

South Petherton Neighbourhood Development Plan

Sustainability Appraisal Report

for South Petherton Parish Council

Clare Reid Consultancy
August 2017

Email: clare.reid@clarereidconsultancy.co.uk
www.clarereidconsultancy.co.uk

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. SEA/HRA Screening	1
3. South Petherton Neighbourhood Plan	1
4. Methodology	3
5. Sustainability Appraisal Summary	4
6. Recommendations and Changes made as a result of the SA	6
7. Changes made to the SPNP following consultation, and Sustainability Appraisal Implications	8
8. Monitoring and Review	11
9. Conclusions	11
Appendix 1 – Sustainability Appraisal Checklist	12

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is a process to assess the environmental, social and economic effects of plans. The purpose is to ensure that plans contribute to delivering sustainable development.
- 1.2. SA is legally required for certain types of plans. National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) explains that there is no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to have a sustainability appraisal¹. However, a qualifying body must demonstrate how its plan or order will contribute to achieving sustainable development. A sustainability appraisal (SA) may be a useful approach for doing this. The South Petherton Neighbourhood Plan (SPNP) Steering Group decided to undertake a SA as part of good practice. Clare Reid Consultancy was commissioned to do a SA of the SPNP. An SA assessment was undertaken of the draft Plan prior to consultation and recommendations made. The SA was updated in the light of changes to the SPNP following consultation prior to Submission.

2. SEA/HRA Screening

- 2.1. South Somerset District Council carried out a screening assessment on the need for Strategic Environmental Assessment of the draft Neighbourhood Plan. This concluded that SEA was not required². The SPNP does not allocate sites for housing or employment development, and although it may result in development within the plan's lifespan, this will only be in the form of small scale development predominantly within or on the edge of the defined development area boundary. The SEA Screening concluded that the Neighbourhood Plan was not considered to be likely to lead to significant environmental effects.
- 2.2. A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) was also carried out by South Somerset District Council. Given the lack of European Sites in the vicinity of the Neighbourhood Plan area, the limited wider impacts likely from the plan itself, and the protection afforded by the NPPF and Local Plan policies, the screening concluded that South Petherton Neighbourhood Plan will not have significant effects upon the integrity of European sites.

3. South Petherton Neighbourhood Plan

- 3.1. The SPNP covers the period from 2015 to 2028 and covers the parish of South Petherton. It sets out the community's Vision and priorities for how they would like to see the local area change over the plan period and the local planning policies which will be taken into account in planning decisions.

¹ NPPG Paragraph: 026 Reference ID: 11-026-20140306

² South Petherton Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Screening Report, South Somerset District Council, March 2017

- 3.2. The Neighbourhood Plan area is situated within South Somerset District. It is a largely rural Parish with a population of around 3,600 people³ situated amid the picturesque undulating South Somerset countryside. The Parish includes the settlements of South Petherton, and the smaller settlements of Over Stratton, Yeabridge, Compton Durville, and a number of Hamlets across the rest of the area. The Neighbourhood Plan area is shown in Map A of the Submission draft Plan.
- 3.3. The Plan was developed following extensive community consultation. The key methods used have included:
- Public exhibitions, meetings and events;
 - A community questionnaire sent to all households;
 - Discussion with local businesses;
 - Directly contacting wider-than-local organisations and Agencies (strategic stakeholders) which have an interest in planning issues in the Parish;
 - Meetings with developers hosted by both representative of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and the Parish Council;
 - Making documents produced by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group available on the Neighbourhood Plan website;
 - Using social media;
 - Meetings with local groups and institutions;
 - Keeping the community appraised with progress through the parish newsletter, TA13.
- 3.4. The SPNP includes policies relating to:
- a) Natural Environment
 - b) Built Environment and Heritage
 - c) Housing
 - d) Local Economy
 - e) Transport and Traffic
 - f) Community Facilities, Sport and Recreation
- 3.5. The Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate sites for new housing development, although small scale development to meet local needs will be supported.
- 3.6. The SPNP is required to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the South Somerset Local Plan (EDLP) adopted in March 2015, as the primary development plan for the area. This has been subject to its own SEA/HRA. The SPNP also has to be in general conformity with the Minerals Local Plan

³ The population was 3,367 in 2011 according to the census. See <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/> for details of census data published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Our own population projections based on housing completions and using an average household size suggest the population in 2015 was closer to 3,600. See our evidence base Population and Housing topic paper for further details <https://spplan2015.wordpress.com/2015/07/16/evidence-base/>.

and the Waste Local Plan of Somerset County Council which have been subject to separate SAs (available on the Somerset County Council website).

4. Methodology

- 4.1. The SA assesses the potential implications of the SPNP against a set of social, economic and environmental objectives (see Table 2 and Appendix 1). These are supplemented by more detailed SA criteria taken from the South Somerset Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal. This allows a consistent approach to testing the Plans.
- 4.2. For each sustainability objective, the baseline situation is considered, i.e. what the current situation is. This is used to identify any existing issues that need to be considered. The baseline situation and identified issues are drawn from a variety of documents, references are given at the end of Appendix 1. The SA then assesses how the SPNP responds to this issue looking at the SPNP as a whole. It lists the relevant SPNP aims and policies. An overall score is given to the SPNP relating to each SA objective (see Table 1 below for scoring system). The purpose of the SA is to highlight where the SPNP might have negative impacts on the sustainability objectives, so that recommendations can be given to avoid or mitigate these. The SA also identifies where the SPNP could be strengthened to improve its contribution to the delivery of sustainable development.

Table 1: SA scoring system

S++ (S= supports)	Strongly supports the SA objective
S+	Supports the SA objective
N	Is neutral in effect
C- (C=conflicts)	Potentially works against the SA objective
C- -	Strongly works against the SA objective
X	Effects uncertain

5. Sustainability Appraisal Summary

5.1. The initial SA assessment was undertaken on the draft SPNP in March 2017 (*Pre-submission draft SPNP dated 10 March 2017*). The results of this assessment are set out in Appendix 1 and summarised in Table 2.

Table 2 – Summary of SA scores for Pre-submission draft SPNP

SA Objectives & factors / criteria	SA score	Overall assessment
<p>SA1 To protect and enhance landscape character, biodiversity (habitats and species) and geodiversity.</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity - Protect and enhance the landscape 	<p align="center">S++</p>	<p>The NP is strongly positive in relation to this SA objective and criteria, particularly landscape.</p> <p>South Petherton is designated as a Rural Centre in the Local Plan and as such is considered to be a suitable location for where provision for development will be made that meets local housing need, extends local services and supports economic activity appropriate to the scale of the settlement. The draft Neighbourhood Plan allows for small scale development in and around South Petherton therefore some element of environmental change will take place however the overall impacts will be in accordance with the adopted Local Plan and unlikely to have a significant effect. The Local Plan policies are considered sufficient to prevent inappropriate development in open countryside areas and damage to wildlife and habitats. However the NP includes policies to strengthen the protection of landscape character including focusing development in areas of high or moderate/high landscape capacity, identifying key views and protecting through designation areas of local green space.</p>
<p>SA2 To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage,</p>	<p align="center">S++</p>	<p>The NP strongly supports this SA objective and criteria through</p>

South Petherton Neighbourhood Development Plan: Sustainability Appraisal

<p>and the quality and character of the built environment</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment - Protect and enhance the townscape 		<p>policies to conserve and enhance the historic and built environment. It is further strengthened by the Parish Design Statement which provides more detail on the buildings and features of interest and how well designed development can help to enhance the townscape.</p>
<p>SA3 To sustain vibrant communities and safeguard human health & wellbeing.</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve access to essential services and facilities - Reduce poverty and social exclusion - Provide sufficient housing to meet identified needs of the community - Improve health and well being - Reduce crime and fear of crime 	S++	<p>The NP is strongly supportive of this SA objective and criteria. It includes several policies to support local communities through the provision of affordable housing and the appropriate size and type of housing to meet local needs; the protection and enhancement of existing community facilities which will support community cohesion and health and wellbeing, along with support for improved access.</p> <p>The aims of the plan are locally based and are unlikely to have a significant impact on a wider geographical area or population.</p>
<p>SA4 To promote a thriving economy that supports social and environmental objectives.</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve education and skills of the population - Support a strong, diverse and vibrant local economy 	S+	<p>The NP is positive for this objective as it identifies a specific need in the parish for small employment starter /incubator units and supports additional provision of such units, particularly for local arts and crafts businesses, where they do not adversely impact on other objectives.</p> <p>The NP does not allocate any employment land.</p>
<p>SA5 To mitigate and adapt to climate change including flood risk.</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce contribution to climate change and vulnerability to its effects? - Manage and reduce the risk of 	S+	<p>The NP is positive for this SA objective through Policy NE5 addressing potential impacts of surface water flooding from new development. Other potential flood risk and climate change mitigation / adaptation issues are covered</p>

South Petherton Neighbourhood Development Plan: Sustainability Appraisal

flooding		through Local Plan policies and the NPPF.
<p>SA6 To reduce traffic congestion and noise, and improve safety, health and air quality by reducing the need to travel, especially by car</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce the effect of traffic on the environment 	S+	The NP is positive for this SA objective through a number of policies regarding car parking provision in new development and in the village. It also supports more sustainable modes of travel through walking and cycling.
<p>SA7 To promote the sustainable use of natural resources including land, water, air and soil, minimise pollution and reduce waste.</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maintain & enhance the environment in terms of air, soil & water quality. - promote wise use of waste resources whilst reducing waste production and disposal? - Minimise pollution (including air, water, land, light, noise) 	N	The NP was considered to be neutral for this SA objective as it does not include any specific issues or policies relating to these matters and as such was screened out of the SA.

6. Recommendations and Changes made as a result of the SA

- 6.1. The draft SPNP was considered to be positive for **all bar one** of the SA objectives. It was judged to be neutral in relation to Objective SA7 on natural resources.
- 6.2. A number of recommendations were identified (as set out in Table 3 below), which would help to strengthen the SPNP's performance in sustainability terms. Some points of clarification were also raised which would assist the implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan policies.
- 6.3. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group considered the SA recommendations and made appropriate amendments to the draft Plan.
- 6.4. Table 3 documents the changes to the draft SPNP in response to the SA recommendations:

Table 3 - SA Recommendations and SPNP Steering Group Response

SA Recommendation/Query	SPNP Steering Group Response/Recommendation
<p>Recommendation 1. The Neighbourhood Plan should not lead to significant cumulative impacts as long as the allowance for housing is in accordance with the settlement strategy of the Local Plan (SS1 and SS5). Policies drafted reflecting the aims to protect the environment should also ensure that there are no significant cumulative effects.</p>	<p>Agreed. Suggested changes to the Policies NE2 and NE3 to ensure proposals do not cause significant cumulative environmental effects.</p>
<p>Recommendation 2: The Parish Design Statement states that there has been little investigation of the archaeological features evident in the village and its surrounding parish. Has there been any consideration of potential impact of development on these sites, and whether an assessment of archaeological interest should be undertaken? It may be that this is sufficiently covered by covered by Local Plan Policy EQ3, in which case a statement to this effect would be provide clarity.</p>	<p>Noted. It is considered that EQ3 does provide a degree of protection but a neighbourhood plan policy specific to the parish's list of archaeological assets cannot be drafted without a list yet being in existence. Further, paragraph 13.40 in the Local Plan commits the local authority to undertake a number of tasks which includes (amongst others):</p> <p>"Guidance and advice for owners and developers in relation to the conservation of the historic environment, nationally and locally designated assets including archaeological sites" and "Measures to identify locally significant assets including buildings, parks and gardens and archaeological features and the preparation of a district-wide list of such assets."</p> <p>Therefore, we consider that no change to the Design Statement is required.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3: It is not clear if policies NE1 and NE2 are intended to apply to any proposals coming forward under policy LE1. If so, it would provide clarity if there was reference to the support for small workshops in the text associated with these policies.</p>	<p>Noted. The development plan's policies should be read as a whole. Policies NE1 and NE2 do not specify specific types of development or use class and therefore apply to all development. It is therefore implicit that NE1 and NE2 apply to LE1. However, a short additional note in the supporting text to NE1 and NE2 could</p>

Policy LE1 includes a number of criterion to ensure that potential adverse impacts are avoided including on the character of the built environment, which would include designated heritage assets such as the Conservation Area and listed buildings. There is no specific reference however to protecting the setting of these assets.	reinforce the point.
Recommendation 4: Policy LE1 - Small Employment Starter / Incubator Units to Support Local Arts criterion (i) should refer to the setting of the built environment to ensure that any potential impacts on the setting of the Conservation Area or listed buildings are avoided.	Agreed. Policy wording will be amended to reflect this.
Recommendation 5: Has there been consideration of cycle parking and safe cycle storing provision if the NP is seeking to encourage greater cycling in the village?	Noted. Agreed that the provision of secure cycle parking has not been addressed as well as it could be in the plan. Suggest adding requirements to policy BEH3 and the Design Statement.

7. Changes made to the SPNP following consultation, and Sustainability Appraisal Implications

7.1 The Pre-submission consultation draft SPNP was subject to public consultation and the SPNP Steering Group recommended further changes to the draft SPNP as a result⁴. The key changes are summarised in Table 4 below, with an assessment of any implications for the SA.

Table 4 – Changes to the SPNP and SA implications

Changes to SPNP (policy changes shown by underlined text)	SA comments
Natural Environment	
Policy NE2 – Proposals on the Edge of the Village Development Area. Criteria iii) amended to remove the reference to the ‘open’ landscape character as this may	No SA implications. The policy still supports the protection of the landscape character around and setting of South Petherton

⁴ South Petherton Neighbourhood Plan Pre-submission (Regulation 14) Consultation: Summary of Representations, Parish Council responses and Proposed Changes to the Pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan, South Petherton Parish Council, August 2017

South Petherton Neighbourhood Development Plan: Sustainability Appraisal

<p>mislead the reader into thinking that it means "all" parts of the countryside, which is not its intention</p>	
<p>Policy NE2 – Proposals on the Edge of the Village Development Area. Criteria ii) amended to replace ‘small scale’ development with further guidance, suggesting delivery rates of around 12 dwellings per year</p>	<p>No SA implications. Does not change the likely overall scale of development in the Parish.</p>
Built Environment and Heritage	
<p>Policy BEH2 – Heritage and the Historic Environment Policy amended to remove reference to local heritage assets not designated, and these will also be removed from Appendix 3. Reference will be made to the Parish Council working with Historic England and South Somerset District Council to identify local heritage assets. Reference to the protection of such assets from demolition removed. Map J will be amended to simply reproduce the existing Conservation Area boundary and listed building locations.</p>	<p>No SA implications. The policies still provide strong protection for heritage and the historic environment</p>
<p>Built Environment and Heritage Chapter and Design Statement – changes made to remove reference to "unlisted buildings of merit" and "negative" buildings and any references to any proposed boundary changes to the current Conservation Area.</p>	<p>No SA implications. The policies still provide strong protection for heritage and the historic environment</p>
<p>Policy BEH3 - Rights of Way and Other Public Non-vehicular Routes amended to remove list of statutorily protected rights of way from the policy. Additional clause added to support Proposals which introduce new and improved walking and cycle routes, including two specific routes listed in the policy. Add additional paragraph to the supporting text before policy BEH3 to support improved accessibility for all people wishing to use the path network through for example changing stiles to gates and additional parking at the start of footpaths or bridleways</p>	<p>No SA implications. The amendments support the SA objective to sustain vibrant communities and safeguard human health & wellbeing by encouraging accessibility and healthy activities</p>
<p>Design Statement – changes to references to reconstituted stone so that this is only used where use of natural stone would</p>	<p>No SA implications. Does not change the policy.</p>

South Petherton Neighbourhood Development Plan: Sustainability Appraisal

make the development unviable, and for use of any material to be consistent with SSDC conservation guidelines	
Housing	
Policy H1 – Meeting the Demand for Affordable Housing in South Petherton. Amendments to policy and text regarding how the cascade would work if no-one with a local affordable housing need is identified	No SA implications. The policy is still seeking to promote affordable housing in the parish.
Design Statement – New Residential Development Guidelines - Redraft introductory text. Delete 1 st point promoting an appropriate mix of housing to meet local needs. Remove reference to 20 dwelling threshold	No SA implications. Does not change the policy.
Local Economy	
Additional text set out in the introductory pages of the plan, more information about the role and function of Over Stratton to give it more prominence. Amendments to the "Local Economy" section to better reflect the importance of the rural economy in although it is not considered that additional policy content is needed in the neighbourhood plan alongside that in the Local Plan	No SA implications. The policy still supports the local economy.
Policy LE1 - Small Employment Starter / Incubator Units amended to support the Local Economy generally, not just restricted to the Arts	No SA implications. The policy still supports the local economy.
Transport and Traffic	
Policy TT3 – Parking in Residential Development – removal of reference to a Transport Impact Assessment or Planning Statement for developments of 10 or more houses	No SA implications. The policy still seeks to provide adequate off-road parking.
Community Facilities, Sport and Recreation	
Community Facilities section. Add reference to the desire locally for skate park ramps	No SA implications. Supports additional community facilities

- 7.2 The amendments to the draft SPNP were not considered to have any significant adverse impacts in relation to the SA, and in some cases were considered to strengthen the SPNP's contribution to sustainable development.

- 7.3 No additional recommendations have been identified from the SA.
- 7.4 The changes made to the SPNP in the light of the SA recommendations, and following consultation, have not resulted in any changes to the SA scoring for the SA objectives.

8. Monitoring and Review

- 8.1 There is no statutory requirement to monitor the Plan. The NP states that 'the Parish Council will periodically monitor the impact of policies on change in the parish by considering the policies' effectiveness in the planning application decision making process.' No significant effects have been identified through the SA and as such do not require monitoring. However, the Parish Council may also wish to consider whether to monitor the effectiveness of the SPNP in contributing to sustainable development, in relation to the SA objectives. This could be done through commenting on the positive or negative impacts of decisions on relevant SA objectives. Such monitoring would assist with any reviews that might take place of the SPNP.

9. Conclusions

- 9.1 The SA assessment has found that the Submission Draft SPNP is positive for all bar one of the SA objectives - it was judged to be neutral in relation to Objective SA7 on natural resources. A number of recommendations were made (as set out in section 6), which would help to strengthen the SPNP's performance in sustainability terms. These have incorporated into the revised SPNP.
- 9.2 No significant adverse impacts were identified either as part of the initial SA assessment, or as a result of changes to the Pre-submission draft SPNP following consultation.
- 9.3 Many of the policies in the SPNP will support the achievement of sustainable development in the Parish.

Appendix 1 – Sustainability Appraisal Checklist

Sustainability Appraisal of the South Petherton Neighbourhood Plan

(SA undertaken of the Pre-submission draft NP dated 10 March 2017)

Clare Reid Consultancy, March 2017

The table below provides an assessment of the draft South Petherton Neighbourhood Plan (NP) against a set of sustainability objectives and criteria identified for the SA. The results are set out in the following table; an explanation of each column is given below.

SA Objectives & criteria: These provide the environmental, social and economic objectives that the NP will be assessed against. The SA objectives and criteria have been developed to cover the range of topics identified in the Environmental Assessment Regulations, and use the sustainability objectives for the South Somerset District Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal, to ensure consistency of approach.

Baseline situation/issues: The baseline situation and identified issues are drawn from a variety of documents; references are given at the end of this report.

How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective? This column records which parts of the draft NP address the SA objective, looking at the NP as a whole. It lists the relevant NP aims and policies.

SA score: This provides an overall assessment of the NP as a whole against the SA objective. The scoring system is set out below:

S++ (S= supports)	Strongly supports the SA objective
S+	Supports the SA objective
N	Is neutral in effect
C- (C=conflicts)	Potentially works against the SA objective
C- -	Strongly works against the SA objective
X	Effects uncertain

Commentary / recommendations: This column notes any conclusions from the SA and recommendations for the NP Steering Group to consider amendments to the NP in order to strengthen the contribution of the NP to sustainable development. **No significant adverse effects have been identified. Recommendations have been made to strengthen the sustainability performance of the NP or clarify policies.**

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
<p>SA1 To protect and enhance landscape character, biodiversity (habitats and species) and geodiversity. <i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity - Protect and enhance the landscape 	<p>There are no designated landscapes or habitats which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status in the South Petherton NA. [SSDC Screening]</p> <p>The parish is close to Ham Hill which is a Special Site of Scientific Interest, country park and scheduled monument. [MAGIC]</p> <p>South Petherton is in an area of high landscape sensitivity. The village is surrounded by open countryside and its position at the foot of limestone hills, including the country park of Ham Hill, means that there are highly valued views from the</p>	<p>NP Aims – Natural Environment Protect and enhance our countryside and natural environment Focus future development on small, incremental expansion of the village Control future development NP Objectives - Natural Environment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protect the land we value locally from inappropriate development and set parameters for new development to be found acceptable 2. Designate and protect green spaces of importance to the Parish and Protect and Create Natural Habitats 3. Protect important views (including those of Ham Hill) 4. Limit development in the countryside <p>The Local Plan provides policy coverage to prevent inappropriate development in open countryside areas and damage to wildlife and habitats and so the Neighbourhood Plan does not duplicate these.</p>	<p>S++</p>	<p>The NP is strongly positive in relation to this SA objective and criteria, particularly landscape.</p> <p>South Petherton is designated as a Rural Centre in the Local Plan and as such is considered to be a suitable location for where provision for development will be made that meets local housing need, extends local services and supports economic activity appropriate to the scale of the settlement. The draft Neighbourhood Plan allows for small scale development in and around South Petherton therefore some element of</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>outskirts of the village and prominent positions within the village. Views of the village from vantage points such as Ham Hill and Cripple Hill are also significant. [Parish Design Statement]</p> <p>The high quality of the landscape has been recognised in South Somerset District Council's South Petherton Peripheral Landscape Study undertaken in 2008 which explored landscape sensitivity to potential new development to inform the now adopted Local Plan. [NP]</p> <p>An assessment of landscape capacity identified a number of areas where the landscape has high or moderate/high capacity to accommodate new</p>	<p>Policy NE1 – South Petherton Village Development Area supports development within the development area (identified in the Local Plan) with development on a brownfield site or infill development specified as the preferred type of development.</p> <p>Where development comes forward on the edge of the development area, policy NE 2 seeks to ensure that this takes place without adverse impact on the character and built form of the village and also does not encroach on the countryside or compromise the local landscape setting.</p> <p>Policy NE3 designates 4 areas as Local Green Space (shown in Map F) which are protected for their local environmental and recreational value. The protection of these sites will also provide landscape, biodiversity and community benefits.</p>		<p>environmental change will take place however the overall impacts will be in accordance with the adopted Local Plan and unlikely to have a significant effect. The Local Plan policies are considered sufficient to prevent inappropriate development in open countryside areas and damage to wildlife and habitats. However the NP includes policies to strengthen the protection of landscape character including focusing development in areas of high or moderate/high landscape capacity, identifying key views and protecting through designation areas of local</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>development, including two potential development areas close to existing settlement. Most of the areas surrounding the settlement were judged to have moderate to low capacity for development. [NP Map C]</p> <p>There are a number of priority habitats in the parish including broadleaved woodland, woodpasture and parkland, and orchards. (MAGIC)</p> <p>The parish includes two recognised small areas of deciduous woodland and a small woodland reserve of fruit and native broadleaf trees called Dutchie’s Orchard planted as part of the ‘Woods on Your Doorstep’ Millennium project. [NP]</p>	<p>Map E shows which views are important, together with their extent (splay) and sets out the views that should be protected as an integral part of the open character of the countryside landscape and overall character, quality and “feel” of the village. Important vistas and views into and from the surrounding open countryside are valuable local assets that should be protected from inappropriate development to maintain the special character and landscape setting of South Petherton. These vistas and views should remain uninterrupted and not obstructed in whole or in part.</p> <p>The Parish Design Statement includes principles for preserving / promoting natural heritage. It also provides guidelines for development including residential development and the provision of open green spaces.</p>		<p>green space.</p> <p>Recommendation 1. The Neighbourhood Plan should not lead to significant cumulative impacts as long as the allowance for housing is in accordance with the settlement strategy of the Local Plan (SS1 and SS5). Policies drafted reflecting the aims to protect the environment should also ensure that there are no significant cumulative effects.</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>Lam Brook, North Mills Brook and the River Parrett all run through the parish, providing important wildlife habitats, not least for a thriving otter population and contain several breeding sites. [NP]</p> <p>There are a number of important species recorded in the parish, in particular, a long list of protected birds and bats. The large blue butterfly is also present and is protected by European and British law. The parish also plays host to a number of important species of flowering plants. [NP]</p> <p>A study identified views important to the community which should be protected from interruption as a result of</p>			

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	new development. These include views such as Coles Lane to Village Centre, Carey's Hollow to Village Centre and the Recreation Ground to Ham Hill. This study adds additional local specificity to the findings of the Peripheral Landscape Study and South Somerset Landscape Character Assessment, which demonstrate the importance of the village's position in the overall landscape. [NP]			
SA2 To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, and the quality and character of the built environment <i>Will the plan / policy:</i> - Conserve and where appropriate enhance	The NA has a number of heritage assets. A large proportion of the existing built up area of South Petherton is within an Area of High Archaeological Potential (Local Plan Policy EQ3). A Conservation Area also covers a large proportion of the	NP Aims – Built Environment and Heritage Retain the distinctive character of the village Set appropriate design and space standards for new development NP Objectives 5. Produce a Parish Design Guide to ensure quality & design of new development	S++	The NP strongly supports this SA objective and criteria through policies to conserve and enhance the historic and built environment. It is further strengthened by the Parish Design Statement which provides more detail on

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues (Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
<p>the historic environment</p> <p>- Protect and enhance the townscape</p>	<p>existing built settlement (Local Plan Policy EQ3). [SSDC Screening]</p> <p>There are no designated heritage assets on the 'at risk' register. [HE]</p> <p>South Petherton is a historically significant village that has developed in size, character and function since its earliest settlement. There are a number of archaeological features evident in the village and its surrounding parish, although there has been little investigation of these sites. [Parish Design statement]</p> <p>South Petherton is characterised by its well-maintained largely Ham stone buildings. The consistent use</p>	<p>6. Set up list of local heritage 'assets' to be protected</p> <p>Policy BEH1 – High Quality Design requires all new development to be of high quality design, complementing the local vernacular, enhancing visual amenity and minimising any adverse impacts on the built environment and neighbouring amenity. The South Petherton Design Statement is listed as providing guidance on what is considered high quality in the South Petherton context.</p> <p>Policy BEH2 – Heritage and the Historic Environment provides protection for the South Petherton Conservation Area and locally valued parish heritage assets as identified on Map J. Un-designated local heritage assets are also shown on Map J and listed in Appendix 3 and the Parish Council will work with Historic England to achieve formal designation.</p> <p>All such assets will be protected from</p>		<p>the buildings and features of interest and how well designed development can help to enhance the townscape.</p> <p>Recommendation 2: The Parish Design Statement states that there has been little investigation of the archaeological features evident in the village and its surrounding parish. Has there been any consideration of potential impact of development on these sites, and whether an assessment of archaeological interest should be undertaken? It may that this is sufficiently covered by covered by Local Plan Policy EQ3, in which case a statement to</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>of local building materials such as Ham or Petherton stone along with slate, clay tile or thatch roofs give buildings in the parish their special character. [NP]</p> <p>The village and surrounding parish contain large numbers of historic buildings. 114 are listed, 63 of which are in the village of South Petherton. [NP]</p> <p>Outside the Conservation Area, there are a number of other important clusters of heritage assets in the parish. These are situated in Wigborough, Yeabridge, Over Stratton and Compton Durville [NP]</p> <p>There are many other</p>	<p>adverse impact arising from their development, alteration, refurbishment or demolition and from adverse impact of other development proposals. Development proposals affecting un-designated but identified local heritage assets will be subject to Local Plan policy EQ3.</p> <p>The Parish Design Statement is part of the NP. It includes general design guidelines as well as guidelines on protecting / promoting Built Heritage, preserving/promoting natural heritage, roads, development within the Conservation Area, development of the public realm and new residential development. The Statement recognises the importance of improving the quality of the built environment in the village centre and seeks to achieve this by encouraging developers to use local materials where possible, retain legacy shopfronts, resist the loss of gardens between buildings in the</p>		<p>this effect would be provide clarity.</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	important unlisted buildings and features such as legacy shopfronts, boundary walls, monuments, signposts and plaques. These are yet to be recognised by local authority or national designation and there is a desire to work with the local authority and Historic England to list the parish's local assets. [NP]	Conservation Area and to sensitively design and illuminate commercial signs amongst other measures. The Parish Design Statement also identifies a number of buildings that are not listed, but are recognised to be worthy of a high degree of protection as "unlisted buildings of merit". These buildings are also identified and named in the Conservation Area Appraisal. It is hoped that these unlisted buildings of merit might be considered for listing either on the SSDC local list or for national listing.		
SA3 To sustain vibrant communities and safeguard human health & wellbeing. <i>Will the plan / policy:</i> - Improve access to essential services and facilities - Reduce poverty and social exclusion - Provide sufficient housing	The parish of South Petherton has a population of around 3,600 people and around 1,700 dwellings, with most of this in South Petherton village. [NP] South Petherton is designated as "Rural Centre", i.e. "a market town with a local	The NP vision is to improve existing community life and provide a viable environment for future expansion of the population. This includes a focus on fostering the prospect of younger families staying in South Petherton to build their futures, catering for the needs of the older population, and being able to welcome people from outside to a sustainable future for the expanding community as a whole.	S++	The NP is strongly supportive of this SA objective and criteria. It includes several policies to support local communities through the provision of affordable housing and the appropriate size and type of housing to meet local needs; the protection and

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
<p>to meet identified needs of the community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve health and well being - Reduce crime and fear of crime 	<p>service role where provision for development will be made that meets local housing need, extends local services and supports economic activity appropriate to the scale of the settlement". (Local Plan Policy SS1: "Settlement Strategy".) [NP]</p> <p>The proportion of residents in the parish aged 65 or over is 29% and 60-70% of people moving to the South Petherton are retirees so this demographic is expected to continue to rise. Future housing needs to the Lifetime Homes Design Guide criteria, to address the need of an ageing population. [NP]</p> <p>The parish is made up of a number of outlying</p>	<p>NP Aims</p> <p>Establish a more accessible (pedestrian-and cyclist friendly) environment</p> <p>Ensure new housing meets local needs and increases choice</p> <p>Provide for a wide range of community facilities and services and improve leisure and recreation opportunities</p> <p>Increase sport and recreation facilities and opportunities at the Rec.</p> <p>NP Objectives</p> <p>8. Improve and extend network of local rights of way and footpaths, cycle paths and bridleways</p> <p>9. Provide footpath links to and from new development</p> <p>10. Establish and monitor scale and nature of local housing need</p> <p>11. Ensure that new housing increase options</p> <p>12. Provide some bungalows and lifetime</p>		<p>enhancement of existing community facilities which will support community cohesion and health and wellbeing, along with support for improved access.</p> <p>The aims of the plan are locally based and are unlikely to have a significant impact on a wider geographical area or population.</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>settlements served by the village of South Petherton at its heart. The village has a well-defined centre with popular and well-used facilities and services. Increased traffic and a shortage of parking have become increasingly problematic in South Petherton. [NP]</p> <p>There are currently no segregated or off-road cycleways, and there is a National Cycle Route Network designated route through the village. There are a good number of existing rights of way. Some are used as everyday routes to school or work or to shop and others are used recreationally for walking or hiking. There are also 3 well-used bridleways.</p>	<p>homes</p> <p>13. Provide dwellings suitable for single person households</p> <p>18. Protect community and social spaces and buildings from change of use</p> <p>19. Redevelop pavilion with sports facilities, toilets and changing rooms</p> <p>20. Expand into new Rec. space when it's made available</p> <p>21. Enable new leisure and recreation activity</p> <p>22. Enable increase in local health and welfare services</p> <p>23. Provide public toilets</p> <p>Policy BEH1 – High Quality Design promotes the application of the most up-to-date accessibility standards to meet the needs of an ageing population</p> <p>Policy BEH3 encourages better pedestrian and cycle links within the parish and encourages new development to provide safe and easy access for pedestrians and</p>		

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>Around 39% of existing houses are detached, 28% semi-detached and 27% terraced, with very few flats. The average, size of dwelling in the parish is 3 bedrooms. There is a shortage of smaller dwellings for younger people and small families or to enable older households to downsize. [NP]</p> <p>The latest Housing Needs Survey identified a need for 11 affordable homes between 2015 and 2020. The majority of these were for social/affordable rent. [NP]</p> <p>The Local Plan requirement for new additional housing in South Petherton (settlement) was 229 for the 22 year plan period of 2006-2028, which</p>	<p>cyclists to community services and facilities.</p> <p>Policy H1 requires development proposals to support affordable housing to meet local needs and sets a local connection policy prioritising provision of affordable housing for people resident in the parish, with a cascade out to neighbouring parishes where there is no need within the parish.</p> <p>Policy H2 Retaining Affordable Housing in Perpetuity provides planning policy support in principle for developments proposed by the local CLT.</p> <p>Policy H3 Housing Type and Size sets out the size of housing required to address concerns that there is insufficient opportunity to access housing at low cost on the open market and that there is insufficient supply of the right <i>size</i> of dwellings to support the changing nature of household composition, such as an ageing</p>		

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>has now been exceeded. However this is a minimum figure and other proposals may come forward. [NP]</p> <p>South Petherton is ranked as one of the 50% least deprived areas in England according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015. [NP]</p> <p>The parish has a good range of community facilities, services, and sports facilities including a school, community hospital and health centre, recreation field and pavilion, a wide range of social and sports clubs, GP surgery, post office, community halls and a good range of shops. These all contribute to ensuring the continued sustainability of the village and parish as a whole</p>	<p>population and housing for younger families.</p> <p>Policy COM1 – Protecting and Enhancing Community Facilities seeks to protect existing community assets and supports their enhancement where proposals are compatible with other objectives of the NP. The protection of existing community facilities and spaces and provision of new facilities will support vulnerable and less mobile age groups such as the elderly and young in particular.</p> <p>The Parish Design Statement also includes guidelines for development including the provision of open green spaces and residential amenity including lifetime homes and outside amenity space.</p> <p>Policy COM2 – Public Conveniences supports the provision of public toilets where they have no adverse impact on</p>		

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>and make the parish an attractive place to live, work and do business in. [NP]</p> <p>The most valued community assets have been identified through consultation and are listed in the NP.</p> <p>The Local Plan identifies a need for “a replacement surgery, expansion of youth facilities, an extension to the community hall, new open space and expansion of formal pitches and changing facilities for the village.” [NP]</p>	<p>residential amenity or amenity in the village centre.</p> <p>The NP also identifies priority projects for improvement of community facilities and open space as set out in policy D1: Delivery, in this plan.</p>		
<p>SA4 To promote a thriving economy that supports social and environmental objectives.</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve education and skills of the population 	<p>Around half of the population are economically active population and levels of unemployment are low. [NP]</p> <p>Although there are a large number of businesses in South</p>	<p>NP Aims</p> <p>Strengthen retail/commercial function of village centre</p> <p>Support the growth of local business / enterprise</p> <p>NP Objectives</p> <p>14. Support creation of craft/artisan</p>	S+	<p>The NP is positive for this objective as it identifies a specific need in the parish for small employment starter /incubator units and supports additional provision of such units,</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
<p>- Support a strong, diverse and vibrant local economy</p>	<p>Petherton, levels of self-containment are low and out commuting high with 64% of the population commuting out of the village to work. [NP]</p> <p>There are approximately 700 jobs in South Petherton with at least 160 businesses in the parish. The main sectors of the local economy are: farming, market gardening, retail and other small businesses including small arts sector businesses. [NP]</p> <p>Existing small business units are almost fully occupied and meet a strong local demand for this type of commercial premises. Recent market research suggests unmet demand for new premises and potential demand for small</p>	<p>workshops</p> <p>Policy LE1 - Small Employment Starter / Incubator Units to Support Local Arts supports the creation of workshops to support small and medium sized local arts and crafts businesses provided they have no adverse impact on the character of the built environment; the character of the natural environment and setting; residential amenity; traffic generation; noise; and light pollution. Any proposals that come forward within the Development Area must demonstrate that they will not exacerbate existing parking issues and provide sufficient off-street parking.</p> <p>The SSDC Local Plan identifies an additional employment land provision requirement of 0.66 ha and this is best allocated in conjunction with the planned strategic road improvements to the A303. Policy EP5 supports farm diversification and future projects are likely to include the provision</p>		<p>particularly for local arts and crafts businesses, where they do not adversely impact on other objectives.</p> <p>The NP does not allocate any employment land.</p> <p>Recommendation 3: It is not clear if policies NE1 and NE2 are intended to apply to any proposals coming forward under policy LE1. If so, it would provide clarity if there was reference to the support for small workshops in the text associated with these policies.</p> <p>Policy LE1 includes a number of criterion to ensure that potential</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>business units from businesses currently operating from home. [NP]</p> <p>South Petherton has a supply of 1.81 hectares of employment land. An additional 0.66 hectares is proposed as a minimum in the settlement. [SSDC Local Plan]</p> <p>The allocation of employment land in the Parish has been problematic and additional employment land needs to be identified in order to strengthen the service function of South Petherton and to provide greater self-containment. The most suitable land for such employment use is close to the A303 but this is dependent on the upgrading of the A303.</p>	<p>of the sort of business units outlined in Neighbourhood Plan Policy LE1.</p>		<p>adverse impacts are avoided including on the character of the built environment, which would include designated heritage assets such as the Conservation Area and listed buildings. There is no specific reference however to protecting the setting of these assets.</p> <p>Recommendation 4: Policy LE1 - Small Employment Starter / Incubator Units to Support Local Arts criterion (i) should refer to the setting of the built environment to ensure that any potential impacts on the setting of the Conservation Area or listed buildings are avoided.</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>[NP]</p> <p>The South Somerset Employment Land Review identifies some of the priorities for the A303 sub-economy as fostering knowledge based business incubation and maintaining/developing the high skills base of the local workforce. [NP]</p> <p>The community are also planning a local community hub, which will include an Enterprise Hub in order to link with other regional hubs identified in the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership Strategic Economic Plan 2014-2030. This hub will provide important support for new businesses in</p>			

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	the parish in order to foster the sort of improvements in self-containment and economic growth envisioned by the Parish Plan, Local Plan and the LEP's Strategic Economic Plan. [NP]			
<p>SA5 To mitigate and adapt to climate change including flood risk.</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce contribution to climate change and vulnerability to its effects? - Manage and reduce the risk of flooding 	<p>Parts of the NA are designated as Flood Zones 2 and 3 (medium – high flood risk), to the north and north east (Local Plan Policy EQ1). Whilst part of the parish is located within Flood Zones 2 & 3 (north and east of the settlement), any future proposals within the flood zone would be subject to a Sequential Test and site-specific flood risk assessment in accordance with the NPPF. [SSDC Screening]</p>	<p>NP Objectives 7. Reduce flood risk</p> <p>The NP states that there is sufficient policy coverage at the district and national levels as set out in policy EQ1 of the SSDC Local Plan and chapter 10 of the NPPF to ensure that the risk to and arising from new development is minimised and mitigated where necessary.</p> <p>Policy NE5 seeks to ensure that new development does not exacerbate surface water flooding events as a result of new development increasing run-off. It also requires a management plan to be put in</p>	<p>S+</p>	<p>The NP is positive for this SA objective through Policy NE5 addressing potential impacts of surface water flooding from new development. Other potential flood risk and climate change mitigation / adaptation issues are covered through Local Plan policies and the NPPF.</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	The parish has two areas of flood risk arising from fluvial (river) flows. There are localised occurrences of surface water flooding, often a result of short periods of intensive rainfall. [NP]	place for sustainable drainage systems (SuDs) which are put in place when new development is built, to ensure that such systems, designed to prevent flooding issues, maintain their efficiency and that responsibility is put in place to ensure that they remain effective.		
<p>SA6 To reduce traffic congestion and noise, and improve safety, health and air quality by reducing the need to travel, especially by car</p> <p><i>Will the plan / policy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce the effect of traffic on the environment 	<p>The parish's rural location means that residents and visitors are more reliant on cars. The roads are often narrow and there is a shortage of parking provision. [NP]</p> <p>Nearly 2/3 of working residents in the parish travel out of the village to work. [NP]</p> <p>There are a number of buses that run regular routes that service South Petherton. These include a Nippy bus, an hourly service to Yeovil and the twice daily Berrys</p>	<p>NP Aims</p> <p>Establish a more accessible (pedestrian-and cyclist friendly) environment</p> <p>Reduce substantially the impact of the motor vehicle</p> <p>Improve parking provision</p> <p>NP Objectives</p> <p>8. Improve and extend network of local rights of way and footpaths, cycle paths and bridleways</p> <p>9. Provide footpath links to and from new development</p> <p>15. Provide new parking spaces/areas to serve key locations and facilities</p> <p>16. Increase car parking opportunities</p> <p>17. Ensure there is sufficient off-road</p>	S+	<p>The NP is positive for this SA objective through a number of policies regarding car parking provision in new development and in the village. It also supports more sustainable modes of travel through walking and cycling.</p> <p>Recommendation 5: Has there been consideration of cycle parking and safe cycle storing provision if the NP is seeking to encourage greater cycling</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues (Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>Superfast service to London. 30% of residents in South Petherton are satisfied with the bus services in the parish, which is below the national average. It remains one of the community's objectives to facilitate greater use of public transport and the Parish Council is planning to purchase a minibus in order to increase the provision of community transport. [NP]</p> <p>The main issues identified at both the public consultations in July 2015 and April 2016, and by the Evidence Base research, were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate provision of parking • Narrow roads • High traffic flow • Parking provision in the 	<p>parking per dwelling</p> <p>Nearly 2/3 of working residents in the parish travel out of the village to work. In the interests of reducing traffic and increasing sustainability and self-containment, this is something that the community hopes to address.</p> <p>Policy BEH3 seeks to protect and enhance the network of footpaths in order to improve walking and cycling in the village and to help to decrease the use of cars for short trips into the village centre.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan has identified a number of sites that could be used for car parking in the future (shown in Map M). These are shown in the Plan for indicative purposes and are not allocations of land. The Plan seeks to safeguard these sites for preferential use for public car parking so that should they come forward for development, they help firstly to deliver</p>		<p>in the village?</p>

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	<p>village now and in the future</p> <p>Community consultation responses highlight concern that limited access to parking spaces in the village centre may affect the use and vitality of the village. [NP]</p> <p>A survey of existing parking provision in South Petherton found that the car parks and on street parking in the centre are well-used and that capacity is regularly reached at peak times. The survey's findings show that future parking provision in the centre of South Petherton will be necessary as the village grows, particularly if the village is to retain its economic vitality and diversity and if the village is to retain its good degree of self-</p>	<p>solution to help with parking to protect and encourage the local economy and the vitality and viability of the village centre.</p> <p>Policy TT1 – Protecting Car Parking Capacity safeguards existing car parks. Any loss of public parking spaces serving the village centre or community facilities should be replaced by equal or greater capacity and in a location which has easy pedestrian access to the village centre.</p> <p>Policy TT2 – Creating New Additional Off-street Car Parking Capacity supports the provision of additional car parking in 4 identified areas.</p> <p>Policy TT3 – Parking in Residential Development seek to exceed parking standards to ensure that sufficient parking is provided for new development.</p> <p>Policy LE1 includes a requirement for new employment workshops to provide</p>		

SA Objectives & criteria	Baseline situation/issues <i>(Source documents given in brackets, see references at end of the table)</i>	How does the Neighbourhood Plan respond to this objective?	SA score	Commentary / recommendations
	containment by limiting trips by car to other destinations which provide a similar tier of retail and service provision. [NP]	adequate off-road parking.		
<p>SA7 To promote the sustainable use of natural resources including land, water, air and soil, minimise pollution and reduce waste.</p> <p>Will the plan / policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maintain & enhance the environment in terms of air, soil & water quality. - promote wise use of waste resources whilst reducing waste production and disposal? - Minimise pollution (including air, water, land, light, noise) 	<p>Much of the NA is classed as best and most versatile agricultural land. [SSDC Screening]</p> <p>There are no Air Quality Management Areas identified in the Parish. [Defra]</p>	No specific issues or policies relating to these SA objectives.	N	The NP was considered to be neutral for this SA objective as it does not include any specific issues or policies relating to these matters and as such was screened out of the SA.

References:

NP – South Petherton Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-submission version March 2017) The NP draws on an extensive list of studies and information as set out in a number of evidence base documents listed on the NP website <http://www.spplan.org.uk/>

SSDC Screening – screening assessment of South Somerset District Council regarding the need for Strategic Environmental Assessment or Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan

MAGIC – map of environmental designations from Defra and partner organisations <http://www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>

HE – Heritage at Risk Register <http://risk.english-heritage.org.uk/register.aspx?st=a>

Defra – Air Quality Management Areas interactive map <http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/maps>