it on sites in and alongside the King Somborne settlement boundary*

The fourth and preferred option is to locate housing in (as per alternative iic) and alongside the settlement of King Somborne. The site assessment work has identified that there are likely to be sufficient sites to accommodate the planned level of development through the use of land both in and alongside the settlement boundary. In addition to this, their size means that affordable housing can be delivered on site on many occasions. The size of King Somborne means that even sites located on the settlement edge will be close to services and facilities and additionally, the option does not result in the loss of employmentland or premises. In the main these are greenfield sites rather than previously developed land and therefore dependent on the individual locations there is potential for an adverse impact on the landscape setting of the village, soils, biodiversity and flooding. However, this will be assessed on a site by site basis (See Section 6) and the development of some sites may result in enhancements.

### **Alternative iii: The size of development sites**

- 5.8. The options considered:  
*iiia) Seek 1 or 2 larger sites to accommodate the proposed level of housing or  
iiib) Seek multiple small sites to accommodate the proposed level of housing.*
- 5.9. Smaller sites, probably with capacity for around 5 homes, are preferred by the community, as shown through the community consultation. They have the potential to better amalgamate into the existing community and more easily harmonise with the characteristics of the village. They better reflect the traditional development of the village. Small sites will generally be found more easily within the village on previously-developed land and be in closer proximity to services and the village core.
- 5.10. Larger sites are generally greenfield and will be located towards the edge or outside of the village. On sites of 1- 4 dwellings only a financial contribution towards affordable housing can be sought; 5-9 dwellings require 20% to be affordable or an offsite provision made whereas on sites of 10 – 14 homes up to 30% of dwellings on site will be affordable and for sites of 15 or more up to 40% of dwellings will be affordable. Therefore the larger the site the greater potential for affordable housing on site. Larger sites have the potential to increase housing numbers more rapidly which is not necessarily a good thing as it has an adverse effect on infrastructure. Surges in demand are not therefore desirable. In addition to this, such moderately sized sites can provide opportunities for additional benefits or enhancements such as land for biodiversity or public open space. A number of moderate sized sites will be needed to meet the housing target.
- 5.11. One single large site that accommodates all the housing planned for is not the preferred choice as it will not easily amalgamate with the village, will have to be on the edge of the village, appear uncharacteristic and due to its size is likely to introduce development up the valley sides thereby leading to significant landscape harm.
- 5.12. In reality the Neighbourhood Plan is likely to allocate a mix of site sizes, including larger sites (i.e. over 10 homes) in order to deliver affordable housing and a mix of housesizes in the village, as well as small sites that can make use of infill plots.

### **Alternative iv – Achieving a continuing supply of affordable housing**

- 5.13. The Housing Needs and Sites for the Parish concludes that there is no current shortfall in

social housing, given that it makes up 26% of the stock. The driver is therefore to maintain the current social profile of the village which requires a continued supply of affordable housing. In this context, the following options are available:

*iva) Developments to be provided on sites of 10 or more homes as per Test Valley Local Plan Policy COM7 (revised ).*

This would enable 30% affordable housing to be developed on site for sites of 10 -14 new homes or 40% on sites of 15 or more homes in accordance with the Test Valley Local Plan. Such moderately sized sites also have the potential to deliver a number of other sustainability objectives as discussed above.

*ivb) The identification of a rural exception site(s) in accordance with Test Valley Local Plan Policy COM8.*

A rural exception site could be sought which could deliver around 9 affordable homes without the development of market housing. However, this generally requires a landowner willing take a lower return for the value of the land and the call for sites has not identified any such opportunities.

The development of just rural exception site(s) will not result in additional new small market homes being constructed in the village which would have benefits particularly for newly forming families and older people looking to downsize. Development through this means is also unlikely to deliver the quantum of new homes required to satisfy the requirements of the Local Plan.

*ivc) Alternative affordable housing percentage.*

Seeking an alternative percentage of affordable housing is not currently a realistic alternative. It would be contrary to the Test Valley Local Plan and there is insufficient evidence to justify a deviation from adopted policy particularly given the relatively high percentage of affordable housing that exists in the village.

#### **Alternative v: Providing for economic development and diversification.**

- 5.14. The Test Valley Local Plan reports that Rural Test Valley has a wide variety of employment types ranging from the more traditional agricultural industry and small business uses to national companies. In addition the tourism industry is expanding as visitor numbers increase.
- 5.15. The rural economy is evolving and diversifying and the percentage of those employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing will decrease. Through the Local Plan policies, Test Valley Borough Council is seeking to support the growth of all types of business without being to the detriment of the countryside. The focus is on re-using existing buildings, expanding existing employment sites and supporting the tourist economy. The Local Plan states that within the rural parts of the Borough there is a significant stock of buildings, many of them originally constructed to meet the needs of farming. The changes taking place in the way agriculture operates means that there are a substantial number of buildings that are no longer needed. These buildings represent a significant asset which wherever possible should be re-used to support the principles of supporting sustainable economic growth in the countryside.
- 5.16. Therefore there is no specific policy support or evidence backing the need to identify new land for employment purposes within the Parish. It is likely that economic development will be achieved through enabling home working and allowing the conversion of unused

buildings within the Parish. It is therefore not currently necessary to consider allocating additional new land for employment uses and there are no realistic alternatives to the approach identified within the Local Plan.

- 5.17. An analysis of all the alternatives against the SA/ SEA Objectives as discussed above is contained in **Appendix 3** and has been used to identify the key differences and effect of the options discussed above. In many cases the impact is unknown or cannot be assessed as it is dependent on the specific nature of the sites being identified. All available and suitable or potentially suitable sites have also been assessed in relation to the SA/ SEA objectives established through scoping, as detailed in **Appendix 5**.

### Developing the preferred approach

- 5.18. With a range of alternatives explored, and sites assessed individually against the SA/ SEA objectives, King's Somborne Parish Council have identified a preferred approach for the plan.
- 5.19. The preferred approach is to allocate four sites for development (KS3A, Site SHELAA 55, Site SHELAA 148b, and SHELAA 168) delivering a total of 41 homes over the plan period. The sites are all settlement edge locations and whilst they are small sites (delivering no more than 10 dwellings each), all are expected to deliver an element of affordable housing.
- 5.20. In relation to the alternatives explored, it was concluded that providing significantly more or significantly less houses than the 41 that are being proposed was likely to lead to a range of negative effects. It was also concluded that the best way of delivering the housing was on sites of a small to medium size within or adjoining King Somborne settlement boundary. Allocations of 10 dwellings are recognised as the minimum figure captured by the affordable housing policy provisions of the Test Valley Local Plan, to enable 30% affordable housing delivery.
- 5.21. Having identified a need for 41 new dwellings in the parish over the Neighbourhood Plan period, options for the allocation of housing sites were invited and examined by the Neighbourhood Plan Working Groups in order to determine a preferred option. Initially the focus was on brownfield sites, but the majority were unsuitable, well outside of the current settlement boundary or contrary to policy. The remaining sites were assessed and those determined as most suitable included in the Regulation 14 consultation in 2018.
- 5.22. As a consequence of the Regulation 14 consultation in 2018 and further debate by the Parish Council AECOM were engaged in 2020 to further assess potential sites within the Parish. This assessment identified 12 potential sites for further assessment and potential allocation. These were subsequently reduced to 9 as a consequence of 3 of the sites being excluded primarily because they are remote from the settlement boundary. Although within the current settlement boundary Site 186 would involve the development of allotments. The allotments have been identified as a local community asset and there is no support for their redevelopment. The site has been refused planning permission by Test Valley Borough Council. Of the remaining 7 sites two sites SHELAA81 and KS6 did not meet the sequential test as access could only be provided through Flood Zone 3. KS1 was subsequently discarded as the quantity of 4 homes would not contribute to affordable housing (see section 5). Site SHELAA 80 was finally discarded as it is not required to meet the housing requirement and is located on the edge of the village with no metalled footpath.
- 5.23. A second application at the allotment site (Site 186) for 18 dwellings has also been recently submitted. Whilst the reasons for rejection of this site remain valid it should be considered that planning approval for this site may be given either by the local authority

or subsequently on appeal. Should this be the case then cognisance of this extra housing stock should be recognised within the plan. The application has aligned with Test Valley Borough Council Policy COM7 and foresees 7 Affordable Houses.

- 5.24. Given the scale of the application's proposed development, which is inside the settlement boundary, the quantity of houses should be deducted from the required total of 41 leaving a further 23 to be provided of which 6 should be affordable. This could be achieved with one development of 14 houses and a second of 9. There are several possible permutations to achieve the additional 23 houses utilising the four sites namely KS3, SHELAA 55, SHELLA 148b and SHELAA 168 considered as favourable above. In consideration of the above analysis KS3 is viewed as the least suitable of these sites and is excluded. This leaves SHELAA 55, SHELAA 168 and SHELAA 148b to be considered further.
- 5.25. Development of the allotment site in conjunction with utilisation of sites SHELAA 55 and SHELAA168 would impose a significant number of traffic movements in Eldon Road / Furzedown Road, Allotment area approximately 28 in the am peak, 18 in the pm peak and 208 daily traffic movements. Most of these traffic movements are likely to be along Church Lane traversing the junction with Winchester Road and down to the A3057 all of which are adjacent to the school. SHELAA 148b certainly has the capacity to accommodate 14 houses. Access directly onto the A3057 would facilitate removing an estimated 25% of the additional traffic from the village centre. It would also diversify development around the village. This site is therefore nominated for 14 houses as currently foreseen.
- 5.26. By continuing to allocate 14 houses at SHELAA 148b the affordable housing requirement is met. There remains a deficit of 9 houses to achieve the required 41. There is little to choose between sites SHELAA 55 and SHELAA 168. The fact that vehicular access to SHELAA 168 is directly from Eldon Road rather through housing and has less impact on the landscape makes the selection of SHELAA 168 preferable.

## 6. ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES

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### Compliance with Regulations

An environmental report must include:

- f) The likely significant effects on the environment (e.g. landscape, biodiversity, water and heritage issues). These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects.
- g) The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan..

- 6.1. To ensure sustainable development has been considered throughout the process of preparing the NDP, alongside the consideration of possible alternatives to some of the strategic planning decisions, all the proposed policies have been assessed against the sustainability objectives.
- 6.2. The policies within the NDP have been prepared alongside this SA/SEA to ensure that elements that could make them more sustainable have already been included. The significant impacts of the proposed policies are summarised below including, where possible, where they would be short, medium or long term, permanent or temporary, secondary, cumulative or synergistic. No significant negative effects have been identified.
- 6.3. The analysis of the site allocation policies follows the analysis of the development management policies is in Chapter 7.
- 6.4. The potential significant impacts of the proposed development management policies are as follows:
  - 1) The biodiversity policy (KS/E6) has the potential to lead to **significant positive impacts** on the objective to conserve and enhance biodiversity. This will be a long-term benefit and can also lead to improvements in health and wellbeing as well as water quality.
  - 2) The flooding policy (KS/E5) has the potential to lead to **significant positive impacts** on the objective to avoid and reduce the risk of flooding. For it to be fully effective it will need to be applied alongside the policies in the NPPF and Local Plan.
  - 3) The Archaeology policy (KS/E4) and Conservation Area policy have the potential to lead to **significant positive impacts** on the objective to conserve and enhance the historic environment. They should assist in securing the permanent recording of archaeological remains and will be applied alongside the policies of the Local Plan and the NPPF which also cover matters such as Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. The identification of non-designated heritage assets and a review of the Conservation Area appraisal for the Parish would further strengthen the protection for heritage assets.

- 4) Policies KS/E1, KS/E2 and KS/E3 have the potential to lead to **significant positive impacts** on the objective to conserve and enhance landscape character. They may reduce the available land for development which could have a moderate and long term impact on the mix and type of housing possible; however, the harm is outweighed by the benefits when assessed against the SA objectives.
  - 5) Policy KS/H1 relating to housing allows for a mix of home types including affordable housing which has the potential to lead to **significant positive impacts**.
  - 6) The community assets policy (KS/F1) has the potential to lead to a significant positive impact on the objective to maintain and improve access to key services and facilities. This is more uncertain as there are many factors outside of the planning which can impact on the future viability of a community asset.
- 6.5. Cumulatively the policies should result in either no change, or improvements, to the local environment both historic and built when development takes place. Many of the policies when used together result in a range of improvements and in particular the Design Policy KS/E8 covers a wide range of matters with strong links to the landscape, the built environment and the Somborne. Where enhancements are seen, these should be long-term and permanent. The detail of the analysis is contained in Appendix 4 and a summary table is produced below.

Table I: Summary of an analysis of the policies against the SA Objectives

Policy	Homes	Access to services	Health & wellbeing	Local economy	Sustainable travel	Biodiversity	Flooding	Historic environment	Landscape	Soil resources	Water protection
KS/E1 Landscape	-	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	++	0	0
KS/E2 Local Gap	?	0	+	0	0	?	0	+	++	0	0
KS/E3 LGS	-	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	++	0	0
KS/E4 Conservation Area	-	0	+	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0
KS/E5 Archaeology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0
KS/E6 Flooding	0	0	+	?	0	+	++	0	0	0	+
KS/E7 Biodiversity	-	0	+	0	0	++	0	?	?	0	?
KS/E8 Somborne	?	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	+
KS/H1 New homes	++?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	-	?
KS/H7 Housing mix	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KS/H8 Design	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	?	?
KS/F1 Assets	-	++?	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
KS/F2 Utilities	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0

## 7. ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED SITE ALLOCATION POLICIES

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7.1. The potential impacts of the proposed allocations are as follows:

- 1) The largest sites perform well in terms of significant positive impact on the number and tenure of homes. There is also a positive impact on the local economy. This is because these sites offer greater capacity for new homes and therefore provide a significant number of affordable homes which maintains the supply in the village over the short to medium term. There is also the potential for employment uses to be provided on a large site. The sizeable increase in population also supports local services and facilities. Sites SHELAA 148b, SHELAA 55 and SHELAA 168
- 2) Sites closest to the settlement boundary and the village centre offer the best access to key services and facilities but a balance needs to be struck as these are also within closer proximity to the historic core of the village and therefore there is potential for a significant adverse impact on the historic environment (Site KS3A, Site SHELAA 80[discarded]).
- 3) Sites furthest from the village core and key services may lead to an increase in trips by private car and although this impact is not expected to be significant for any individual site, the cumulative impact of multiple sites developed with poor access to services and facilities could add congestion on local roads. Development in these locations also reduces the positive benefits for residents of being close to the village core such as opportunities to meet and feel part of the village.
- 4) A number of sites are connected to or in close proximity to local footpaths and bridleways providing access to the wider countryside although no individual site is expected to have a significant impact on health and wellbeing.
- 5) The impacts on local economy are indirect and relate to the benefits that residents can bring by using local services and facilities. The closer they are located, the greater the potential for their use.
- 6) The impact on biodiversity is uncertain for all sites. This is because the potential impacts on barbastelle bats and other important species and habitats cannot be fully appraised without further details of the proposed development and on site surveys. The HRA concludes that should a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and project-specific HRA be required of development proposals, there will be no likely significant effect. Policy KS/E6 proposes these requirements,

- 7) Two sites are adjacent to the Somborne (KS3 and SHELAA 148b ) and there is the potential that development of these sites could lead to pollution entering the water environment through runoff from these sites. Measures should be incorporated to eliminate the risk of pollution entering the Somborne. Increased potential for flooding has been examined with a hydraulic study performed considering the impact of a number of potential sites KS3, KS6[discarded], SHELAA 80[discarded], SHELAA 81{discarded] and SHELAA 148b discharging simultaneously. This study indicated no significant impact to property. Any flooding potential will be further reduced by the adoption of only 2 sites. Policy KS/E5 provides for additional measures to be adopted prior to the development of sites.
- 8) Three sites (KS3, SHELAA 80 and SHELAA 148b) are close to the bourne and suitable attenuated drainage systems will be required. In addition two sites SHELAA 148b and SHELAA 80 if combined together with SHELAA 81 (already discarded) have the potential to increase flooding in gardens in a once in 20 year event.
- 9) There is potential for archaeological remains on a number of sites. The implications can't be fully understood without archaeological investigation. Policy KS/E4 requires such on-site investigation in applicable development proposals.
- 10) All sites are greenfield and therefore development will lead to some loss of soil resources which although permanent are not expected to be significant.

7.2. The detail of the analysis is contained in Appendix 5 and a summary table is produced below.

Table 2: Summary of an analysis of the potential development sites against the SA Objectives

Potential site	Homes	Access to services	Health & wellbeing	Local economy	Sustainable travel	Biodiversity	Flooding	Historic environment	Landscape	Soil resources	Water protection
Site KS3	+	+	0	+	0	?	0	-	+/-	-	0
SHELAA 148b	++	+	0	+	0	?	?	-	--	-	0
SHELAA 80	+	0	0	+	0	?	?	-	0	-	0
SHELAA 55	++	+	0	+	0	?	0	0	--	-	0
SHELAA 168	++	+	0	+	0	?	0	0	--	-	0

## 8. CONCLUSION AND ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

### The Likely Significant Effects of the proposed Plan

- 8.1. The following table brings together the assessments to identify which of the characteristics required to be assessed through the SEA process are likely to be significantly affected by the neighbourhood plan.

Characteristic	Significant Effect?	Justification
Biodiversity and Geodiversity	No	No designated sites are significantly affected by the Neighbourhood Plan. The plan contains policies to protect biodiversity. A HRA has been completed. Ecological surveys of sites allocated for development should be completed and issues appropriately mitigated for before permission is granted.
Population	No	The Neighbourhood Plan is planning for a population growth of less than 10%. This is not considered significant in relation to the 2011 population of 1,600. Housing development will help to prevent population decline and continue to maintain a supply of affordable housing.
Human Health	No	The Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have a significant effect on the health of the population which is more dependent on factors such as the age and access to wider health facilities.
Geology and Soil	No	The Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have a significant effect on the geology and soils of the area. Soil health is predominantly effected by the type of agriculture and forestry management practices within the Parish and these will not be affected by the Neighbourhood Plan. Development will result in the loss of some soil resources but even when considered cumulatively, this will be minor.
Water	Possible	Fluvial and surface water flood risk is a known constraint to development in Kings Somborne and both a Drainage Note and Hydraulic Study have been developed as part of the evidence base to better understand the potential impacts of development and develop an appropriate policy response. Policy KS/E5 (Flooding and Water Management) provides the main policy directions in this respect and views are currently being sought through consultation, particularly from the Environment Agency, to reduce any residual uncertainty in relation to the overall effects for water and flood risk, When the policies are applied alongside those in the Local Plan and NPPF, it is currently thought unlikely that development will lead to significant effects in relation to flood risk. No development proposal within the plan should have a significant effect on water quality assuming appropriate drainage strategies are developed in accordance with the proposed policy framework.

Air	No	As the existing level of pollutants is likely to be very low, significant issues are unlikely to arise now or in the future even with a moderate increase in traffic.
Climate	No	Climate change has the potential to increase the occurrence of extreme weather events and increased risk from flooding and periods of water stress through hotter summers. However, this will happen with or without the Neighbourhood Plan, which would in itself have no significant effect on climate change.
Material Assets	No	The material assets of the Parish will remain and are either protected by or will not be significantly affected by the Neighbourhood Plan.
Cultural Heritage	Possible	The allocation of sites in the Neighbourhood Plan within and adjacent to the Conservation Area and listed buildings has the potential to adversely affect cultural heritage in the parish. Some archaeological potential has also been identified on some sites. However, sites for which there is a potential for harm are identified and policies require archaeological investigation and high standards of design and layout. The cumulative impact of multiple developments in the Conservation Area could be negative and permanent.
Landscape	No	The allocation of sites in the Neighbourhood Plan on green field sites has the potential to significantly affect landscape quality in the parish, but the allocations have been selected based upon landscape evidence and analysis to minimise this and retain the settlement form. The landscape policy will address landscape issues in relation to all planning decisions.

- 8.2. Consultation will help identify if there are any further measures needed to prevent, reduce and offset these effects.

## 9. MONITORING

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### **Compliance with the Regulations**

Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 Schedule 2 requires that an environmental report include i) A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with regulation 17.

- 9.1. Given that the Neighbourhood Plan will be formally 'made' part of the Development Plan by Test Valley Borough Council at the end of the process, they will be body responsible for monitoring the plan.
- 9.2. The objectives used in this SEA are similar to those within the Test Valley Sustainability Appraisal and therefore it is suggested that the same indicators and methods of testing the impacts are used and where possible data at a Parish level is sought. The following topic areas, which duplicate those within the Authority Monitoring Report are therefore proposed to be monitored through this mechanism. Due to the difficulty in monitoring all areas, not all topics are explicitly covered.
- 9.3. Proposed monitoring areas
  - Net additional dwellings completed.
  - Affordable housing completions.
  - Planning applications resulting in addition or loss of community services or facilities
  - Losses of employment floorspace
  - Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance
  - Planning permissions granted contrary to the Environment Agency advice in relation to water quality and flooding
  - Changes in water quality
- 9.4. In addition to this the Parish Council may wish to monitor and keep a record of very local matters such as losses of community facilities, services, bus routes etc.

# APPENDIX I: SCOPING REPORT CONSULTATION RESPONSES

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## Environment Agency

- 2) Wish to see reference to Test Valley Borough Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment(SFRA)
- 3) Recommend the SA takes account of relevant policies, plans and strategies including your local flood risk strategies (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/flood-risk-management-current-schemes-and-strategies>), and the South East River Basin Management Plan (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/south-east-river-basin-management-plan>)
- 4) Commented on the King Somborne Neighbourhood Plan Flood Risk Study (2018) which was felt to be inadequate. It is not clear if our advice on the Waterco Flood Risk Study (2018) has been incorporated to ensure it is fit for purpose. Without further detailed information on flood risk, we are not in a position to determine if the scale of development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan would have a significant environmental effect.
- 5) Test Valley Borough Council lies within the South East River Basin Management Plan area. This area is subdivided into catchments. The relevant catchment for your District is the Test and Itchen catchment. A Catchment Partnership has been established for each of these to direct and coordinate relevant activities and projects within the catchment through the production of a Catchment Management Plan. The Catchment Partnerships are supported by a broad range of organisations and individuals representing a whole host of interests.
- 6) Recommend that you contact Hampshire County Council, as the Lead Local Flood Authority they may have advice regarding surface water drainage within the neighbourhood plan area.

Reference to the SFRA and South East River Basin Management Plan have been included in the SA/SEA.

## Highways England

We have reviewed this document and supporting evidence and have no comments.

## Historic England

- Generally this is a particularly good example, in terms of the review of the historic environment, and the setting of a number of sensible sustainability objectives for the historic environment and landscape.
- Some additional information should be provided with regard to the conservation area as this has the greatest potential for impacts from the plan.
- The Council have provided the Conservation Area pamphlet published in 1986 that includes an informative map of the conservation area identifying important buildings, key views, important hedgerows and open spaces that contribute positively to the area's character or appearance. We recommend that the plan is used to inform assessment of the impact of plan proposals and options.
- The absence of a full and up to date conservation area appraisal should also be identified as a data-gap that needs to be filled to provide a full appropriate assessment of the impact of the neighbourhood plan proposals.

- The draft Scoping Report does not identify any issues affecting the conservation area or other heritage assets. The conservation area has seen an amount of infill development since its designation and, whilst this may have been deemed appropriate, it is notable that a part of its rural character and village settlement pattern with houses and cottages set among large gardens and paddocks (or 'crofts') has been lost. This has affected both the character of the conservation area and the setting of its numerous listed buildings. We feel this should be noted as an existing issue to which further development may, possibly, contribute a cumulative impact.

Further information on the origin and historic significance of the village have been included.

### **Natural England**

- The SEA scoping report appears to consider relevant environmental issues.
- Natural England concurs with the SEA report summary of the proposed objectives for the King Somborne NDP.
- You may wish to note that that opportunities taken to enhance the ecological value of the BAP priority habitat areas may include through the use of planning net gain for biodiversity. In some situations, development on land of limited biodiversity value in its own right can lead to the creation of islands of biodiversity, permanently severed from other areas.
- Mottisfont SAC - we note the reference in the report to a HRA in relation to this site.
- Water Quality - This includes aiming for phosphorous/ nutrient neutrality from any new development to protect and enhance water quality of river and ground water systems.

### **TARMAC Limited**

Suggest the development of their site would meet many of the objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The SA/SEA should consider the needs of those requiring specialist housing and those wishing to downsize.

Reference to specialist housing has been added to the decision aiding questions to enable the matter to be picked up if there is specific need

## APPENDIX 2: PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES

The following plans and programmes form an important context for the King Somborne Neighbourhood Plan.

Plan	Key issues / messages
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	<p>The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government’s planning policies for England and how they should be applied and provides the framework within which locally-prepared plans can be produced. The NPPF sets out a framework for planning to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, and includes the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A presumption in favour of sustainable development</li> <li>- Delivering a sufficient supply of homes</li> <li>- Building a strong and competitive economy</li> <li>- Promoting healthy and safe communities</li> <li>- Achieving well designed places</li> <li>- Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change</li> <li>- Conserving and enhancing the nature environment</li> <li>- Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</li> </ul>
DEFRA 25 Year Environment Plan	<p>A plan to improve the UK’s air and water quality and protect threatened plants, trees and wildlife species. It establishes an extensive set of targets and objectives.</p>
Test Valley Revised Local Plan 2011-2029	<p>The following are the social, economic and environmental objectives of the for the Borough:</p> <p><u>Local Communities</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Providing for the future housing needs, types and tenures within the Borough.</li> <li>2) Promote appropriate scale of development in settlements in keeping with their size, character and function.</li> <li>3) Create sustainable communities, locating development where daily needs for employment, shopping, leisure, recreation, education, health and other community facilities are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</li> </ol> <p><u>Local Economy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4) Providing a range of job opportunities.</li> <li>5) Supporting Andover and Romsey town centres and Stockbridge local centre to enable them to remain successful destinations.</li> </ol> <p><u>Environment</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6) Conserve and enhance the built and historic environment, conserve and enhance the local character, identity and cultural heritage.</li> </ol>

	<p>7) Ensure development takes full account of climate change including implementing water efficiency measures.</p> <p>8) Protect high standards of water and air quality.</p> <p>9) Conserve and enhance the countryside and landscape and improve access to it.</p> <p>10) Conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p><u>Leisure, Health and Wellbeing</u></p> <p>11) Provide for leisure, recreation, culture and tourism needs.</p> <p>12) Creating opportunities for improving the health and wellbeing of communities.</p> <p><u>Transport</u></p> <p>13) Encourage use of public transport, cycling and walking networks to help reduce reliance on cars and provide choice.</p> <p><u>Community Safety</u></p> <p>14) Create high quality, low crime environments and spaces.</p> <p><u>Education and Learning</u></p> <p>15) Raise skill levels and reduce economic disparities across the Borough.</p>
Sustainability Appraisal of the Test Valley Revised Local Plan 2011-2029 and Test valley Scoping Report 2017	The Sustainability Appraisal for the Test Valley Revised Local Plan provides a sustainability framework and assesses the proposals of the Test Valley Local Plan against this framework. This Framework has recently been updated through the publication of the Test Valley Scoping Report 2017 and will form the basis of the Framework used for the SA/SEA of the King Somborne NDP.
Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Test Valley Revised Local Plan 2011-2029	The objective of the assessment is to identify any aspects of the Local Plan that would cause an adverse effect on the integrity of Natural 2000 sites, otherwise known as European sites (Special Areas of Conservation / Special Protection Areas) and Ramsar sites, either in isolation or in combination with other plans and projects; and, to advise on appropriate policy mechanisms for delivering mitigation where such effects are identified. The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening states that a HRA should be conducted in light of the plan area being within 2.5km of the Mottisfont SAC to assess the effect on the loss of bat foraging habitats.
The Hampshire Local Transport Plan Part A Long Term Strategy 2011-2031	The Hampshire Local Transport Plan Part A Long Term Strategy 2011-31 (LTP3) sets the strategy for making progress on the County Council Corporate Priorities of developing and supporting stronger safer communities, maximising wellbeing and enhancing quality of place.
Test Valley Biodiversity Action Plan 2008	The Test Valley BAP provides a framework for the maintenance and enhancement of the biodiversity of the Borough. It was prepared in conjunction with the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.

King Somborne Parish Plan Updates 2011	The King Somborne Parish Plan sets out what is important to the local community of King Somborne Parish. It was published in 2005 and updated in 2011, and covers a wide range of issues including social, economic and environmental issues.
Test Valley Borough Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2007)	Provides an analysis of flood risks from all sources and provides the evidence that underpins more local studies.
South East River Basin Management Plan	The relevant catchment is the Test & Itchen catchment. A Catchment Partnership has been established to direct and co-ordinate activities and projects. The Somborne through King Somborne feeds into the River Test. The priority issues in the catchment are water quality (in particular phosphorus and sediment), channel structure and function (including barriers to fish passage and habitat management) and low flows.

## APPENDIX 3: ASSESSMENT OF ALTERNATIVE AGAINST THE SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

Alternatives	Homes	Access to services	Health & wellbeing	Local economy	Sustainable travel	Biodiversity	Flooding	Historic environment	Landscape	Soil resources	Water protection
<b>Alternative i: The number of homes to be developed in King Somborne during the plan period</b>											
Provide significantly more houses	++	++?	?	+	-	-	-	-	--	-	-
Provide significantly less houses	0	+	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Alternative ii: The location of new homes within the Parish</b>											
Locate housing on infill sites within the King Somborne settlement boundary.	+	+	?	0	+	?	-	-	+	0	-?
Locate housing on sites in and alongside the King Somborne settlement boundary.	+	+	?	0	+	-?	-?	0	-?	0	-?
<b>Alternative iii: The size of development site</b>											
Seek 1 or 2 larger sites	++	+	+	0	0	?	?	0	-?	0	0
Seek multiple small sites	+	+	0	0	0	?	?	-?	0	0	0
<b>Alternative iv – Achieving a continuing supply of affordable housing</b>											

Alternatives	Homes	Access to services	Health & wellbeing	Local economy	Sustainable travel	Biodiversity	Flooding	Historic environment	Landscape	Soil resources	Water protection
Sites of II or more homes	++	0	?	0	0	?	?	?	?	0	?
The identification of a rural exception site(s)	+	0	?	0	0	?	?	?	?	0	?

## APPENDIX 4: ASSESSMENT OF POLICIES AGAINST THE SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES

Objective	KS/E1 – Landscape	KS/E2 - Local Gap	KS/E3 – Local Green Space	KS/E4 - Conservation	KS/E5 – Archaeology	KS/E6 - Flooding	KS/E7 – Biodiversity
1 Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	- There is the potential for this policy to reduce the sites available for housing and as a result affordable housing and the mix of homes possible.	? There is the potential for this policy to reduce the sites available for housing and as a result affordable housing, albeit given the amount of land covered by this policy it would be very minimal	- There is the potential for this policy to reduce the sites available for housing and as a result affordable housing and the mix of homes possible.	- There is the potential for this policy to reduce the sites available for housing and as a result affordable housing and the mix of homes possible.	0	0	- There is the potential for this policy to reduce the amount of a site available for housing and as a result affordable housing and the mix of homes possible.
2 Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	0	0	+ The policy maintains access to local green spaces, although not all are publically accessible and neither do they need to be.	0	0	0	0
3 Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing	+ A good quality environment has a positive effect	+ A good quality environment has a positive effect on	+ Access to a good quality environment has	+ Access to a good quality environment has	0	+ Putting people and property at risk of flooding is	+ Incorporating biodiversity into the existing and

	of the population	on health and wellbeing	health and wellbeing	a positive effect on health and wellbeing	a positive effect on health and wellbeing		detrimental to their health and wellbeing.	new development has a positive effect on health and wellbeing.
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	0	0	0	0	0	? There is potential that reducing flood risk can have a positive effect on local business.	0
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	+ There are positive linkages between maintaining and enhancing the landscape and enhancing biodiversity.	? The policy is intended to protect the character of the separate communities. There may be positive benefits for biodiversity, but they are difficult to assess	+ Some of the LGS have biodiversity value.	0	0	+ Avoiding any interruptions to river flows, encouraging SuDS and having sufficient capacity in wastewater treatment facilities could all have positive impacts on biodiversity.	++ This is the purpose of the policy which in particular seeks to protect and enhance habitats for bats. This links to the need to contribute to safeguarding the habitats of bats from the Mottisfont SAC.

7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	0	0	0 The protection of this open space may contribute to reducing flood risk, but this is not the purpose of the policy and it cannot be confirmed.	0	0	++ This is the purpose of the policy. It includes a requirement not to impede river flow and sets ground floor levels to avoid groundwater flooding. It supplements the policies in the NPPF and the Local Plan.	0
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	+ The historic landscape of the Parish should be protected through this policy.	+ The gap is in part created by the presence of the historic Deer Park.	+ Some of the LGS have historic significance.	++ Identifies key parts of the local environment that are of particular importance.	++ Requires investigations, preservation in-situ and if not possible, recording and enhancement of understanding.	0	? Trees and hedgerows can help define historic land-uses and layouts. This policy may contribute to this objective.

9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	++ This is the aim of this policy which also seeks to keep development to below the 40m contour in-line with local settlement character	++ This is the aim of this policy which seeks to preserve local settlement identity.	++ The policy preserves key local green spaces which contribute to settlement character. This is an additional level of protection above what has previously existed.	+ Gives further guidance on development effecting Conservation Areas which is closely linked to settlement character.	+ Gives further guidance on development effecting archaeology which is closely linked to settlement character.	0	? Trees and hedgerows can help define an areas character. This policy may contribute to this objective.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	0	0	0	0	0	+ Contributes to improving water quality.	? There is potential for positive effect on the riverine environment.

Objective		KS/E8 – The Somborne	KS/H1 – Quantity of New Homes Needed	KS/H7 – Housing Mix	KS/H8 - Design	KS/F1 – Community Assets	KS/F2 – Utilities
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	? Allowing the Somborne to function by natural processes throughout the seasons may reduce the amount of land available for housing, but it will be minimal.	++? The policy seeks to deliver around 40 homes, which allows for both a mix of home types (including affordable housing) and sizes.	+ The policy aims to deliver a mix of properties based on local assessments.	0	- There is limited potential for this policy to reduce the amount of a site available for housing and as a result affordable housing	+ The need for broadband connectivity is becoming a necessity for most people, in particular it allows people to work from home.
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	0	+ New homes in locations near to services and facilities are likely to help to maintain them. Significant numbers of new homes may result in improvements.	+ The push for smaller homes and affordable homes is likely to enable families to stay in or move to the village. This has benefits for a number of local services, such as the school.	0	+ +? This is the purpose of the policy. It could be further enhanced if locations for new facilities were identified. There are plans for a new pre-school building set out within the supporting text which will be supported by this policy.	+ Access to utilities including broadband is key to maintaining services and facilities in the village.
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	+ A good quality environment has a positive effect on health and wellbeing	+ A suitable home has health and wellbeing benefits.	+ A suitable home has health and wellbeing benefits.	+ A good quality environment has a positive effect on health and wellbeing	+ Access to services and facilities helps to maintain and improve health and wellbeing.	0

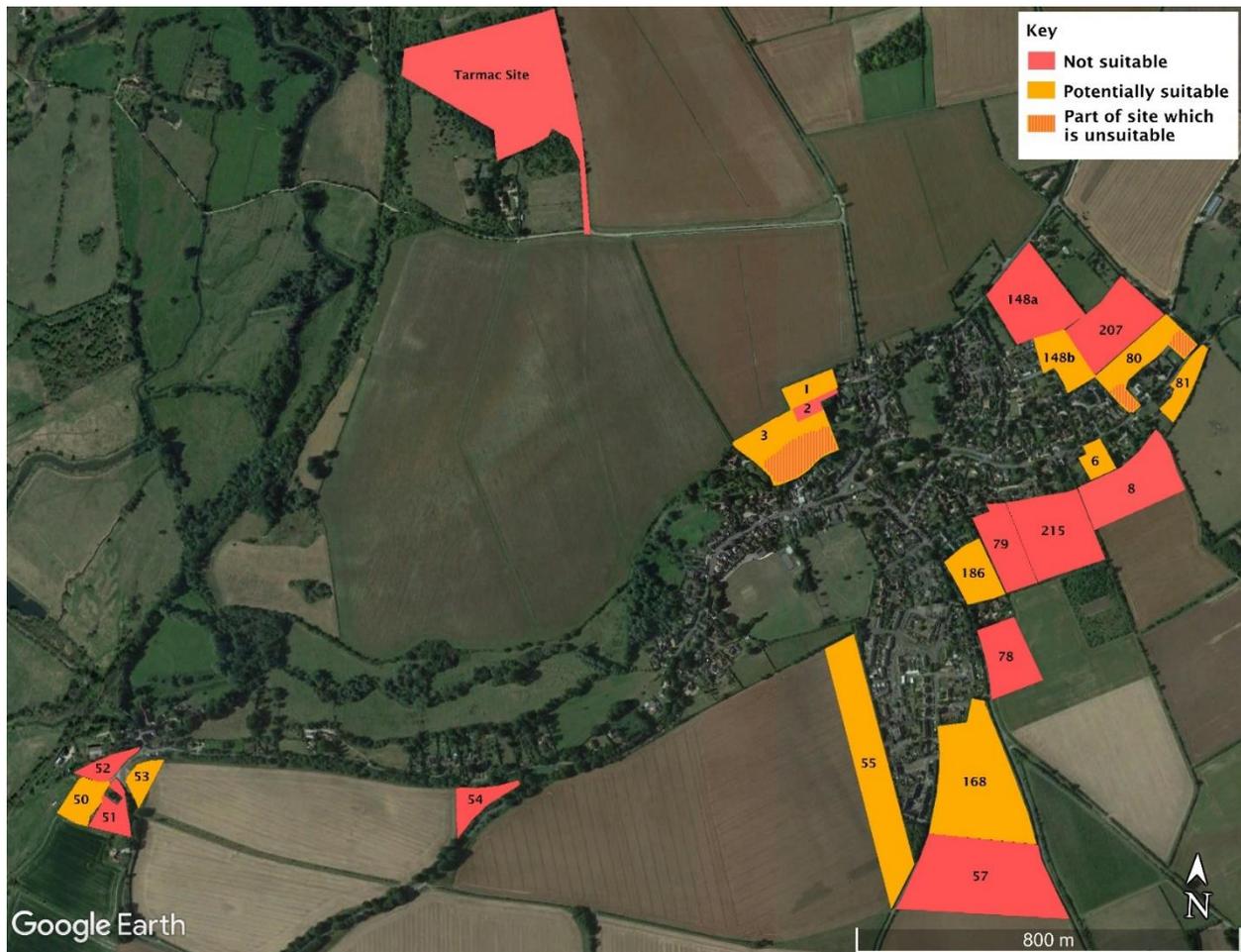
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	0	+ New homes can help support local business with both employees and customers.	0	+ The policy supports the use of sustainable technology.	0	+ Access to utilities including broadband is key to supporting new technologies.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	0	? The level of homes planned is unlikely to result in an increase in bus services, however they may support existing levels. It is likely given the rural nature of the parish that many journeys will be by private car.	0	0	+ Access to a range of services and facilities reduces the need for people to travel elsewhere.	+ The need for broadband connectivity is becoming a necessity for most people, in particular it allows people to work from home which reduces the need to travel.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	+ The biodiversity value of the Somborne is to be protected.	? Depends on the sites allocated	0	+ The policy requires development to consider how it can protect and support biodiversity. Reducing light spillage and pollution can have a positive effect on wildlife.	0	0
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	+ Allowing the Somborne to function naturally should reduce the risk of flooding.	? Depends on the sites allocated	0	0	0	0

8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	+ The Somborne runs through the historic core of the village. Protecting the appearance and setting will have benefits for the historic environment.	? Depends on the sites allocated	0	+ Good quality design should contribute to conserving and enhancing the historic environment.	0	+ Routing of services underground when new development takes place would enhance the historic environment.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	+ The Somborne runs through the historic core of the village. Protecting the appearance and setting will have benefits for the settlement character.	? Depends on the sites allocated	0	+ Good quality design should contribute to conserving and enhancing landscape character.	0	+ Routing of services underground when new development takes place would enhance landscape character.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	0	- It is likely that given the lack of brownfield sites in the village, greenfield sites would have to be used which will result in a minimal loss in soil resources.	0	? Good quality design should include making efficient use of land, but this is not explicit in the policy	0	0

11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	+ The policy is seeking to protect and enhance the Somborne which flows through the Parish.	? Depends on the sites allocated	0	? Good quality design should consider the water environment, but this is not explicit in the policy. This matter is covered by other policies.	0	0
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# APPENDIX 5: ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SITES AGAINST THE SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES

**Appendix 5** moves on from the SOA and assesses only those sites rated green or amber. In this case, this leaves 12 amber sites, which are depicted and assessed below. All red sites have been discounted as unreasonable options.



**Site KSI: Land to the West of Little Fromans**

Approx. 0.48ha

Objective		Rating	Commentary
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	+	The site is expected to deliver around 14 homes as a result it will meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing on site. At a rate of 30% this could result in 4 affordable homes. Due to the size of the site it should deliver a mix of house sizes. There is no reason why smaller homes would not be possible.
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	+	Site is within 450m from local facilities such as the primary school and local shop. Due to the size of the site it is unlikely to provide new facilities / services for the community.
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	+	Footpath, part of Clarendon Way is approximately 100m away and provides good access to the countryside.
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	?	Indirect and limited effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	0	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased. The site is within a reasonable walking distance from local facilities / services.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	?	Site is not in close proximity to any designated sites although Mottisfont Bats SAC is 3.5km to the east. There may be potential impacts on barbastelle bats in terms of habitat degradation, disturbance, fragmentation and or/loss that may arise due to development of the site although it is not possible to fully appraise potential impacts without further details of the proposed development.
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	0	Development would be in an area of low flood risk – Flood Zone 1 and is not in an area prone to surface water flooding. The site currently comprises undeveloped land and development could increase flood risk elsewhere if surface water discharge is not controlled.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	-	The site is adjacent to the Conservation Area and Fromans Farm, a listed historic farmhouse is to the south east of the site. Development has potential to impact on the character and appearance of the conservation area. The design, density and layout for the site would need to reflect that it is adjacent to a listed building and within the setting of the conservation area.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	--	The site is located at the foot of the northern valley side where the landform rises up to the north. The site has a Moderate Sensitivity and can be partially viewed in longer distance views from Cow Drove Hill to the north east and potentially from Clarendon Way to the north

			west. Development would not fully contribute to the distinctive valley bottom settlement pattern. The site is therefore considered to have a <b>Low Capacity for development overall</b> . New development at this site is likely to erode the positive characteristics of the landscape which are desirable to safeguard in line with national and local planning policy objectives.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	-	Does not involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	0	Site is not in close proximity to a watercourse so is unlikely to directly affect the water environment. New development will place minimal additional pressure on groundwater resources.
<b>Potential significant effects?</b> Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant negative effect on the objective to conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character.			

<b>Site KS3A: Land off Froghole Lane</b>		
Approx. 1.75ha of which 1.1ha is developable land in flood zone 1		
<b>Objective</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
1	+	The site is expected to deliver 11 homes and as a result it will meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing on site. At a rate of 30% this could result in 3 affordable homes. Due to the size of the site it should deliver a mix of house sizes. There is no reason why smaller homes would not be possible.
2	+	Site is within 450m of local facilities such as the primary school and local shop. Due to the size of the site it is unlikely to provide new facilities or services for the community.
3	+	Footpath, part of Clarendon Way is approximately 100m away. It is directly connected to the site by a footpath that leads from the western boundary.
4	?	Indirect and limited effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers.
5	0	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased. The site is within a reasonable walking distance from local facilities / services.
6	?	Site is not in close proximity to any designated sites although Mottisfont Bats SAC is 3.5km to the east. There may be potential impacts on barbastelle bats in terms of habitat degradation, disturbance, fragmentation and or/loss that may arise due to

			<p>development of the site although it is not possible to fully appraise potential impacts without further details of the proposed development.</p> <p>The site is adjacent to the Somborne which feeds into the River Test which is designated SSSI. Runoff from the site could lead to reduction in water quality of the Somborne and in turn affect biodiversity.</p> <p>Development on the southern portion of the site would be harmful to the objective to retain or restore the riverine environment alongside the Somborne, however the policy restricts development to the northern portion of the site and requires enhancements or restoration of the riverine environment to the south which would be beneficial.</p>
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	?	<p>The southern part of the site is within Flood Zone 2 / 3 and is medium to high risk of fluvial and surface water flooding. As a result development is only allocated on the land to the north, outside of this area. In addition the proposed policy requires a site specific flood risk assessment and the management of the undeveloped southern parcel of land for biodiversity and flood risk mitigation. Access to the site is possible from the north outside of the area at risk of flooding. The site currently comprises undeveloped land and development could increase flood risk elsewhere if surface water discharge is not controlled.</p>
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	--?	<p>The site is within the Conservation Area and Fromans Farm, a listed historic farmhouse, is adjacent to the site. The site has potential to impact on the character and appearance of the conservation area, although the location of the development to the north may reduce this. The exclusion of land to the south from the developable area safeguards an important set of trees identified in the Conservation Area Appraisal.</p> <p>The design, density and layout for the site would need to reflect the sensitivities of the site's location in the conservation area and the setting of listed buildings. The area is noted for its openness and this should be incorporated into the layout to retain the connection between the village centre and the countryside.</p> <p>There may be archaeological remains present at the site. The field has been ploughed but the surface is uneven, indicating possibly ploughed out earthworks relating to two cottages shown on the Tithe Map. The policy requires investigation works to ensure this is better understood.</p>
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	-	<p>The site is a relatively flat field situated within the valley bottom behind properties in Romsey Road, with well-established trees and hedges around its boundaries. The site has Moderate Sensitivity and is not highly visible in wider views and is largely only publicly visible from Frog-hole Lane to the west of the site. The site is most sensitive close to the watercourse, although it is proposed to keep this area undeveloped. The site is</p>

			considered to have <b>Moderate Capacity for development</b> overall and could accommodate small – medium scale development. Development of the site would contribute positively to the valley bottom, historic settlement pattern balanced against the sensitivities identified above. Design, density and layout for the site would need to reflect its riparian qualities and role and rural character of Froghole Lane.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	-	Does not involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	?	Site is adjacent to the watercourse and development could lead to pollution entering the water environment through runoff from the site if not properly controlled. However, land to the south of the site is to remain undeveloped and managed for its biodiversity potential and for the purposes of flood risk mitigation which could result in multiple benefits. Development will lead to additional pressure on groundwater resources.
<p><b>Potential significant effects?</b>  There is a potential for significant adverse effects on the objective to conserve and enhance the historic environment. However, there is some uncertainty and in order for this to be mitigated there would need to be a good understanding of the context and importance of the site will be needed as will archaeological investigations. This is required before detailed designs are drawn up.</p>			

<b>Site KS5A: Land at Spencer's Farm (South)</b> Approx. 0.853ha			
<b>Objective</b>		<b>Rating</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	+	The site is expected to deliver around 14 homes as a result it will meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing on site. At a rate of 30% this could result in 4 affordable homes. Due to the size of the site it should deliver a mix of house sizes. There is no reason why smaller homes would not be possible.
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	+	The site is adjacent to the settlement boundary and is 700m from the primary school and 250m from the local shop. Due to the size of the site it is unlikely to provide new facilities and services for the community.
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	+	Public Right of Way route 14 runs along the southern boundary of the site and connects the site to Muss Lane and New Lane.
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	?	Indirect and limited effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	0	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased.

6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	?	Site is not in close proximity to any designated sites although Mottisfont Bats SAC is 4.2km to the east. There may be potential impacts on barbastelle bats in terms of habitat degradation, disturbance, fragmentation and or/loss that may arise due to development of the site although it is not possible to fully appraise potential impacts without further details of the proposed development.
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	0	Development would be in area of low flood risk – Flood Zone 1 and is not in an area prone to surface water flooding. The site currently comprises undeveloped land and development could increase flood risk elsewhere if surface water discharge is not controlled.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	-	The site is adjacent to the conservation area to the west. The site is not within the immediate setting of any listed buildings. The design, density and layout for the site would need to reflect its location adjacent to the conservation area.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	0	The site is located near to the valley bottom tucked behind existing housing and is less visible in longer distance views than KS4. The site has Moderate Sensitivity and Moderate Value. The site is considered to have <b>Moderate Capacity for development</b> overall and could accommodate small – medium scale development. The design, density and layout for the site would need to reflect the topography of the site and that the northern part is visible in views from the ridgeline to the south.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	-	Does not involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	0	Site is not in close proximity to a watercourse so is unlikely to directly affect the water environment. New development will place additional pressure on groundwater resources.
<b>Potential significant effects?</b> None are currently identified			

<b>Site KS6A: Land adjacent to Cruck Cottage</b> Approx. 0.4 ha			
<b>Objective</b>		<b>Rating</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	0	The site is expected to deliver 4 homes and as a result it will not meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing either on site or through a financial contribution. Due to the size of the site, the mix of house sizes that can be delivered is likely to be limited. There is opportunity to deliver smaller homes.
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	0	The site is within 700m of the primary school and 200m from the local shop. Due to the size of the site it will not provide new facilities / services for the community.

3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	+	Site is adjacent to Clarendon Way.
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	?	Indirect and limited effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers although the number of homes which can be delivered at this site is limited.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	0	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased. The site is within reasonable walking distance from local facilities / services.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	?/-	<p>Site is not in close proximity to any designated sites although Mottisfont Bats SAC is 4.2km to the east. There may be potential impacts on barbastelle bats in terms of habitat degradation, disturbance, fragmentation and or/loss that may arise due to development of the site although it is not possible to fully appraise potential impacts without further details of the proposed development.</p> <p>There is a line of mature trees along the southern boundary which could provide a potentially important habitat, and negative impact on this should be avoided.</p>
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	-	Site is not within Flood Zone 2 or 3 however access to the site is from area at risk of flooding and medium to high risk of surface water flooding. The site currently comprises undeveloped land and development could increase flood risk elsewhere (by introducing hardstanding) if surface water discharge is not controlled.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	-	The site is within the Conservation Area and development has the potential to impact on the character and appearance of the conservation area, including the approach to the area from the east, its rural, linear and transition from built up village with the countryside to the east. The design, density and layout for the site would need to respect the site's location within the conservation area; provide an appropriate setting for the listed buildings; particularly Cruck Cottage.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	0	The site is located on the valley bottom and comprises a small area of open space within the linear street pattern. The site has Moderate Sensitivity and High Value. Development of this site would contribute positively to the valley bottom, linear settlement pattern. The site is considered to have <b>Moderate Capacity for development</b> overall and given its relatively small size and sensitivities could only accommodate small scale development.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	-	Does not involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	-	Site is in close proximity to a watercourse so could lead to pollution entering the water environment through runoff. New development will place additional

			pressure on groundwater resources.
<b>Potential significant effects?</b>			
None are currently identified			

<b>Site 50: Land and buildings west of Horsebridge Road</b>			
Approx. 0.61 ha			
<b>Objective</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	
1	+	The site is estimated to deliver ten homes from conversion of the agricultural buildings already on the site, and therefore it will meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing. At a rate of 40% this could result in 4 affordable homes. Due to the size of the site, it is less likely to deliver a mix of house sizes.	
2	--	The site is in Horsebridge and is therefore removed from services and facilities available in the wider area.	
3	+	The site is located near public footpaths 120/10/2, 133/5/1 and 133/7/1 and public bridleway 133/6/1, which connect to nearby settlement's including King's Somborne.	
4	+	Indirect effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers.	
5	-	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car and the scale of development this site's expected to deliver would lead to a substantial increase in car journeys. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased.	
6	-	The site is within 200 metres of the River Tess SSSI and is therefore within its Impact Risk Zone (IRZ). However, consultation with Natural England will not be required as this IRZ only impacts residential development of 50 units or more and rural residential development of 10 or more houses outside the existing settlement / urban area, which does not apply to this site. Nevertheless, as a site so close to the SSSI, there is potential for disturbance to this site nonetheless.	
7	?	The site is within an area of low flood risk – Flood Zone 1 – and is not in an area prone to surface water flooding, however this is a very small area in the centre of the site at low risk of surface water flooding. The site currently comprises partially developed land, and as such, development is unlikely to increase surface water flood risk elsewhere. Nevertheless, it is worth noting that the site is located within 200 metres of the River Test, and therefore some uncertainty is noted.	
8	--	The site is not within or near a conservation area or scheduled monument, but it does contain a Grade II listed 18 <sup>th</sup> century barn and housing development 'Staddle Barn at Horsebridge Farm 75 metres south	

			west of Farm Cottages'. Development of this site would likely directly impact the historic value of the barn and its association with agricultural uses. The site may also have archaeological remains of the Roman Road as its course passes through the site.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	--	The site consists of a large cluster of agricultural buildings, including barns and brick structures, some hardstanding and greenfield. However, the site is located outside of the settlement boundary, and the closest settlement is the village of Horsebridge, which is identified as Countryside in the Local Plan Settlement Hierarchy. The site is considered to have high landscape sensitivity and medium visual sensitivity.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	++	Does involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	-	The site is within 200 metres of the River Test and is within a Groundwater Source Protection Zone (Zone 1 – Inner Protection Zone), with potential polluting impacts on groundwater, which may need to be investigated as part of a planning application before development is approved.
<p><b>Potential significant effects?</b></p> <p>Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant positive impact on the objective to improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources.</p> <p>Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant negative impact on the objectives to maintain and improve access to key services and facilities conserve, enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets, and conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character.</p>			

<b>Site 53: Land east of Horsebridge Road</b>			
Approx. 0.0 ha			
<b>Objective</b>		<b>Rating</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	--	The site is estimated to deliver one home from conversion of the agricultural barn already on the site, and therefore it will not meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing.
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	--	The site is in Horsebridge and is therefore removed from services and facilities available in the wider area.
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	+	The site is located near public footpaths 120/10/2, 133/5/1 and 133/7/1 and public bridleway 133/6/1, which connect to nearby settlement's including King's Somborne.
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	-	As only one home will be delivered on this site, it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the local economy.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by	-	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car and the scale of development this site is expected to deliver would lead to a substantial increase

	sustainable modes.		in car journeys. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	-	The site is within 200 metres of the River Tess SSSI and is therefore within its Impact Risk Zone (IRZ). However, consultation with Natural England will not be required as this IRZ only impacts residential development of 50 units or more and rural residential development of 10 or more houses outside the existing settlement / urban area, which does not apply to this site. Nevertheless, as a site so close to the SSSI, there is potential for disturbance to this site nonetheless.
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	?	The site is within an area of low flood risk – Flood Zone 1 – and is not in an area prone to surface water flooding. The site currently comprises partially developed land, and as such, development is unlikely to increase surface water flood risk elsewhere. Nevertheless, it is worth noting that the site is located within 200 metres of the River Test, and therefore some uncertainty is noted with respect to fluvial flooding.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	?	The site is not within or near a conservation area or scheduled monument. However, Grade II listed building ‘Staddle Barn at Horsebridge Farm 75 metres south west of Farm Cottages’ is located approximately 100 metres west of the site. In this respect, development at the site could impact the setting of this heritage asset, and as such, uncertainty is noted.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish’s landscape and settlement character	--	The site consists of an agricultural barn and greenfield land, and as such, it is partially brownfield land. However, the site is located outside of the settlement boundary, and the closest settlement is the village of Horsebridge, which is identified as Countryside in the Local Plan Settlement Hierarchy. The site has both high landscape sensitivity and high visual sensitivity and has no screening to minimise views into the site.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	++	Does involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	-	The site is within 200 metres of the River Test and is within a Groundwater Source Protection Zone (Zone 1 – Inner Protection Zone), with potential polluting impacts on groundwater, which may need to be investigated as part of a planning application before development is approved.
<p><b>Potential significant effects?</b></p> <p>Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant positive effect on the objective to improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources.</p> <p>Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant negative effect on the objectives to ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home, maintain and improve access to key services and facilities, and conserve and enhance the Parish’s landscape and settlement character.</p>			

**Site 55 & 56: Strip of Land to West of Eldon Road**

Approx. 3.2 ha

Objective		Rating	Commentary
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	++	The site is expected to deliver around 96 homes as a result it will meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing on site. At a rate of 40% this could result in 38 affordable homes. Due to the size of the site it should deliver a mix of house sizes. There is no reason why smaller homes would not be possible. The sheer size of the development means large numbers of new homes which greatly increases the potential for people to have an opportunity to live in an appropriate home.
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	?	The site is adjacent to the settlement boundary but is some distance from the primary school (1km) and local shop (800m). Given the size of the site, existing services and facilities would be positively supported and there may be scope to provide new facilities / services for the local community. The capacity of some will have to be increased and it is not known if this is possible.
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	+	Bridleway 505 is on the eastern boundary and Bridleway 506 is on the northern boundary giving the site access to the nearby countryside.
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	+	Indirect effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers. The size of the development makes this more likely and there is potential for employment uses to be provided on site.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	-	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car and the scale of development this site is expected to deliver would lead to a substantial increase in car journeys. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	?	Site is not in close proximity to any designated sites although Mottisfont Bats SAC is 4.2km to the east. There may be potential impacts on barbastelle bats in terms of habitat degradation, disturbance, fragmentation and or/loss that may arise due to development of the site although it is not possible to fully appraise potential impacts without further details of the proposed development.
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	0	Site is within Flood Zone 1. The site currently comprises undeveloped land and development could increase flood risk elsewhere if surface water discharge is not controlled.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	-	The site is not within or directly adjacent to the Conservation Area. There are no Listing Buildings on, or within close proximity to the site.  There may be archaeological remains present at the site. Linear features are visible as cropmarks on aerial photography.

9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	--	The site is part of the chalk downland, valley sides surrounding King Somborne. The site has Moderate Sensitivity and is most sensitive where it corresponds to Flood Zone 3 and the two hedgerows on the western and northern boundaries are characteristic elements within the site. The site is clearly visible in views from the adjacent bridleways running to the north and east of the site. The site has Low Value due to its intensive agricultural character and proximity to uncharacteristically located large scale modern housing development. Its development would not contribute positively to the historic settlement pattern. The site is considered to have Low Capacity for development overall. New development at this site is likely to erode the positive characteristics of the landscape which are desirable to safeguard in line with national and local planning policy objectives.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	-	Does not involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	0	Site is not in close proximity to a watercourse so is unlikely to directly affect the water environment. New development will place additional pressure on groundwater resources.

**Potential significant effects?**

Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant positive effect on the objective to ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable house.

Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant negative effect on the objective to conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character.

**Site 70: Land at Compton Manor Estate**

Approx. 0.94 ha

Objective	Rating	Commentary
1 Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	+	The site has the potential to deliver 20 dwellings, but only if development is not restricted to conversion of the agricultural barn only. In this respect, the site has the potential to meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing on site. At a rate of 40% this could result in 8affordable homes. Due to the size of the site, it should be able to deliver a mix of house sizes, including smaller homes.
2 Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	--	The site is in an isolated location on the Compton Manor Estate and is therefore removed from services and facilities available in the wider area.
3 Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	0	There are no public rights of way within the vicinity of the site.
4 Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	+	Indirect effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers.

5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	-	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car and the scale of development this site is expected to deliver would lead to a substantial increase in car journeys. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	?	The site is within 2,000 metres of the River Test SSSI and is therefore within its Impact Risk Zone (IRZ). However, consultation with Natural England will not be required as this IRZ only impacts rural residential development of 100 or more houses outside the existing settlement / urban area, which does not apply to this site. However, as development would impact on local greenspace and trees (the site is adjacent to woodland), consultation may still be required, and as such uncertainty is noted in terms of biodiversity.
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	0	The site is in an area of low flood risk – Flood Zone 1 – and is not in an area prone to surface water flooding. As the site currently comprises partially developed land, redevelopment is unlikely to significantly increase surface water flood risk elsewhere.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	0	The site is not within or near to a conservation area, listed building or scheduled monument, and there are no known archaeological remains within the site itself.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	-	The site consists of an agricultural barn and greenfield land, and as such, it can be considered partially brownfield land. However, the site is located outside of the settlement boundary, and the closest settlement is the Compton, which is identified as Countryside in the Local Plan Settlement Hierarchy. The site is considered to have medium landscape sensitivity and medium visual sensitivity. Nevertheless, the woodland adjacent to the site partially screens the site.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	+	Does involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	0	Site is not near a watercourse so is unlikely to directly affect the water environment. New development will place additional pressure on groundwater resources.

**Potential significant effects?**

Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant negative effect on the objective to maintain and improve access to key services and facilities.

**KS7A: Land at Winchester Road and New Lane**

Approx. 1.38 ha

Objective	Rating	Commentary
1 Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	0	The site is expected to deliver around 7 homes, as a result it will meet the criteria for requiring a financial contribution up to 20% affordable housing. Due to the size of the site it should deliver a mix of house sizes. There is no reason why smaller homes would not be possible.

2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	0	Whilst the site is adjacent to the existing settlement boundary it is 1000m from the primary school and 500m from the local shop. There is no pavement in places. Only part of the site is proposed for development so there may be land available for further facilities if these were necessary.
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	+	Site lies on the edge of the village and pedestrian access to the village centre would need to be via the unpaved footpath running on the northern boundary. The footpath does allow people to access the countryside easily/
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	?	Indirect and limited effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	0	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	-	<p>Site is not in close proximity to any designated sites although Mottisfont Bats SAC is 4.2km to the east. There may be potential impacts on barbastelle bats in terms of habitat degradation, disturbance, fragmentation and or/loss that may arise due to development of the site although it is not possible to fully appraise potential impacts without further details of the proposed development.</p> <p>Development adjacent to the Somborne could be harmful to the objective to retain or restore the riverine environment alongside the Somborne, however if development is restricted to the northern portion of the site opportunities to enhance or restore the riverine environment could be taken.</p>
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	-	The site borders and slightly overlaps an area within Flood Zone 2 / 3. Access is possible to the north which is not at risk of flooding. The site currently comprises undeveloped land and development could increase flood risk elsewhere if surface water discharge is not controlled.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	--?	<p>Part of the site is within the Conservation Area and development has the potential to impact on its character and appearance, including the approach to the area from the east, and its transition from built upvillage to countryside. There are potential archaeological remains present at the site, but the precise locations are not established. There are known earthworks on the site and possibly remnants of field or garden boundaries. Archaeological investigations should take place before development commences to ensure that development can avoid anyharm. There is potential to incorporate such features into the design and layout of any</p>

			scheme.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	0	The site is located on the valley bottom between and behind properties on the northern side of Winchester Road. The site has Moderate Sensitivity with the most sensitive area of the site lying north of the recently planted hedgerow, as this part of the site has a strong downland character and is exposed in views from the north, including from the footpath, and will be seen as an encroachment into the much larger field. The southern half of the site, adjacent to Winchester Road and south of the recently planted hedge line, is less sensitive as it is less visible and more closely relates to the valley bottom settlement pattern. The site has Moderate Value due to its contribution to the setting of listed buildings and the conservation area and that only a very small part lies within the conservation area. The development of the site makes a neutral contribution to the settlement pattern, as while it is located in the valley bottom, only parts of the site directly relate to the linear settlement pattern. The site is considered to have a <b>Moderate Capacity for development overall</b> and could accommodate small -medium scale development. The design, density and layout for the site would need to reflect that it is located at a key gateway into the village. Any development on the northern part of the site would need to take into account how the particular sensitivities relating to views from the north and from the footpath, and that development here would be seen as an encroachment into a large field, could be mitigated.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	-	Does not involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	-	Site is adjacent to the watercourse and development could lead to pollution entering the water environment through runoff from the site. Development will lead to additional pressure on groundwater resources.
<p><b>Potential significant effects?</b>  There is a potential for significant adverse effects on the objective to conserve and enhance the historic environment. However, there is some uncertainty and in order for this to be mitigated there would need to be a good understanding of the context and importance of the site will be needed as will archaeological investigations. This is required before detailed designs are drawn up.</p>			

**Site 81: Land South of Winchester Road**

Approx. 0.64 ha

Objective		Rating	Commentary
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	0	The site is expected to deliver around 8 homes, as a result it will meet the criteria for requiring a financial contribution up to 20% affordable housing. Due to the size of the site it should deliver a mix of house sizes. There is no reason why smaller homes would not be possible.
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	0	Whilst the site is adjacent to the existing settlement, it is 800m of the primary school and 400m from the local shop. There is no pavements in places. Due to the size of the site it is unlikely to provide new facilities and services for the community.
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	0	Footpath, part of the Clarendon Way is approximately 100m away. This gives access to long distance routes.
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	?	Indirect and limited effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	0	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	?	Site is not in close proximity to any designated sites although Mottisfont Bats SAC is 4.3km to the east. There may be potential impacts on barbastelle bats in terms of habitat degradation, disturbance, fragmentation and or/loss that may arise due to development of the site although it is not possible to fully appraise potential impacts without further details of the proposed development.
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	-	Site is not within Flood Zone 2 or 3 however access to the site is from area at risk of flooding and medium to high risk of surface water flooding. The site currently comprises undeveloped land and development could increase flood risk elsewhere if surface water discharge is not controlled.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	--?	The site is within the Conservation Area and there is potential for development to impact on the character and appearance of the conservation area, including the approach to the area from the east, its rural, linear and transition from built up village with the countryside to the east.  There is potential for archaeological remains to be present on the site. Land form features suggest

			archaeological interest and the 1743 map shows three cottages at this site.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	+/-	This site is located on the valley bottom, on the edge of settlement' on the approach to the village. The site has Moderate Sensitivity with the most western part of the site is sensitive due to its contribution to the setting of the adjacent listed building. The most eastern part is also sensitive as it is visible on the approach to the village. The site has High Value due to the contribution the site makes as an open space in the conservation area, and that it forms part of the setting of nearby listed buildings. Development of the site would contribute positively to the historic settlement pattern and would be seen within the context of other development along the linear valley bottom. The site is considered to have Moderate Capacity for development overall and could accommodate small -medium scale development. While the site is fairly enclosed along the road frontage, the design, density and layout for this site would need to take into account views of the site on the eastern approach to the village.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	-	Does not involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	-	Site is in close proximity to the watercourse and development could lead to pollution entering the water environment through runoff from the site. Development will lead to additional pressure on groundwater resources.
<p><b>Potential significant effects?</b></p> <p>There is a potential for significant adverse effects on the objective to conserve and enhance the historic environment. However, there is some uncertainty and in order for this to be mitigated there would need to be a good understanding of the context and importance of the site will be needed as will archaeological investigations. This is required before detailed designs are drawn up.</p>			

**Site 168 & 214: Land to East of Eldon Road**

Approx. 4.2ha

Objective		Rating	Commentary
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	++	The site is expected to deliver around 126 homes as a result it will meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing on site. At a rate of 40% this could result in 50 affordable homes. Due to the size of the site it should deliver a mix of house sizes. There is no reason why smaller homes would not be possible. The sheer size of the development means large numbers of new homes which greatly increases the potential for people to have an opportunity to live in an appropriate home.
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	0	<p>Although the site is adjacent to the existing settlement, it is some distance from local facilities including 700m from the primary school and 500m from the local shop. These distances are considered the maximum people are likely to walk and development is likely to lead to increased car use.</p> <p>Given the size of the site, existing services and facilities would be positively supported and there may be scope to provide new facilities / services although these would not be easily accessible to the local community. The capacity of some may need to be increased.</p>
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	+	Bridleway 506 runs along the southern boundary of the site.
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	+	Indirect effect - new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers. The size of the development may mean that this will be more positive than smaller sites.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	-	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car and the scale of development this site is expected to deliver would lead to a substantial increase in car journeys. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	?	Site is not in close proximity to any designated sites although Mottisfont Bats SAC is 4.2km to the east. There may be potential impacts on barbastelle bats in terms of habitat degradation, disturbance, fragmentation and or/loss that may arise due to development of the site although it is not possible to fully appraise potential impacts without further details of the proposed development.
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	0	Site is within Flood Zone 1. The site currently comprises undeveloped land and development could increase flood risk elsewhere if surface water discharge is not controlled.

8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	0	The site is not within or directly adjacent to the Conservation Area. There are no Listing Buildings on, or within close proximity to the site.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	--	The site is part of the gently rolling, undulating topography, chalk downland landscape of the valley sides to the south of the village. The site has Moderate Sensitivity with the northern part of the site most sensitive as a result of it being exposed in views. The higher parts of the site are visible in longer distance views from the south west along the approach into the village on Furzedown Road. Its Low Value results from its intensive agricultural character. Its development would also not relate well to the historic valley bottom settlement pattern. The site is considered to have <b>Low Capacity for development overall</b> . New development at this site is likely to erode the positive characteristics of the landscape which are desirable to safeguard in line with national and local planning policy objectives.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	-	Does not involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	0	Site is not in close proximity to a watercourse so is unlikely to directly affect the water environment. New development will place additional pressure on groundwater resources.
<p><b>Potential significant effects?</b></p> <p>Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant positive effect on the objective to ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable house.</p> <p>Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant negative effect on the objective to conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character.</p>			

**Site 186: Allotments, Furzedown Road**

Approx. 0.92 ha

Objective		Rating	Commentary
1	Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in an appropriate and affordable home	+	The site is estimated to deliver up to 21 homes, and therefore it will meet the criteria for requiring affordable housing on site. At a rate of 40% this could result in 8 affordable homes. The site should be able to deliver a mix of house sizes, and there is no reason why smaller homes would not be possible.
2	Maintain and improve access to key services and facilities	++	The site is located within the built-up area / settlement boundary of King's Somborne. The site is approximately 400 metres from the primary school and 200 metres from the local shop, which are both within walking distance for most people. Given the size of the site, existing services and facilities would be positively supported and there may be scope to provide new facilities / services for the community.
3	Seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population	--	There are no PROWs within the vicinity of the site. However, the site is used as an allotment, which is registered as a Site of Community Value. In this respect, development of this site will have a negative impact on the health and wellbeing of the local community by removing this locally valued amenity if it is not relocated to a new location within the neighbourhood area.
4	Ensure the local economy is maintained and advances in the use of new technology are supported	+	Indirect effect – new homes can help support local business with both employees and customers.
5	Reduce the need to travel and increase the proportion of travel by sustainable modes.	-	Given the rural nature of the parish many journeys will be by private car and the scale of development this site is expected to deliver would lead to a substantial increase in car journeys. The existing bus service provision is limited and is unlikely to be significantly increased.
6	Conserve and, where possible, enhance biodiversity	?	The site is within 2,000 metres of the River Test SSSI and is therefore within its Impact Risk Zone (IRZ). However, consultation with Natural England will not be required as this IRZ only impacts rural residential development of 100 or more houses outside the existing settlement / urban area, which does not apply to this site. However, as development would impact on local greenspace, consultation may still be required, and as such uncertainty is noted in terms of biodiversity.
7	Seek to avoid and reduce vulnerability to the risk of flooding.	0	Development would be in an area of low flood risk – Flood Zone 1 – and is not in an area prone to surface water flooding. However, the site currently comprises undeveloped land and development could increase flood risk elsewhere if surface water discharge is not controlled through the use of SuDS or similar methods.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets.	-	The site is adjacent to the King's Somborne Conservation Area to the north. There are no listed buildings within the site itself, however it is approximately 100 metres away from Grade II listed buildings Austin Cross Cottage and Old Palace Lodge Palace Farmhouse and scheduled monument John of Gaunt's Palace. In this respect, the site has the potential to impact the setting of these

			heritage assets if sympathetic design is not utilised.
9	Conserve and enhance the Parish's landscape and settlement character	-	The site is currently in use as an allotment and is located within the built-up area / settlement boundary of King's Somborne, which is identified as a Rural Village in the Local Plan Settlement Hierarchy. The site has a steeply sloping topography and has medium landscape sensitivity and medium visual sensitivity according to the SOA. In terms of the site's landscape sensitivity, views from the wider landscape will be screened by retaining mature trees along the site's boundary. Similarly, the site's visual sensitivity will be lessened by existing partial screening, which could also be maintained and enhanced.
10	Improve the efficient use of land and conserve soil resources	-	Does not involve the re-use of previously developed land.
11	Conserve and, where possible, enhance the water environment	0	Site is not near a watercourse so is unlikely to directly affect the water environment. However, new development will likely place additional pressure on groundwater resources.
<p><b>Potential significant effects?</b></p> <p>Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant positive effect on the objective to maintain and improve access to key services and facilities.</p> <p>Development of the site is anticipated to have a significant negative effect on the objective to seek to maintain and improve health and wellbeing of the population</p>			

# APPENDIX 6: STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

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Regulatory requirement	Discussion of how requirement is met
An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	Chapter 2 of the Environmental Report provides the context and vision for the KSNP.
The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	<p>This information is provided in Chapter 3 'The Scope of the SA/ SEA'. A detailed overview of the current state of the environment is provided, which weaves in the likely evolution of the baseline without implementation of the plan where applicable.</p> <p>These matters have been considered in detail through scoping work, which has involved dedicated consultation on a Scoping Report in December 2018.</p>
The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	<p>Chapter 3 provides a detailed overview of the characteristics of the neighbourhood area which have the potential to be affected by the proposals of the KSNP. A summary of the principal features of the Parish which are relevant to the study is also provided in Chapter 2, paragraph 2.3.</p> <p>These matters have been considered in detail through scoping work, which has involved dedicated consultation on a Scoping Report in December 2018.</p>
Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.;	<p>Chapter 3 provides a detailed overview of environmental problems relative to the neighbourhood area which have the potential to be affected by the proposals of the KSNP. A summary of the principal features of the Parish which are relevant to the study is also provided in Chapter 2, paragraph 2.3, which includes Mottisfont Special Area of Conservation.</p> <p>These matters have been considered in detail through scoping work, which has involved dedicated consultation on a Scoping Report in December 2018.</p> <p>A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) has also been undertaken as part of the evidence base for the KSNP. The findings of the HRA have informed the findings of the SEA, as reported through Chapter 7 (Analysis of Proposed Site Allocation Policies) and Chapter 8 (Conclusion and Assessment Findings).</p>
The environmental protection, objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation;	<p>Appendix 2 details a plans, programmes, and policy review, identifying the key issues/ messages arising from a range of national and local scale plans, programmes, and policies. These were supplemented following scoping consultation feedback.</p> <p>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives are detailed in Chapter 4, which were developed following consideration of scoping information and the identified key issues.</p>

## Regulatory requirement

## Discussion of how requirement is met

The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. (Footnote: These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects);

Effects have been considered in detail as part of the alternatives work (Chapter 5), and in assessing the draft plan (Chapter 6 Analysis of Proposed Development Management Policies and Chapter 7 Analysis of the Proposed Site Allocations). Summary findings are provided in Chapter 8 and detailed findings are provided in appendices.

The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme;

Potential mitigation measures have been considered in detail as part of the alternatives work (Chapter 5), and in assessing the draft plan as a whole (Chapter 6 Analysis of Proposed Development Management Policies and Chapter 7 Analysis of the Proposed Site Allocations). Summary findings are provided in Chapter 8 and detailed findings are presented within appendices.

The assessment highlights certain tensions between competing objectives, which might potentially be actioned by the examiner, when finalising the plan.

An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;

Chapter 5 (Assessment of Reasonable Alternatives) presents this information which is supported by detailed appendices.

Description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Art. 10;

Measures concerning monitoring are outlined in Chapter 9. Monitoring is expected to be undertaken by Test Valley District Council to avoid duplication, as the envisaged measures align with the Council's existing monitoring proposals outlined in the Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan.

A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings

A non-technical summary is provided at the start of the Environmental Report.