



Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan

Scoping Report

Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

March 2019

Quality information

Prepared by

Tamsin Stevens

Graduate Environmental
Consultant

Checked by

Nick Chisholm-Batten

Associate Director

Approved by

Nick Chisholm-Batten

Associate Director

Revision History

Revision	Revision date	Details	Authorized	Name	Position
V1.0	21 st February 2019	Initial draft for group comment	22 nd February 2019	Nick Chisholm- Batten	Associate Director
V2.0	1 st March 2019	Consultation version	1 st March 2019	Nick Chisholm- Batten	Associate Director

Prepared for:

Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Prepared by:

AECOM Infrastructure and Environment Limited
3rd Floor, Portwall Place
Portwall Lane
Bristol BS1 6NA
United Kingdom

T: +44 117 901 7000
aecom.com

© 2019 AECOM Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited. All Rights Reserved.

This document has been prepared by AECOM Limited ("AECOM") for use of Locality (the "Client") in accordance with generally accepted consultancy principles, the budget for fees and the terms of reference agreed between AECOM and the Client. Any information provided by third parties and referred to herein has not been checked or verified by AECOM, unless otherwise expressly stated in the document. No third party may rely upon this document without the prior and express written agreement of AECOM.

Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	1
2.	Air Quality	6
3.	Biodiversity and Geodiversity	8
4.	Climate change	16
5.	Landscape	24
6.	Historic environment	31
7.	Land, soil and water resources	37
8.	Population and community	42
9.	Health and wellbeing.....	50
10.	Transportation.....	54
11.	Next steps.....	58

This page is intentionally blank.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 AECOM has been commissioned to undertake an independent Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in support of the emerging Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.2 The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan is currently being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Area was approved in February 2018, and the plan is being prepared in the context of the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan (2011-2029). The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan is at an early stage of development, with evidence currently being collected to facilitate the development of the plan.
- 1.3 The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan has been screened in by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council as requiring a SEA process.
- 1.4 Key information relating to the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan is presented in **Table 1.1**.

Table 1.1: Key facts relating to the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan

Name of Responsible Authority	Burghclere Parish Council
Title of Plan	Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan
Subject	Neighbourhood planning
Purpose	<p>The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The plan will be in general conformity with the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan.</p> <p>The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan will be used to guide and shape development within the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area.</p>
Timescale	To 2029
Area covered by the plan	The Neighbourhood Plan area covers the parish of Burghclere in Basingstoke and Deane Borough in Hampshire (Figure 1.1)
Summary of content	The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan will set out a vision, strategy and range of policies for the Neighbourhood Plan area. The Neighbourhood Plan is likely to allocate development sites to accommodate in the region of 10-15 new dwellings.
Plan contact point	<p>Richard Carrow, Chairman, Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group</p> <p>Email: r.j.carrow@btinternet.com</p>

Relationship of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan with the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan

- 1.5 The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan. Neighbourhood plans will form part of the development plan for the Borough, alongside, but not as a replacement for the Local Plan. The Local Plan seeks to give communities a solid framework within which appropriate community-led planning policy documents, including neighbourhood plans, can be brought forward. Neighbourhood plans are required to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan and can develop policies and proposals to address local place-based issues. In this way it is intended for the Local Plan to provide a clear overall strategic direction for development in Basingstoke and Deane Borough, whilst enabling finer detail to be determined through the neighbourhood planning process where appropriate.
- 1.6 The current Local Plan is the adopted *Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan (2011 to 2029)*¹. It is the overarching planning document that identifies where development will take place, how new jobs will be supported and how the environment of the Borough will be protected and enhanced. It allocates major sites and locations for developments within the Borough.
- 1.7 The Local Plan intends for 850 housing units to be built per annum over the plan period. New homes will be built primarily around Basingstoke and the larger settlements of Whitchurch, Overton, Bramley, Kingsclere and Oakley. Policy SS5 of the Local Plan highlights that an additional 150 homes are expected to be delivered through Neighbourhood Planning across the Borough, and it will be necessary to identify sites/opportunities to deliver at least 10 homes within and adjacent to each of the settlements with defined Settlement Policy Boundaries.
- 1.8 Given Burghclere is identified as a settlement which has a defined Settlement Policy Boundary in the Local Plan, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council have highlighted that at least ten dwellings will need to be delivered through the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan, excluding recent permissions and commitments. As such, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will explore different options for delivering in the region of 10-15 dwellings in Burghclere through the Neighbourhood Plan development process.

SEA explained

- 1.9 The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan has been screened in by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council as requiring SEA. SEA is a mechanism for considering and communicating the potential impacts of an emerging plan, and potential alternatives in terms of key environmental issues. The aim of SEA is to inform and influence the plan-making process with a view to avoiding and mitigating potential negative impacts. Through this approach, the SEA for the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan seeks to maximise the emerging plan's contribution to sustainable development.
- 1.10 SEA is undertaken to meet specific requirements prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations).
- 1.11 Two key procedural requirements of the SEA Regulations are that:
 1. When deciding on 'the scope and level of detail of the information' which must be included in the Environmental Report there is a consultation with nationally designated authorities concerned with environmental issues; and
 2. A report (the 'Environmental Report') is published for consultation alongside the Draft Plan (i.e. the draft Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan) that presents outcomes from the

¹ Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (2016): 'Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan (2011 to 2029)' [online] available at: <<https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/content/doclib/1592.pdf>> [accessed 12/02/2019]

environmental assessment (i.e. discusses 'likely significant effects' that would result from plan implementation) and reasonable alternatives.

- 1.12 This 'Scoping Report' is concerned with item (i) above. It presents a suggested scope for the SEA so that the designated authorities (Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency) can provide timely comment.

SEA 'scoping' explained

- 1.13 Developing the draft scope for the SEA as presented in this report has involved the following steps:
1. Defining the broader context for the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan and associated SEA (i.e. EU, UK Government and local policy and commitments), to summarise the regulatory and legislative landscape;
 2. Establishing the baseline for the SEA, (i.e. the current and future situation in the area in the absence of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan), in order to help identify the plan's likely significant effects;
 3. Identifying particular problems or opportunities ('issues') that should be a particular focus of the SEA; and
 4. Developing a SEA Framework comprising objectives and assessment questions on the basis of these issues which can then be used to appraise the draft plan.

Structure of this Report

Key sustainability themes

- 1.14 The outcomes of the scoping elements introduced through steps 1–4 above have been presented under a series of key environmental themes, as follows:
- Air Quality
 - Biodiversity and Geodiversity
 - Climatic Factors (including flood risk)
 - Landscape
 - Historic Environment
 - Land, Soil and Water Resources
 - Population and Community
 - Health and Wellbeing
 - Transportation
- 1.15 The selected environmental themes incorporate the 'SEA topics' suggested by Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive.² These were refined to reflect a broad understanding of the anticipated scope of plan effects.
- 1.16 It is intended that presenting the scoping information under these themes will help enable the reader to easily locate the information of greatest interest to them. Once agreed (i.e. subsequent to consultation on this Scoping Report), the suggested scope presented under nine themes will provide a methodological 'framework' for the environmental assessment of the draft plan and reasonable alternatives. The discussion of the scoping information for each theme is presented in Sections 2 to 10.

² The SEA Directive is 'of a procedural nature' (para 9 of the Directive preamble) and does not set out to prescribe particular issues that should and should not be a focus, beyond requiring a focus 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' [our emphasis]

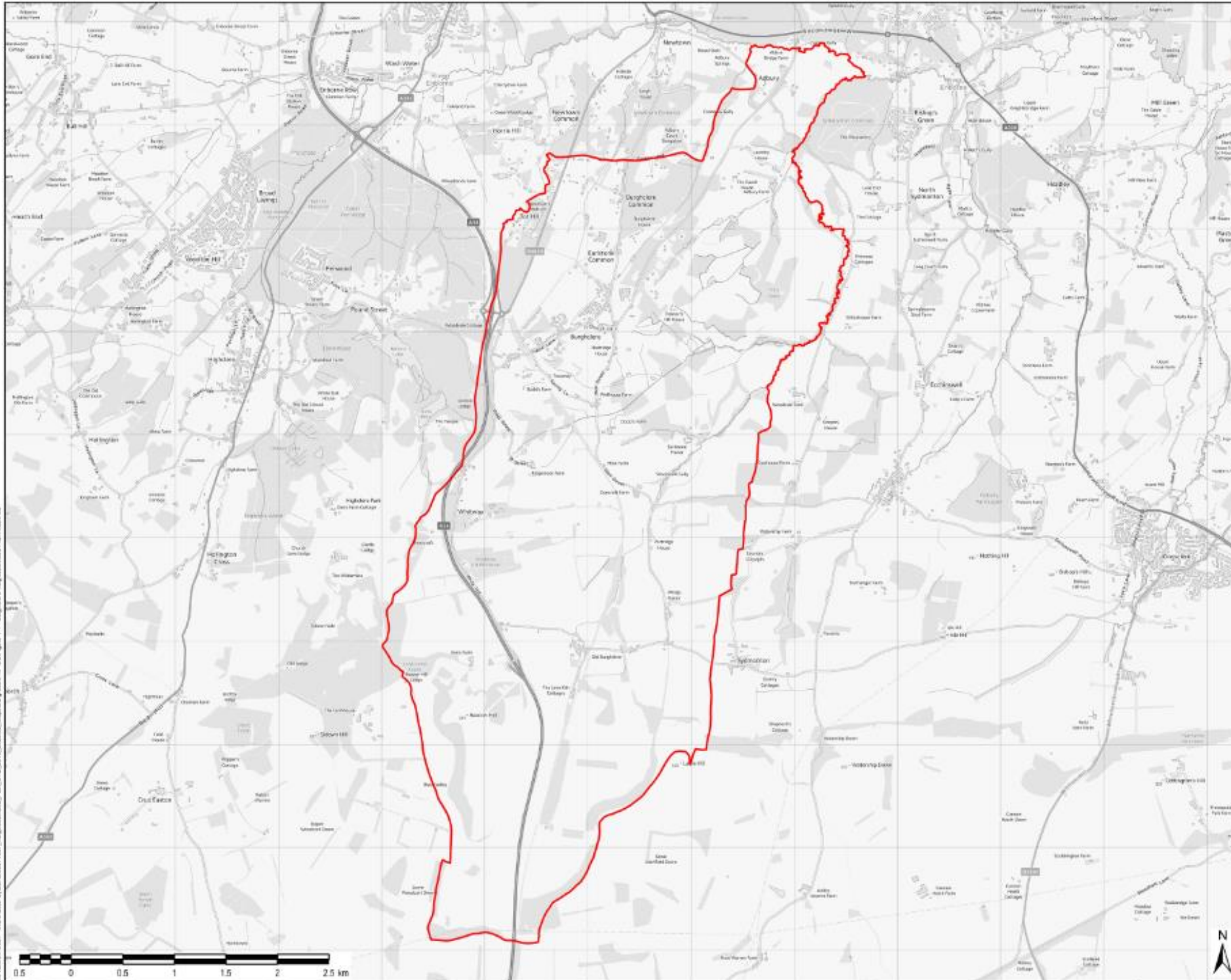
SEA Framework to assess policy proposals

- 1.17 The SEA Framework provides a way in which environmental effects can be defined and subsequently analysed based on standard 'tests'. Each proposal within the emerging Neighbourhood Plan will be assessed consistently using the framework.
- 1.18 The SEA objectives and appraisal questions proposed for the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan SEA are presented under each of the themes in Sections 2 to 10.

THIS DRAWING IS TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF INFO. THAT IT WAS ISSUED FOR AND IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION.

LEGEND

 **Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Area**



Drawn
Contains Ordnance Survey Data © Crown Copyright and database right 2019

Project No: 60571087
DRAFT

Client
BURGHCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Project Title
BURGHCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Drawing Title
BURGHCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA

Drawn CN	Checked JN	Approved TS	Date 14/02/2019
AECOM Internal Project No: 60571087		Scale @ A1 1:34,000	

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN PREPARED PURSUANT TO AND IS SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF AECOM'S STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SERVICE WHICH ARE AVAILABLE AT www.aecom.com. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF AECOM'S PROFESSIONAL CLIENTS, YOU SHOULD REFER TO YOUR AGREEMENT TO A/E/P AND ONLY FOR THE PORTIONS SPECIFIED THEREIN WHICH ARE APPLICABLE.

AECOM
5000 L Street
Folsom, CA 95630
Tel: 916.977.1000
www.aecom.com

Drawn by
AECOM

2. Air Quality

Focus of theme

- Air pollution sources
- Air quality hotspots
- Air quality management

Policy context

2.1 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework³ (NPPF) include:

- 'Planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. Opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts should be identified, such as through traffic and travel management, and green infrastructure provision and enhancement. So far as possible these opportunities should be considered at the plan-making stage, to ensure a strategic approach and limit the need for issues to be reconsidered when determining individual applications. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones is consistent with the local air quality action plan.'
- 'Significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. This can help to reduce congestion and emissions, and improve air quality and public health.'
- 'New and existing developments should be prevented from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of air pollution.'

2.2 Published in January 2018 by the UK Government, 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'⁴ sets out a number of goals and policies in order to help the natural world regain and retain good health. In this context, Goal 1 'Clean Air' and the policies contained within 'Chapter 4: Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste' within the 25 year plan directly relate to the air quality SEA theme.

2.3 In terms of the local context, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is required under Section 82 of the Environment Act (1995) to monitor air quality across the Borough, report regularly to DEFRA, and take action where nationally set levels are likely to be exceeded. Monitoring is undertaken to assess levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), ozone (O₃), benzene (C₆H₆) and particulates (PM₁₀). Where exceedances exist, areas are declared as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and local authorities are required to produce an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) to improve air quality in the area.

2.4 Policy EM8 (Commercial Renewable/Low Carbon Energy Generation) and Policy EM12 (Pollution) from the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan relate to the Air Quality SEA theme.

³ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 12/02/19]

⁴ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 12/02/19]

Baseline

Summary of current baseline

- 2.5 As of June 2018, there are no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) within the Neighbourhood Plan area or within Basingstoke and Deane Borough, as highlighted in the 2018 Air Quality Annual Status Report.⁵ Air quality has been monitored in Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council as part of the local authority review and assessment process since the mid-1990s. Monitoring at locations relevant for public exposure has shown that the annual objective of 40µg/m³ for nitrogen dioxide concentrations has not been exceeded within Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council area; as such the declaration of an AQMA is not required.
- 2.6 There are no recent or anticipated exceedances of national air quality objectives in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Summary of future baseline

- 2.7 New housing and employment provision within the parish and the wider area, including through the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan, has the potential for adverse effects on air quality through increasing traffic flows and associated levels of pollutants such as NO₂. However this is unlikely to lead to exceedances of air quality objectives in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Headline sustainability issues

- Traffic and congestion arising from planned new development within and surrounding the area have the potential to increase emissions.
 - However there are no exceedances or anticipated exceedances of national air quality objectives.
- 2.8 Due to the absence of air quality issues within the Neighbourhood Plan area, the air quality theme has been scoped out for the purposes of the SEA process.

⁵ Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (2018) 2018 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) [online] available at: <
<https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/content/page/58083/Air%20Quality%20Annual%20Status%20Report%20ASR%202018.pdf>>
[accessed 12/02/19]

3. Biodiversity and Geodiversity

Focus of theme

- Nature conservation designations
- Habitats
- Species
- Geodiversity

Policy context

- 3.1 The EU Biodiversity Strategy⁶ was adopted in May 2011 in order to deliver an established new Europe-wide target to 'halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020'.
- 3.2 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework⁷ (NPPF) include:
- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is an environmental objective to 'contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment' including by 'helping to improve biodiversity.'
 - 'Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites; allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value[...], take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.'
 - 'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with the statutory status or identified quality in the development plan); and minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.'
 - 'To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:
 - a. Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and
 - b. Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.'
 - Take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, considering the long term implications for biodiversity.
 - The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where development requiring appropriate assessment because of its potential impact on a habitats site is being planned or determined.

⁶ European Commission (2011) Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 [online] available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52011DC0244&from=EN> [accessed 12/02/19]

⁷ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 12/02/19]

- 3.3 The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP)⁸ sets out the importance of a healthy, functioning natural environment to sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal wellbeing. It was in part a response to the UK's failure to halt and reverse the decline of biodiversity by 2010, and it signalled a move away from the traditional approach of protecting biodiversity in nature reserves to adopting a landscape approach to protecting and enhancing biodiversity. The NEWP also aims to create a green economy in which economic growth and the health of our natural resources sustain each other, and markets, business and Government better reflect the value of nature. It includes commitments to:
- Halt biodiversity loss, support functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks by 2020;
 - Establish a new voluntary approach to biodiversity offsetting to be tested in pilot areas;
 - Enable partnerships of local authorities, local communities and landowners, the private sector and conservation organisations to establish new Nature Improvement Areas; and
 - Address barriers to using green infrastructure to promote sustainable growth.
- 3.4 Reflecting the commitments within the Natural Environment White Paper and the EU Biodiversity Strategy; the 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services'⁹ aims to 'halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people'.
- 3.5 The recently published 25 Year Environment Plan¹⁰ sets out the Government's environmental plan of action over the next quarter century, in the context of Brexit. The Plan aims to tackle the growing problems of waste and soil degradation, improving social justice through tackling pollution and promoting the mental and physical health benefits of the natural world. It also sets out how the Government will address the effects of climate change. These aims are supported by a range of policies which are focused on the following six key areas:
- Using and managing land sustainably;
 - Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes;
 - Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing;
 - Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste;
 - Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans; and
 - Protecting and improving the global environment.
- 3.6 In this context, Goal 3 'Thriving plants and wildlife' and the policies contained within Chapter 2 'Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes' and Chapter 5 'Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans' directly relate to the Biodiversity SEA theme.
- 3.7 The Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan identifies an objective to 'Protect and enhance the borough's biodiversity and the locally distinctive character of our priority habitats and landscapes, such as the North Wessex Downs AONB, through protection, partnership working, conservation and active management.' The plan presents policies EM3 (Thames Basin Heaths

⁸ HM Gov (2011) The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/228842/8082.pdf [accessed 12/02/19]

⁹ DEFRA (2011) Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69446/pb13583-biodiversity-strategy-2020-111111.pdf [accessed 12/02/19]

¹⁰ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 12/02/19]

Special Protection Area) and EM4 (Biodiversity, Geodiversity and Nature Conservation) which relate to the Biodiversity and Geodiversity SEA theme.

Baseline

Summary of current baseline

- 3.8 The location of the sites nationally and locally designated for their biodiversity value and Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats are mapped in **Figure 3.1**.

European designated sites

- 3.9 There are no European designated sites within or in close proximity to the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Nationally designated sites

Greenham and Crookham Commons

- 3.10 Notified in March 1994 'Greenham and Crookham Commons SSSI' is approximately 280 ha in size and is located on the northern boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area. The citation statement for the SSSI states the following¹¹:
- 3.11 *'This site comprises of an extensive complex of heathland, grassland, gorse scrub, broad leaved woodland and alder-lined gullies. Much of the heathland and grassland has been maintained by regular mowing within the perimeter of the Greenham Common airbase while the woodland and scrub, predominantly on areas outside the airbase perimeter, has developed with little intervention. The site also includes one large ancient coppice woodland, Peckmoor Copse. The heathland and acid grassland at this site make up the single largest tract of these habitats in Berkshire.'*
- 3.12 *'Greenham and Crookham Commons occur on a long ridge between the Rivers Enborne and Kennet. The ridge consists of Eocene deposits of acid, sandy clays of the Bagshot Beds overlain by plateau gravels, and seated on heavy impermeable clays of the London Clay. Consequently the soils are a complicated pattern of variable deposits in which free draining soils dominate, but with clay pockets producing extensive seepage zones and springs. These springs give rise to streams creating the small, flushed and waterlogged valleys of alder woodland.'*
- 3.13 The most recent condition assessments for the SSSI indicate that 10.6% of the SSSI is considered to be in a 'favourable' condition, 72.3% of the SSSI is in an 'unfavourable-recovering' condition and 17.1% of the SSSI is in a 'unfavourable – No change' condition.

Highclere Park

- 3.14 Notified in October 1991 'Highclere Park SSSI' is located on the western boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area and is approximately 70 ha in size. The citation statement for the SSSI states the following¹²:
- 3.15 *'Highclere Park comprises an extensive open parkland of unimproved grassland with mature trees, pasture woodland and lakes. It is situated in north-west Hampshire where the Tertiary Clay of the Thames Valley abuts the Chalk and Greensand of the North Wessex Downs. The park is the earliest documented estate in Hampshire (AD 749). It was a Medieval Deer Park and later a*

¹¹ Natural England (no date): 'Greenham and Crookham Commons SSSI', [online] available to download via: <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=S1003118&SiteName=common&countyCode=44&responsiblePerson=&SeaArea=&IFCAAarea=> [accessed 12/02/19]

¹² Natural England (no date): 'Highclere Park SSSI', [online] available to download via: <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=S1005537&SiteName=highclere&countyCode=&responsiblePerson=> [accessed 12/02/19]

Roccoco, then Capability Brown (c. 1770) landscaped park. The grassland comprises a combination of calcifugous and calcicolous species which is unique in Hampshire. The mature parkland and wood pasture trees support a rich and diverse lichen and moss flora, with numerous species indicative of its ancient woodland origins. Outside the New Forest, it is one of the two richest sites known in the County for epiphytic lichens. The woodland stand-types are varied and include actively coppiced valley alder. Both the wood and grassland habitats grade into a swamp and fen community fringing two lakes. This matrix of habitats contains many regionally uncommon plants and additionally supports a diverse assemblage of invertebrates, with several notable species.'

- 3.16 The most recent condition assessments for the SSSI indicate that 41% of the SSSI is considered to be in a 'favourable' condition, and 59% of the SSSI is in an 'unfavourable-recovering' condition.

Duncroft Farm Pit

- 3.17 Notified in October 1991, 'Duncroft Farm Pit SSSI' is a geological SSSI located towards the east of the Neighbourhood Plan area. It is approximately 0.1ha in size. The citation statement for the SSSI states the following¹³:

3.18 *'Duncroft Farm Pit provides the only known exposure of beds of Upper Chalk dipping 25° to the north within the middle limit of the regional fold structure known as the Kingsclere Monocline. This fold is thought to have formed due to accommodation of the Mesozoic cover rocks above major faults in the underlying basement which moved during the Tertiary.'*

- 3.19 The most recent condition assessments for the SSSI indicate that 100% of the SSSI is considered to be in a 'favourable' condition.

Burghclere Beacon (more commonly known as Beacon Hill)

- 3.20 Notified in October 1984, 'Burghclere Beacon SSSI' is located towards the south of the Neighbourhood Plan area and is approximately 80.1 ha in size. The citation statement for the SSSI states the following¹⁴:

3.21 *'Burghclere Beacon is a dome of chalk grassland crowned by an Iron Age hill fort, at the northern margin of the Hampshire chalk plateau. The site includes an extensive stand of juniper *Juniperus communis*, privet *Ligustrum vulgare*, buckthorn *Rhamnus catharticus*, rose *Rosa* spp., bramble *Rubus* spp., wayfaring tree *Viburnum lantana* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and whitebeam *Sorbus aria*, which covers c. 20 ha to the west-facing slopes. There is little evidence of juniper regeneration (and some moribund bushes) and the site is probably witnessing a transition from juniper to a mixed scrub community, with the early indications of an eventual succession of woodland. The scrub is unusual on the chalk in lacking a yew *Taxus baccata*/ash *Fraxinus excelsior* component.*

3.22 *The open grassland is rich in herbs, with fescues *Festuca ovina* and *Festuca pratensis*, crested dog's tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, spring sedge *Carex caryophylla*, and locally quaking grass *Briza media* as dominants. Abundant herbs include ladies' bedstraw *Galium verum*, hedge bedstraw *G. mollugo*, creeping thistle *Cirsium acaule*, fairy flax *Linum catharticum*, bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, horseshoe vetch *Hippocrepis comosa*, kidney vetch *Anthyllis vulneraria*, chalk milkwort *Polygala calcarea* and felwort *Gentianella amarella* and several species of orchids. There is a decidedly neutral element in the flora which suggests that the soils may in part be derived from superficial drift or loess.'*

¹³ Natural England (no date): 'Duncroft Farm Pit SSSI', [online] available to download via: <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=S1005588&SiteName=&countyCode=19&responsiblePerson=> [accessed 12/02/19]

¹⁴ Natural England (no date): 'Burghclere Beacon SSSI', [online] available to download via: <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=S1004436&SiteName=burgh&countyCode=&responsiblePerson=> [accessed 12/02/19]

- 3.23 The most recent condition assessments for the SSSI indicate that 100% of the SSSI is considered to be in a 'favourable' condition.

Old Burghclere Lime Quarry

- 3.24 Notified in March 1985, 'Old Burghclere Lime Quarry SSSI' is a geological SSSI located towards the south of the Neighbourhood Plan area. It is approximately 4.5 ha in size. The citation statement for the SSSI states the following¹⁵:

3.25 *'The disused limeworks at Old Burghclere exhibits various stages in the succession from bare chalk on the steep quarry sides through chalk grassland to scattered and dense scrub. Actively worked into the beginning of this century, some of the quarry faces have not had time to become completely recolonised. Among the opportunist species able to establish themselves in the raw tallus and in the crevices of the solid rock are creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, coltsfoot Tussilago farfara, yellow-wort Blackstonia perfoliata and ribbed melilot Melilotus officinalis.'*

- 3.26 The most recent condition assessments for the SSSI indicate that 100% of the SSSI is considered to be in a 'favourable' condition.

Ladle Hill

- 3.27 Notified in March 1985, 'Old Burghclere Lime Quarry SSSI' is SSSI located towards the south of the Neighbourhood Plan area. It is approximately 10.5 ha in size. The citation statement for the SSSI states the following¹⁶:

3.28 *'Ladle Hill occupies the steep north and west-facing slopes and the ramparts of a hill fort on the crown of the escarpment. The Site of Special Scientific Interest supports some of the floristically richest chalk grassland on the northern escarpment of the Hampshire Chalk plateau.'*

3.29 *The earthwork, in particular, is very rich in species, with up to 38/m² recorded, including an exceptionally good range of downland grasses and large populations of such rare or local plants as field fleawort Senecio integrifolius, chalk milkwort Polygala calcarea, hairy rock-cress Arabis hirsuta, fragrant orchid Gymnadenia conopsea and pyramidal orchid Anacamptis pyramidalis. The escarpment slopes, though species-rich, support fewer species than the earthwork, but some, notably clustered bellflower Campanula glomerata, only occur there.'*

- 3.30 The most recent condition assessments for the SSSI indicate that 100% of the SSSI is considered to be in a 'favourable' condition.

SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZs)

- 3.31 SSSI IRZs are a GIS tool/dataset which maps zones around each SSSI according to the particular sensitivities of the features for which it is notified. They specify the types of development that have the potential to have adverse impacts at a given location. Natural England is a statutory consultee on development proposals that might impact on SSSIs. In this context, the majority of the Neighbourhood Plan area is located within an IRZ for residential and/or rural-residential developments, including part of the built up area of the village in the vicinity of Harts Lane.

¹⁵ Natural England (no date): 'Old Burghclere Lime Quarry SSSI', [online] available to download via: <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=S1000417&SiteName=&countyCode=19&responsiblePerson=> [accessed 12/02/19]

¹⁶ Natural England (no date): 'Ladle Hill SSSI', [online] available to download via: <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=S1001172&SiteName=Hill&countyCode=19&responsiblePerson=&SeaArea=&FCAAarea=> [accessed 12/02/19]

Locally designated sites

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)

3.32 In the region of 50 SINCs (also known as Local Wildlife Sites) are present within or in the immediate vicinity of the Neighbourhood Plan area. These are locally designated sites which are locally important for the conservation of wildlife. They are identified and selected for the significant habitats and species that they contain.

Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats

3.33 Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats cover a wide range of semi-natural habitat types, and were those that were identified as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

3.34 There are a range of Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats within and surrounding the Neighbourhood Plan area, as depicted in **Figure 3.1**. The habitats include: deciduous woodland, purple moor grass and rush pastures, lowland calcareous grassland and, in the far north of the parish, floodplain grazing marsh.

Summary of future baseline

3.35 Habitats and species are likely to continue to be offered protection through the higher level planning framework, however they will potentially face increasing pressures from future development within the Neighbourhood Plan area. This has the potential for negative effects on the wider ecological network, which may be exacerbated by the effects of climate change.

3.36 The Neighbourhood Plan provides opportunities to maximise benefits for biodiversity by including consideration of important habitats, species, undesignated sites, and connections between designated sites and undesignated sites at a localised scale, and at an early stage of planning for future growth. This is particularly relevant in the siting of new smaller scale housing development.

Headline sustainability issues

- There are six nationally designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) located within or adjacent to the Neighbourhood Plan area: Greenham and Crookham Commons, Highclere Park, Duncroft Farm Pit, Burghclere Beacon, Old Burghclere Lime Quarry and Ladle Hill.
- Some of the built up areas within the Neighbourhood Plan area are located within an SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential and/or rural-residential developments.
- There are numerous Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats present in the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- There are significant opportunities for linking up key habitats in the parish.

What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the biodiversity SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect and enhance all biodiversity and geological features.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the status of the nationally designated sites of significance within and/or adjacent to the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary, including the Greenham and Crookham Commons, Highclere Park, Duncroft Farm Pit, Burghclere Beacon, Old Burghclere Lime Quarry and Ladle Hill SSSI?• Support the status of the locally designated sites of significance within and/or adjacent to the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary?• Protect and enhance semi-natural habitats?• Protect and enhance priority habitats, and the habitat of priority species?• Achieve a net gain in biodiversity?• Support enhancements to multifunctional green infrastructure networks?• Support access to, interpretation and understanding of biodiversity and geodiversity?

THIS DRAWING IS TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF SHOWING THAT IT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL. IT IS NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE AND IS SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT.

- LEGEND**
- Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Area
 - Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
 - Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
 - Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats**
 - Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh
 - Deciduous Woodland
 - Good Quality Semi-improved Grassland
 - Lowland Calcareous Grassland
 - Lowland Dry Acid Grassland
 - Lowland Heathland
 - Lowland Meadows
 - Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pastures
 - Traditional Orchard

Copyright
 Contains Ordnance Survey Data © Crown Copyright and database right 2019
 © Natural England's material is reproduced with the permission of Natural England 2019

Version of Issue **DRAFT**

Client **BURGHCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP**

Project Title **BURGHCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

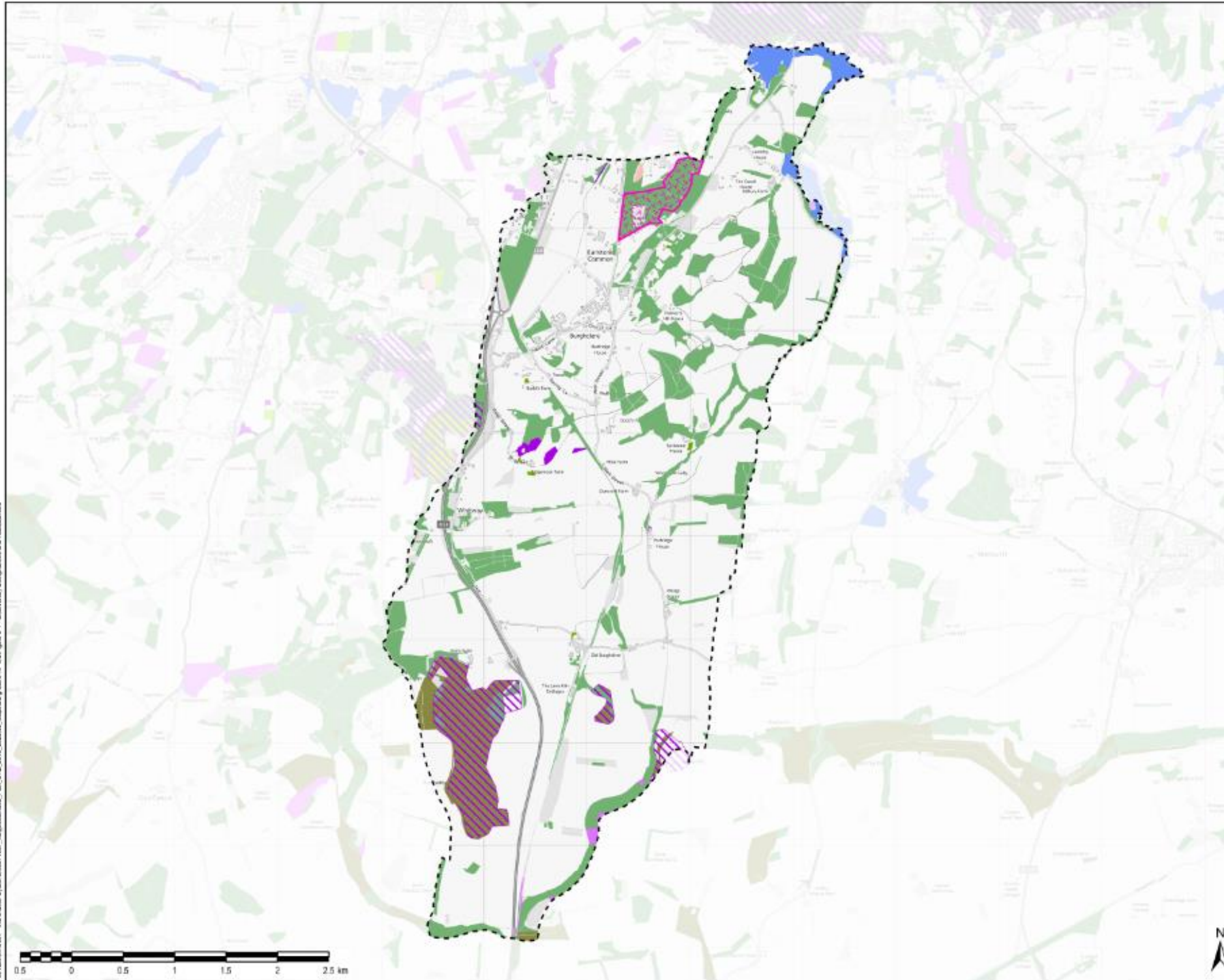
Drawing Title **BIODIVERSITY DESIGNATIONS AND HABITATS**

Drawn	Checked	Approved	Date
EN	LW	TS	14/8/2019
AECOM Internal Project No		Scale	①:1
E0571057			1:24,000

"NO DOCUMENT SHALL BE PRINTED OR REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF AECOM. ANY REPRODUCTION OF THIS DOCUMENT OR ANY PART THEREOF WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF AECOM IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THIS DRAWING IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND IS NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE."

AECOM
 1000 Town Centre
 Newport, South Wales
 NP23 5UG
 Tel: 01493 414141
 Fax: 01493 414142
 www.aecom.com

Drawn/Checked **FIGURE 3.1** No. **01**



File Name: 2019 - Information Systems\2019 - Neighbourhood Plan_C18_2019_202002_Usage\Figures\3.1 - Biodiversity Designations and Habitats.mxd

4. Climate change

Focus of theme

- Contribution to climate change
- Effects of climate change
- Climate change adaptation
- Flood risk

Policy context

4.1 The UK Climate Change Act¹⁷ was passed in 2008 and established a framework to develop an economically credible emissions reduction path. It also highlighted the role it would take in contributing to collective action to tackle climate change under the Kyoto Protocol, and more recently as part of the UN-led Paris Agreement. The Climate Change Act includes the following:

- The Act commits the UK to reducing emissions by at least 80% in 2050 from 1990 levels.
- The Act requires the Government to set legally binding 'carbon budgets' - a cap on the amount of greenhouse gases emitted in the UK over a five year period. The carbon budgets are designed to reflect the cost-effective path to achieving the UK's long-term objectives. The first five carbon budgets have been put into legislation and run up to 2032.
- The Committee on Climate Change was set up to advise the Government on emissions targets, and report to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The National Adaptation Programme requires the Government to assess the risks to the UK from climate change, prepare a strategy to address them, and encourage key organisations to do the same.

4.2 The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment is published on a 5-yearly cycle in accordance with the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2008. It required the Government to compile an assessment of the risks for the UK arising from climate change, and then develop an adaptation programme to address those risks and deliver resilience to climate change on the ground. For both the 2012 and the 2017 UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, the Adaptation Sub-Committee commissioned an evidence report aiming to understand the current and future climate risks and opportunities. The evidence report¹⁸ contains six priority risk areas requiring additional action in the next five years, identified below:

- Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure;
- Risks to health, wellbeing and productivity from high temperatures;
- Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry;
- Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity;
- Risks to domestic and international food production and trade; and
- New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals.

¹⁷ GOV.UK (2008) Climate Change Act 2008 [online] available at:
http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents?_sm_au_ =iVVt4Hr6tbjgnqNj [accessed 12/02/19]

¹⁸ GOV.UK (2017) UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Report January 2017 [online] available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-climate-change-risk-assessment-2017> [accessed 12/02/19]

4.3 Published in January 2018 by the UK Government, 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'¹⁹ sets out a number of goals and policies in order to help the natural world regain and retain good health. In this context, policies contained within Chapter 1 'Using and managing land sustainably' and Chapter 6 'Protecting and improving the global environment', Goal 4 'A reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards such as flooding and drought' and Goal 7 'Mitigating and adapting to climate change' directly relate to the Climate Change SEA theme.

4.4 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework²⁰ (NPPF) include:

- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is an environmental objective to 'contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment' including by 'mitigating and adapting to climate change' and 'moving to a low carbon economy.' 'The planning system should support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings; and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.'
- 'Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures. Policies should support appropriate measures to ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts, such as providing space for physical protection measures, or making provision for the possible future relocation of vulnerable development and infrastructure.'
- 'Local planning authorities should support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy, including developments outside areas identified in local plans or other strategic policies that are being taken forward through neighbourhood planning.'
- Direct development away from areas at highest risk of flooding (whether existing or future). 'Where development is necessary, it should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere.'

4.5 The Flood and Water Management Act²¹ highlights that alternatives to traditional engineering approaches to flood risk management include:

- Incorporating greater resilience measures into the design of new buildings, and retro-fitting properties at risk (including historic buildings);
- Utilising the environment in order to reduce flooding, for example through the management of land to reduce runoff and through harnessing the ability of wetlands to store water;
- Identifying areas suitable for inundation and water storage to reduce the risk of flooding elsewhere;
- Planning to roll back development in coastal areas to avoid damage from flooding or coastal erosion; and
- Creating sustainable drainage systems.

¹⁹ HM GOV (2019) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 12/02/19]

²⁰ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 12/02/19]

²¹ Flood and Water Management Act (2010) [online] available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/29/contents> [accessed 12/02/19]

4.6 Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan identifies an objective to 'Minimise our contribution to climate change and its effects through more efficient use of energy and natural resources and increased use of renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure, as well as mitigating and adapting to climate change.' The following strategic policies within the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan directly relate to the Climate Change SEA theme:

- Policy SD1 (Presumption in favour of sustainable development)
- Policy EM7 (Managing Flood Risk)
- Policy EM8 (Commercial Renewable/ Low Carbon Energy Generation)
- Policy EM9 (Sustainable Water Use)

Baseline

Summary of current baseline

4.7 In relation to greenhouse gas emissions, source data from the Department of Energy and Climate Change suggests that Basingstoke and Deane Borough has had higher per capita emissions total than that of both the South East and England since 2005 (see **Table 4.1** below). Basingstoke and Deane has also seen a 34.4% reduction in the percentage of total emissions per capita between 2005 and 2016, lower than the reductions for the South East of England (36.7%) and England (37.6%).

Table 4.1: Per capita local CO₂ emission estimates; industry, domestic and transport sectors²²

	Industrial and Commercial (t CO ₂)	Domestic (t CO ₂)	Transport (t CO ₂)	Total (t CO ₂)
Basingstoke and Deane				
2005	3.3	2.5	3.8	9.3
2006	3.2	2.5	3.8	9.2
2007	3.1	2.4	3.7	8.9
2008	3.0	2.4	3.6	8.7
2009	2.7	2.2	3.4	7.9
2010	2.8	2.3	3.4	8.1
2011	2.5	2.0	3.2	7.4
2012	2.6	2.1	3.2	7.5
2013	2.4	2.1	3.1	7.2
2014	2.0	1.7	3.1	6.4
2015	1.9	1.7	3.2	6.4

²² Department of Energy and Climate Change (2011) Official statistics: Local Authority carbon dioxide emissions, UK local and regional CO₂ emissions: subset dataset (emissions within the scope of influence of local authorities) [online] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-emissions-estimates> [accessed 13/02/19]

	Industrial and Commercial (t CO ₂)	Domestic (t CO ₂)	Transport (t CO ₂)	Total (t CO ₂)
2016	1.6	1.6	3.3	6.1
South East				
2005	3.0	2.5	2.6	7.9
2006	3.0	2.5	2.6	7.9
2007	2.8	2.4	2.6	7.6
2008	2.7	2.4	2.4	7.3
2009	2.4	2.2	2.3	6.6
2010	2.4	2.3	2.3	6.8
2011	2.2	2.0	2.2	6.2
2012	2.2	2.2	2.2	6.4
2013	2.1	2.1	2.1	6.1
2014	1.7	1.7	2.2	5.4
2015	1.6	1.7	2.2	5.3
2016	1.4	1.6	2.2	5.0
England				
2005	3.8	2.5	2.3	8.5
2006	3.8	2.5	2.2	8.4
2007	3.6	2.4	2.2	8.1
2008	3.5	2.4	2.1	7.8
2009	3.0	2.1	2.0	7.0
2010	3.0	2.3	2.0	7.2
2011	2.7	2.0	1.9	6.5
2012	2.9	2.1	1.9	6.8
2013	2.8	2.0	1.9	6.6
2014	2.4	1.7	1.9	5.9
2015	2.3	1.6	1.9	5.7
2016	2.0	1.5	1.9	5.3

Potential effects of climate change

- 4.8 The outcome of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK was released in 2009 by the UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) team.²³ UKCP09 gives climate information for the UK up to the end of this century and projections of future changes to the climate are provided, based on simulations from climate models. Projections are broken down to a regional level across the UK and are shown in probabilistic form, which illustrate the potential range of changes and the level of confidence in each prediction.
- 4.9 As highlighted by the research, the effects of climate change for the South East by 2050 for a medium emissions scenario²⁴ are likely to be as follows:
- The central estimate of increase in winter mean temperature is 2.2°C and an increase in summer mean temperature of 2.8°C; and
 - The central estimate of change in winter mean precipitation is 16% and summer mean precipitation is -19%.
- 4.10 Resulting from these changes, a range of risks may exist for the Neighbourhood Plan area, including:
- Effects on water resources from climate change;
 - Reduction in availability of groundwater for extraction;
 - Adverse effect on water quality from low stream levels and turbulent stream flow after heavy rain;
 - Increased risk of flooding, including increased vulnerability to 1:100 year floods;
 - A need to increase the capacity of wastewater treatment plants and sewers;
 - A need to upgrade flood defences;
 - Soil erosion due to flash flooding;
 - Loss of species that are at the edge of their southerly distribution;
 - Spread of species at the northern edge of their distribution;
 - Increased demand for air-conditioning;
 - Increased drought and flood relating problems such as soil shrinkages and subsidence;
 - Risk of road surfaces melting more frequently due to increased temperature; and
 - Flooding of roads.

²³ Data released 18th June 2009 [online] available at: <http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/21684> [accessed 13/02/19]

²⁴ UK Climate Projections (2009) South West 2050s Medium Emissions Scenario [online] available at: <http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/23687?emission=medium> [accessed 13/02/19]

Flood risk

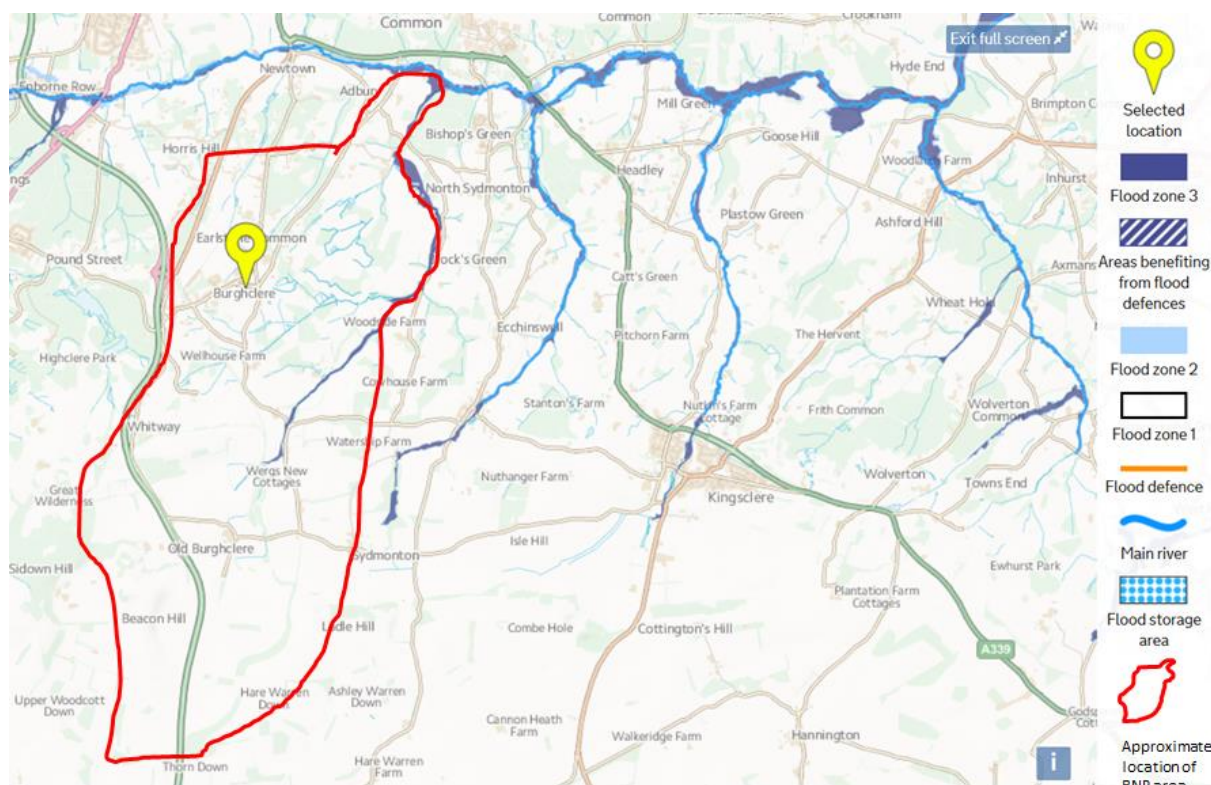


Figure 4.1: Fluvial flood risk within the Neighbourhood Plan area²⁵

- 4.11 As shown in **Figure 4.1**, the majority of the Neighbourhood Plan area is located within Flood Zone 1, showing that there is a <math><0.1\%</math> chance (1 in 1000) of river flooding in any given year. There are areas of land adjacent to the River Enborne (on the northern and eastern boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area) which are located within Flood Risk Zone 3, and have a >1% chance of being flooded each year. Completed in 2010, the most recent Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)²⁶ for the borough of Basingstoke and Deane highlights that flash flooding has occurred along the River Enborne and its tributaries, but there are no records of major flooding of properties, due to its rural nature and small catchment area.
- 4.12 Surface water drainage and sewer flooding is a risk for some parts of the Neighbourhood Plan area, with sections of medium-high risk predominantly located around River Enborne and its tributaries, as depicted in **Figure 4.2**.
- 4.13 Additionally, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has noted that Harts Hollow on Harts Lane frequently experiences sewerage overflows. This occurs following periods of intense rainfall, and results from an overwhelming of the parish's sewerage network.

²⁵ GOV UK (2019): 'Flood Map for Planning', [online] available at: <<https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/>> [accessed 13/02/19]

²⁶ Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (2010): 'Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for Local Development Framework [online] available at: <<https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/content/page/26006/1%20Strategic%20Flood%20Risk%20Assessment.pdf>> [accessed 13/02/19]

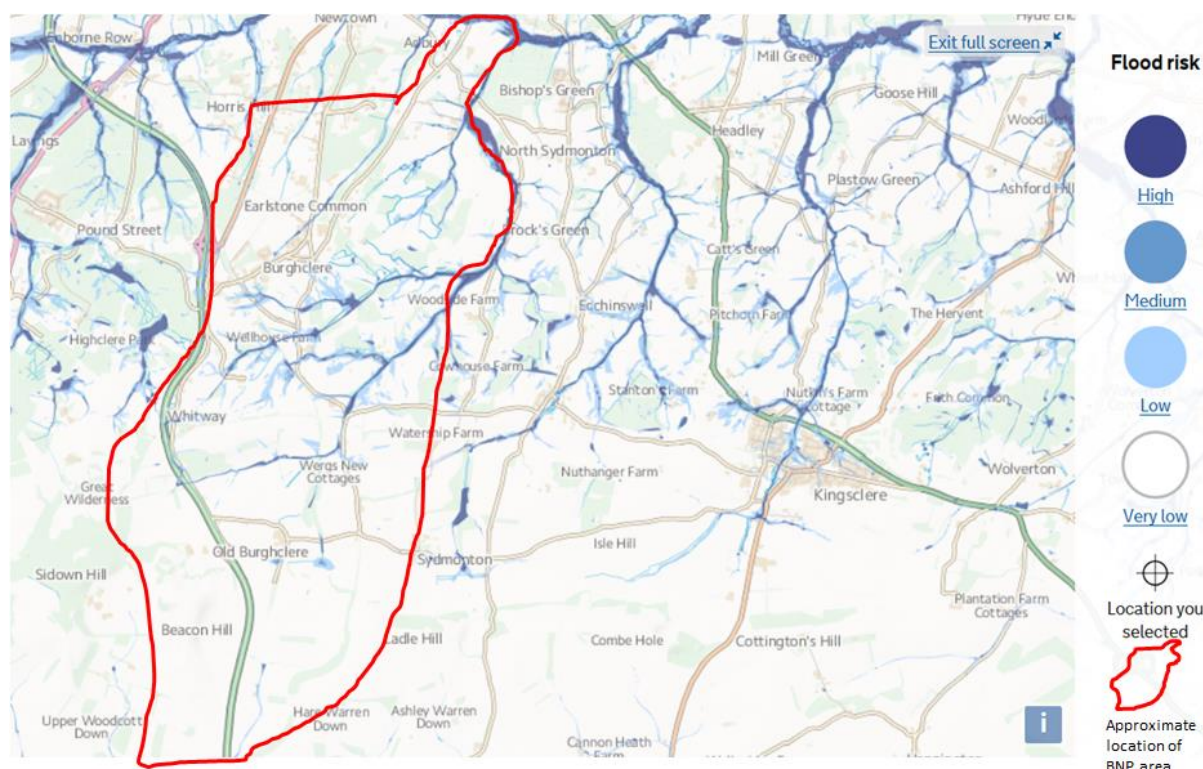


Figure 4.2: Fluvial flood risk within the Neighbourhood Plan area²⁷

Summary of future baseline

- 4.14 Climate change has the potential to increase the occurrence of extreme weather events in the Neighbourhood Plan area, with increases in mean summer and winter temperatures, increases in mean precipitation in winter and decreases in mean precipitation in summer. This is likely to increase the risks associated with climate change, with an increased need for resilience and adaptation.
- 4.15 A Critical Drainage Area (CDA) is a discrete geographic area where multiple and interlinked sources of flood risk causes flooding in one or more Local Flood Risk Zones (LFRZ) during severe weather, impacting people, property and/or local infrastructure. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council may wish to designate their own CDAs (in the absence of any designations from the Environment Agency)²⁸ within the Neighbourhood Plan area within the future, for reasons such as surface water capacity issues.
- 4.16 In terms of climate change contribution, per capita greenhouse gas emissions generated in the Neighbourhood Plan area may continue to decrease with wider adoption of energy efficiency measures, renewable energy production and new technologies. However, increases in the built footprint of the Neighbourhood Plan area would contribute to increases in the absolute levels of greenhouse gas emissions. There is also a need to increase renewable energy development in Basingstoke and Deane, which local and neighbourhood planning can contribute to delivering.
- 4.17 New development has the potential to exacerbate the sewerage overflows at Harts Hollow within the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area.

²⁷ GOV.UK (2019): 'Long term flood risk assessment for locations in England', [online] available at: <<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/>> [accessed 13/02/19]

²⁸ GOV.UK (2017): 'Flood Risk Assessment in Flood Zone 1 and Critical Drainage Areas', [online] available to view via: <<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessment-in-flood-zone-1-and-critical-drainage-areas>> last accessed [13/02/19]

Headline sustainability issues

- Any increases in the built footprint of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area (associated with the delivery of new housing and employment land) has the potential to increase overall greenhouse gas emissions in the Neighbourhood Plan area
- The total CO2 emissions per capita within Basingstoke and Deane are higher than the regional and national totals and the overall percentage reduction of emissions within the Neighbourhood Plan area between 2005 and 2016 was less than regional and national totals.
- There are small areas of land adjacent to the River Enborne and its tributaries which are located within Flood Risk Zone 3, and as such, have a >1% chance of being flooded each year. However, there are no records of major flooding of properties from the River Enborne.
- Within Burghclere, there are some areas of land at medium-high risk of surface water flooding.
- Flooding from sewerage overflows at Harts Hollow on Harts Lane occurs following periods of intense rainfall, and results from an overwhelming of the parish's sewerage network.
- The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan should seek to increase the resilience of the Neighbourhood Plan area to the effects of climate change by supporting and encouraging adaptation strategies.

What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the climate change SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Reduce the contribution to climate change made by activities within the Neighbourhood Plan area	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the number of journeys made? • Reduce the need to travel? • Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport? • Increase the number of new developments meeting or exceeding sustainable design criteria? • Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources? • Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable resources?
Support the resilience of the Neighbourhood Plan area to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that inappropriate development does not take place in areas at higher risk of flooding, taking into account the likely future effects of climate change? • Improve and extend green infrastructure networks in the plan area to support adaptation to the potential effects of climate change? • Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff (either within the plan area or downstream)? • Ensure the potential risks associated with climate change are considered through new development in the Neighbourhood Plan area? • Increase the resilience of biodiversity in the area to the effects of climate change, including through enhancements to ecological networks?

5. Landscape

Focus of theme

- Landscape and villagescape character and quality
- Designated and non-designated sites and areas

Policy context

5.1 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework²⁹ (NPPF) include:

- ‘Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty [...]. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas, and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads. The scale and extent of development within these designated areas should be limited.’
- Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy making provision for ‘conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure.’
- Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments ‘are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation of change (such as increased densities).’
- ‘Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
 - a. Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils
 - b. recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland; and
 - c. remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.’

5.2 The policies contained within Chapter 2 ‘Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes’ environment’ of the Government’s ‘A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment’³⁰ directly relates to the Landscape SEA theme.

5.3 Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan identifies an objective to ‘Protect and enhance the borough’s biodiversity and the locally distinctive character of our priority habitats and landscapes, such as the North Wessex Downs AONB, through protection, partnership working, conservation and active management.’ Policy EM1 (Landscape) and Policy EM10 (Delivering High Quality Development) from the Local Plan relates to the Landscape SEA theme.

²⁹ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 13/02/19]

³⁰ HM GOV (2019) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 13/02/19]

5.4 The North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan³¹ sets out the policy framework for the North Wessex Downs and seeks to make the North Wessex Downs:

- A place where actions meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and where people have the skills and energy to adapt to change in ways that respect the unique qualities of the North Wessex Downs and deliver wider environmental, economic and social benefits.
- A place where the highest environmental quality is seen as a key economic driver and where all economic activity is in harmony with maintenance of the landscape. New buildings and other forms of development display high quality design worthy of one of England's finest landscapes.
- A place with thriving land based and other rural enterprises where the sustainability of the North Wessex Downs is core to the business. Ensuring a countryside rich in wildlife and recreational opportunities while producing high quality products, including sustainable farming that benefits the local economy and surrounding countryside.
- A place with high quality habitats reflecting the distinctive character of the North Wessex Downs and stable and recovering populations of key species. Landscapes that are protected, expanded, linked and under beneficial management better able to respond to the pressures of climate change.
- A place with a rich and conserved cultural landscape where iconic monuments, designated heritage, archaeological sites and historic landscapes such as the Avebury World Heritage Site remain as indelible footprints in an evolving scene, managed to the very highest standards.
- A place where the integrated management of land conserves unpolluted soils and high quality water resources whilst retaining the distinctive seasonal winterbourne flows.
- A place whose character and tranquillity are recognised in development decisions around it, so that the natural beauty of the North Wessex Downs is protected.
- A place where development is low-impact and affordable with a distinctive but subtle vernacular building style that combines the best of the old with the best of the new.
- A place with a sense of remoteness and tranquillity; where vast night skies can thrill the eye, unaffected by light pollution.
- A place with vibrant and balanced rural communities, with villages and market towns meeting the needs of local people and visitors where there is great local pride and positive local contribution to the management of the landscape.
- A place that is a nationally recognised centre for sustainable tourism and the responsible enjoyment of the countryside, developed and promoted in ways that are in harmony with the high environmental quality and community needs of the area, helping to underpin the land based and broader rural economy.
- A place with wide public recognition in the AONB and surrounding communities of the protected status and special qualities of the North Wessex Downs. All responsible bodies understanding and respecting the protected status of the AONB in their plans and proposals.
- A place that is a nationally recognised centre for sustainable tourism and the responsible enjoyment of the countryside, developed and promoted in ways that are in harmony with the high environmental quality and community needs of the area, helping to underpin the land based and broader rural economy.

³¹ North Wessex Downs AONB (2013) North Wessex Downs AONB Management Plan 2014-19 [online] available at: <
http://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/uploads/File_Management/NWD_Docs/About_Us/Management_Plan/NWD_AONB_Management_Plan_2014-19.pdf> [accessed 13/02/19]

Baseline

Summary of current baseline

North Wessex Downs AONB

- 5.5 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) are designated by the Government for the purpose of ensuring that the special qualities of the finest landscapes in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are conserved and enhanced. The primary purpose of the AONB designation is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area, as confirmed by Section 82 of the Countryside and Right of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act).
- 5.6 Designated in 1972, the North Wessex Downs AONB is the third largest in England, covering 173,000 ha. The vision for the AONB is for a 'vast dramatic, undeveloped and distinct chalk downlands with nationally significant areas of semi-natural chalk grassland, contrasting with well-wooded plateaux, arable lands and intimate and secluded valleys, all rich in biodiversity and cultural heritage; a national landscape that stands apart from the increasing urban pressures that surround it; where people live, work and relax; and where visitors are welcomed and contribute to a vibrant rural economy'. Split into eight distinctive landscape character types (LCT), the southern part of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area which lies within the AONB is covered by the 'Downland with Woodland' LCT, summarised below:
- This LCT is at low elevation and has a thick capping of clay with flints over chalk. It has soft contours and great woodland cover.
 - Hedgerows and a mosaic of woodland cover, notably on the clay summits and as sinuous hangers along steeper slopes, create a sense of containment. There are also considerable areas of wood pasture and parkland.
 - Agricultural land use is varied, with an intermixing of arable and pasture.
 - Small villages nestle in sheltered valleys or are strategically located on ridge tops, with widespread scattered traditional farmsteads.
- 5.7 Key issues identified for the North Wessex Downs AONB regarding landscape are:
- The potential for development beyond the AONB boundary to visually damage or undermine the scale and critical qualities of Landscape Character Areas.
 - Maintenance and, where possible, extension of chalk grassland habitat.
 - Conserving and enhancing the remoteness and expansive open scale of the downland landscape.
 - The need for viable agriculture to continue to contribute to AONB purposes.
 - Conserving and enhancing the remote, secluded and relatively undeveloped character of more enclosed and intimate landscapes, including the character of the lanes.
 - The need for appropriate woodland management, including the viable use of timber products, particularly for fuel.
 - Encouraging restoration of wood pasture landscapes, husbandry and ecology and ensuring future veteran tree succession.
 - The dominance of roads, in particular the impact of traffic noise, external lighting, road signs, insensitive materials and clutter on landscape character and people's experience of the landscape as they travel through it.
 - Maintaining the pattern of discrete villages set within a quiet rural landscape and ensuring that the views to the surrounding dramatic scarps are undamaged.

- Intense pressure for development throughout the AONB and its setting that threatens the character and quality of its landscape and risks merging of small settlements or encroachment by larger settlements.
- The need to protect and enhance historic sites, buildings and landscapes and their setting.

National Character Areas

5.8 The Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area lies across two National Character Areas (NCAs): Thames Basin Heath NCA covers the northern half and Hampshire Downs NCA covers the southern half.

5.9 The Thames Basin Heath NCA³² stretches westwards from Weybridge in Surrey to the countryside around Newbury in Berkshire. The Chalk landscapes in the west extend from this NCA into the Berkshire and Marlborough Downs NCA and Hampshire Downs NCA. Key characteristics of the Thames Basin Heath NCA include:

- Plateaux of Tertiary sands and gravels in the London Basin, with intervening river valleys floored by London Clay. In the far west, Chalk forms the Hampshire Downs escarpment and the river beds of the Kennet and Pang.
- High woodland cover, offering an array of colour in the autumn. Conifers and large plantations on former heathland are dominant features in the east, while the west is scattered with small, semi-natural woodlands on ancient sites.
- Acid, leached soils mean that farming on the plateaux is limited to rough pasture, and that alternative land uses (such as forestry, golf courses and horse paddocks) have emerged. Heather, gorse, oak and birch all thrive here. Arable land and improved pasture are found in the valleys, on alluvium.
- Beyond the large areas of heathland and woodland, there is a patchwork of small to medium-sized fields with woods. The legacy of historic hunting forests includes veteran trees, ancient woods, ancient hedgerows and parklands. Historic meadows remain as fragments along watercourses.
- Prehistoric earthworks such as barrows and hill forts mark promontories on the plateaux. Archaeology is well preserved on historic heathland. Mosaics of open heathland and grassland with scrub, secondary woodland and plantation. Valley bogs, ponds and streams enhance diversity.
- Historic commons offer tranquillity and unenclosed views, while other rights of access are enjoyed across farmland, canals and downland.

5.10 The Hampshire Downs NCA³³ is part of the central southern England belt of Chalk, rising to 297 m in the north-west on the Hampshire–Wiltshire border. A steep scarp face delineates the Downs to the north, overlooking the Thames Basin, and to the east, overlooking the Weald. The majority of the area is an elevated, open, rolling landscape dominated by large arable fields with low hedgerows on thin chalk soils, scattered woodland blocks (mostly on claywith-flint caps) and shelterbelts. Key characteristics of the Hampshire Downs NCA include:

- The rolling, elevated, chalk arable downland has an open, exposed character that provides open skies and long-distance views.
- Elevated plateaux and upper valley slopes are characterised by extensive open tracts of large, low-hedged fields with thin chalky soils, shelterbelts, and ancient semi-natural woodland blocks on clay-withflint caps on some of the steeper slopes.

³² Natural England (2014) NCA Profile: 129 Thames Basin Heath [online] available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4685559624630272?category=587130> [accessed 13/02/19]

³³ Natural England (2014) NCA Profile: 129 Hampshire Downs [online] available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6738147345956864?category=587130> [accessed 13/02/19]

- In contrast, within the sheltered valleys and to the east of the area, the network of hedgerows, interspersed by numerous areas of oak/ash or hazel woodland coppice and smaller meadow fields, gives a strong sense of enclosure.
- There is widespread evidence of prehistoric settlement on the open downlands, including burial mounds with visually prominent ironage hill forts. In the valleys, there is evidence of Roman estates and nucleated medieval village settlement patterns, and fieldscapes and farmsteads across the downlands evidence the gradual and planned enclosure from the medieval period.
- The area's distinctive appearance derives from the use of chalk cob (in the west), weatherboarded timber frame and small, handmade local brick with flint in traditional rural buildings and walls surrounding farm courtyards, with thatch surviving in many places.
- The settlement pattern varies between the relatively dense strings of villages along the lower river valleys and the very low-density, nucleated settlements in the upper reaches of the rivers and on the Downs.

Landscape Assessment for Basingstoke and Deane

5.11 A Landscape Assessment for Basingstoke and Deane borough was carried out in 2001.³⁴ This breaks the borough down into 20 Landscape Character Areas. The Landscape Character Area for Highclere and Burghclere is described as having the following key characteristics:

- Subtle but complex landform, steep in places but generally gently undulating and falling towards the River Enborne in the north, dissected by a network of minor tributary valleys;
- Small-scale mosaic of woodland, some mixed farmland and numerous paddocks, giving an enclosed, intimate character in parts;
- Area west of the A34 lies within the North Wessex Downs AONB and generally has a quiet, rural character away from larger residential areas, apart from some noise and visual intrusion from the A34;
- Generally medium to small-scale fields, with a predominance of pasture, enclosed within an established assarted woodland and intact hedgerow structure with a high proportion of hedgerow trees;
- Examples of scarce and fragile heathland and forest landscapes (e.g. Burghclere and Newtown Common), with evidence of heathy vegetation characteristics in many areas. Also remnants of ancient semi-natural broadleaved woodland;
- Low intervisibility across the area, with vegetation and the low-lying nature of the landscape containing views; and
- Numerous scattered small villages, hamlets, farmsteads and many residential properties, some accessed through a fairly dense network of narrow lanes. However, the paddocks, together with recent residential development, stud farms and a relatively high local population lend a rather urbanised character.

³⁴ Landscape Design Associates (2001) Basingstoke and Deane Landscape Assessment: Main Report [online] available at: <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/content/page/27452/3%20Landscape%20Assessment%20-%20The%20Landscape%20Character%20Areas.pdf> [accessed 13/02/19]

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group View point Study

5.12 A landscape study has recently been carried out by the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group which identified a number of key viewpoints around the built up village of Burghclere. These are outlined below in **Figure 5.1**.

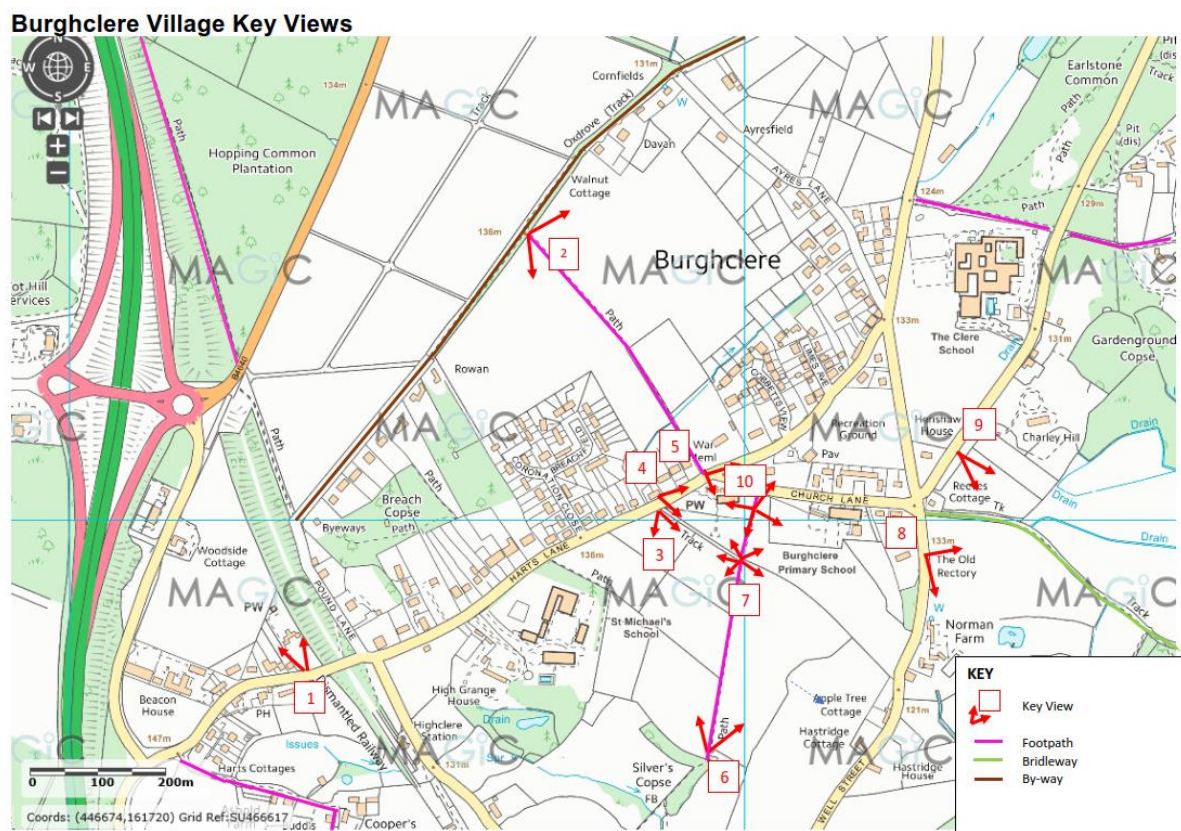


Figure 5.1: Burghclere Village Key Views³⁵

5.13 The locations of the viewpoints are described below:

- Viewpoint 1: From Hart Lane looking North West to Sandham Memorial Chapel
- Viewpoint 2: From FP10, at Ox Drove looking South and South East towards village and Cobbetts View development
- Viewpoint 3: From Harts Lane opposite Hannington and Church View Cottages, looking South East towards the Downs
- Viewpoint 4: From Harts Lane outside Hannington and Church View Cottages, looking East and South East towards the church
- Viewpoint 5: From start of FP10 looking East
- Viewpoint 6: From the top of Silver's Copse (Jacob's Ladder) on FP13 looking North West, North and North East towards the village
- Viewpoint 7: 4 From FP13 where footpath and track from Harts Lane meet, South and South East to enjoy rural views and looking North to Portal Hall (360° view)
- Viewpoint 8: From farm gate opposite The Old Rectory to East and South East to Hannington and Downs
- Viewpoint 9: From gate opposite Henshaw house looking South East over fields towards Downs

³⁵ Source: Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

- Viewpoint 10: From FP13 looking North to Portal Hall, West to Church, South to East to Ladle Hill, Watership Down and NWD AONB (360° view)

Summary of future baseline

5.14 New development has the potential to lead to incremental but small changes in landscape and villagescape character and quality in and around the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area. This includes from the loss of landscape features and areas with an important visual amenity value.

Headline sustainability issues

- The Landscape Character Area for Highclere and Burgclere is described as having some scarce and fragile heathland and forest landscapes. It also has a strong rural and agricultural character. Further development has the potential to impact upon this character.
- The Neighbourhood Plan area lies within North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which is recognised as a national asset in which it's natural and cultural resources are managed in an attractive landscape mosaic of farmland, woodland, heaths, downs and commons.
- The potential effects of development proposed through the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan may have implications for the overall character, appearance and key views of parts of the parish in the future.

What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the landscape SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and villagescapes.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance the quality and integrity of the North Wessex Downs AONB and its setting? • Support landscape character of the Landscape Character Areas covering the Neighbourhood Plan area? • Support the integrity of local Landscape Character? • Conserve and enhance landscape and townscape features? • Protect key views and settlement gateways in the Neighbourhood Plan area?

6. Historic environment

Focus of theme

- Designated and non-designated heritage assets
- Setting of cultural heritage assets
- Archaeological assets

Policy context

6.1 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)³⁶ include:

- Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy making provision for ‘conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure.’
- Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments ‘are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation of change (such as increased densities).’
- ‘Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
 - a. Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils
 - b. recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland; and
 - c. remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.’
- Heritage assets should be recognised as an ‘irreplaceable resource’ that should be conserved in a ‘manner appropriate to their significance’, taking account of ‘the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits’ of conservation, whilst also recognising the positive contribution new development can make to local character and distinctiveness.
- Plans should set out a ‘positive strategy’ for the ‘conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment’, including those heritage assets that are most at risk.
- ‘When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss of less than substantial harm to its significance.’

6.2 Additionally, the National Planning Practice Guidance³⁷ states that Neighbourhood Plans should include enough information, where relevant, ‘about local heritage to guide decisions and put broader strategic heritage policies from the local plan into action at a neighbourhood scale’ and

³⁶ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 13/02/19]

³⁷ GOV (2018) Planning practice guidance [online] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance> [accessed 13/02/2019]

'about local non-designated heritage assets including sites of archaeological interest to guide decisions'.

- 6.3 Along with the policies contained within Chapter 2 'Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes', Goal 6 'Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment' of the Government's 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'³⁸ directly relates to the and Historic Environment SEA theme.
- 6.4 At the local level, Basingstoke and Deane Local plan identifies an objective to 'Proactively manage the borough's rich historic and built environment to protect and enhance its quality and distinctiveness while accommodating change. This highly varied resource ranges from conservation areas, to listed buildings including the large country houses to numerous brick, flint and timber framed farm buildings and cottages distinctive of our rural areas.' The Local Plan also presents policy EM11 (The Historic Environment) to provide protection for and address the strategic issues in relation to the historic environment.

Baseline

Summary of current baseline

- 6.5 **Figure 6.1** identifies designated heritage assets within the Neighbourhood Plan Area.
- 6.6 Historic England is the statutory consultee for certain categories of listed building consent and all applications for scheduled monument consent. The historic environment is protected through the planning system, via conditions imposed on developers and other mechanisms. The Neighbourhood Plan area contains three Grade I, two Grade II* and 52 Grade II listed buildings. Additionally, the western side of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area crosses Highclere Park which is a Grade I registered park and garden. A small part of Highclere Park is within the western part of the Neighbourhood Plan area
- 6.7 One of the Grade I Listed Buildings (Barn at Manor Farm, Old Burghclere, Burghclere) has been identified as 'at risk' on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register³⁹. The building suffers from water ingress and failure joints and is in need of comprehensive repair.
- 6.8 The Neighbourhood Plan area contains ten scheduled monuments. These are all located in the south of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area and are listed below:
- Bowl barrow 100m east of Thorn Down: one of the group known as Seven Barrows. The monument includes a bowl barrow, the southernmost in a linear cemetery of ten Bronze Age round barrows, seven of which are upstanding, and is situated along the floor of a dry valley between Thorn Down and Great Litchfield Down.
 - Bowl barrow 150m north east of Thorn Down: one of the group known as Seven Barrows. The monument includes a bowl barrow, one in a linear cemetery of ten Bronze Age round barrows, seven of which are upstanding, situated along the floor of a dry valley between Thorn Down and Great Litchfield Down.
 - Two bowl barrows and a ring ditch 250m north east of Thorn Down: part of the group known as Seven Barrows. The monument includes two bowl barrows and a ring ditch, representing a ploughed-down barrow, in a linear cemetery of ten Bronze Age round barrows situated along the floor of a dry valley between Thorn Down and Great Litchfield Down. Seven of the barrows remain as upstanding monuments.

³⁸ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 01/08/18]

³⁹ Historic England (2019) Heritage at Risk Register [online] available at: <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/search-register/> [accessed 15/02/19]

- Three bowl barrows 410m north east of Thorn Down: three of the group known as Seven Barrows. The monument includes three bowl barrows in a cemetery of ten Bronze Age round barrows, seven of which are upstanding, situated along the floor of a dry valley between Thorn Down and Great Litchfield Down.
- Ring ditch 250m NNE of Thorn Down: part of the group known as Seven Barrows. The monument includes a ring ditch, part of a linear cemetery of ten Bronze Age round barrows, seven of which are upstanding, situated along the floor of a dry valley between Thorn Down and Great Litchfield Down. The ring ditch, known from aerial photographs, is visible as soil marks 26m in overall diameter, representing the encircling quarry ditch of a bowl barrow.
- Large univallate hillfort at Beacon Hill. The monument includes a large univallate Iron Age hillfort situated on the summit of Beacon Hill, a ridge of Upper Chalk south of the Kennet valley. Following the contours of the hill, the hillfort measures 300m internally from north-west to south-east.
- A cross dyke and bowl barrow on the northern spur of Beacon Hill. The monument includes a section of a cross dyke of Iron Age date and a Bronze Age bowl barrow on the northern spur of Beacon Hill, a ridge of Upper Chalk south of the Kennet valley. The cross dyke is probably associated with the large univallate hillfort on the summit of Beacon Hill, a little over 200m to the south.
- A bowl barrow on the southern spur of Beacon Hill. The monument includes a bowl barrow of Bronze Age date on the spur running south from the summit of Beacon Hill, a ridge of Upper Chalk south of the Kennet valley. The barrow lies 120m south of the entrance of a large univallate hillfort.
- An unfinished hillfort, a saucer barrow, a disc barrow and sections of two linear earthworks on Ladle Hill. The monument includes an unfinished Early Iron Age hillfort, a disc barrow, a saucer barrow and sections of two linear earthworks of Bronze Age date situated on Ladle Hill.
- A section of a linear earthwork south west of Great Litchfield Down. The monument includes a section of an upstanding linear earthwork south west of Great Litchfield Down.

6.9 Conservation areas are designated because of their special architectural and historic interest⁴⁰. There are no conservation areas within the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area.

6.10 It should be noted that not all of the area's historic environment features are subject to statutory designations, and non-designated features comprise a large part of what people have contact with as part of daily life – whether at home, work or leisure. Although not designated, many buildings and areas are of historic interest and are seen as important by local communities.

6.11 The County Historic Environment Record (HER) is the principal record of the historic environment in Hampshire, going beyond the national heritage list to record many non-designated heritage assets. This is identified in both the NPPF and NPPG as an important information source for the historic environment that should be used in planning decisions. The Hampshire HER provides a report detailing all the heritage records within the parish. Summary information from the Hampshire HER is available via the Hampshire HER website, from which it is possible to gain mapping of features listed on the HER. The figure below denotes the records available on the Heritage Gateway for the built up area of Burghclere.

⁴⁰ Historic England (2019): 'Conservation Areas', [online] available to access via: <<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/local/conservation-areas/>> last accessed [15/02/19]

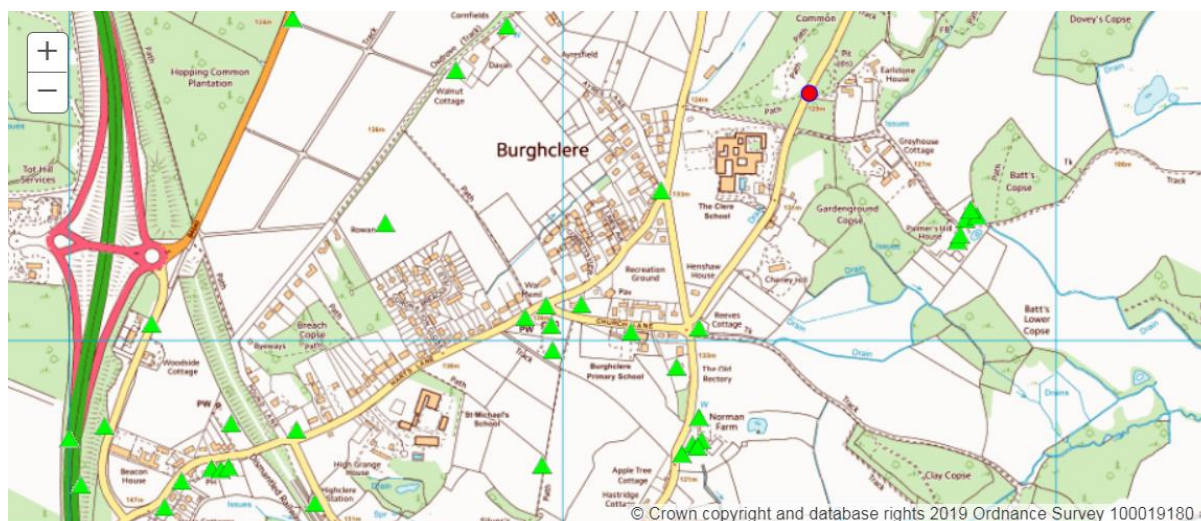


Figure: HER records present in the vicinity of Burghclere village. ⁴¹

Summary of future baseline

6.12 New development areas in the Neighbourhood Plan area have the potential to impact on the fabric and setting of cultural heritage assets; for example through inappropriate design and layout. It should be noted, however, that existing historic environment designations offer a degree of protection to cultural heritage assets and their settings.

6.13 Alongside, new development need not be harmful to the significance of a heritage asset, and in the context of the Neighbourhood Plan area there may be opportunity for new development to enhance the historic setting of the village and better reveal assets' cultural heritage significance.

Headline sustainability issues

- There are a variety of heritage assets within or adjacent to the Neighbourhood Plan area, including three Grade I, two Grade II* and 52 Grade II listed buildings. There are also ten scheduled monuments within the Neighbourhood Plan area highlighting significant Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement in the area. The Highclere Park registered park and garden is present in the west of the parish Neighbourhood Plan area.
- Development has the potential to affect the significance of heritage assets and their settings, both positively and negatively.
- Not all heritage assets are provided with protection through historic environment designations.

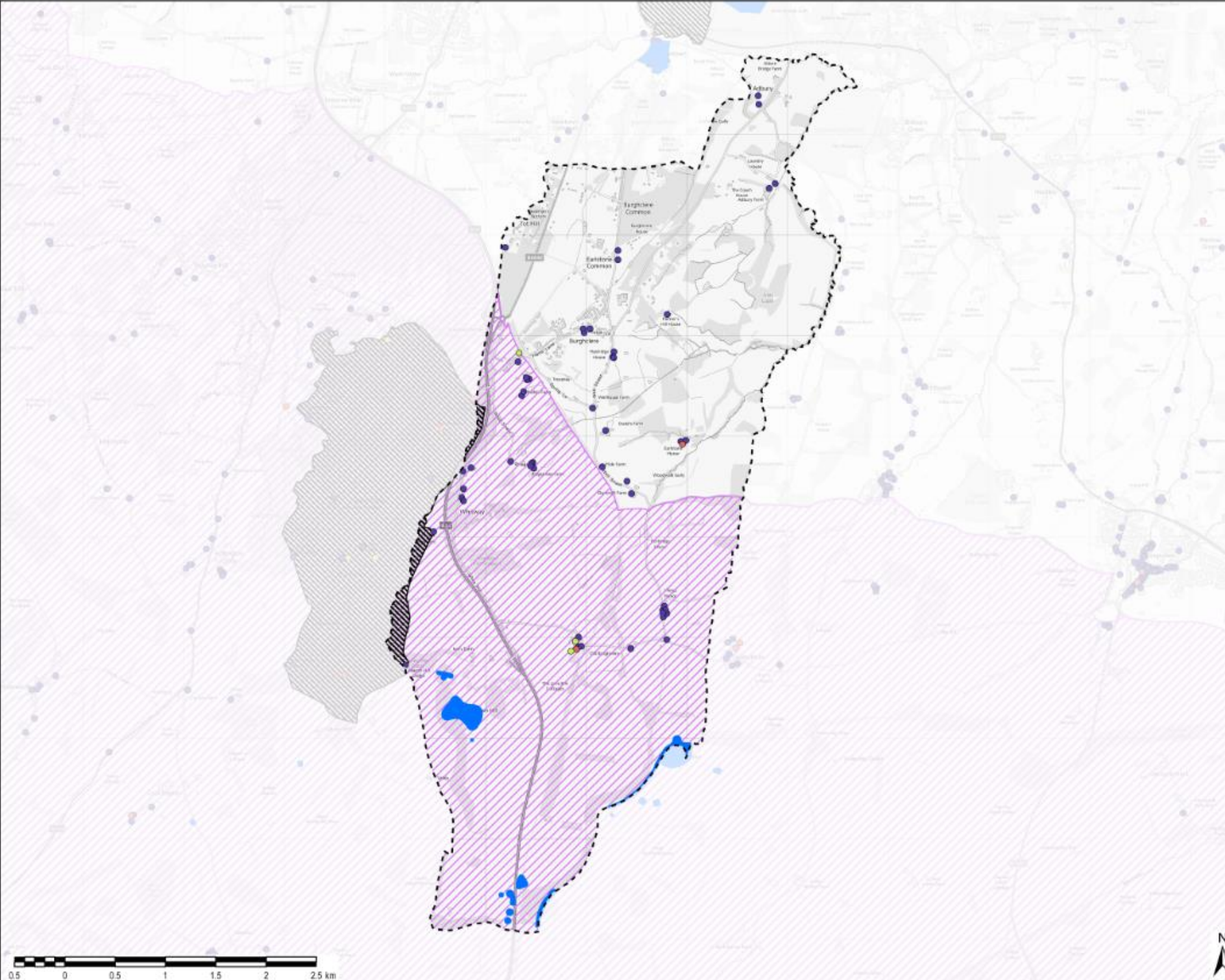
⁴¹ Hampshire County Council (2019) Search for Historic Environment Records [online] available at: <https://maps.hants.gov.uk/historicenvironment/> [accessed 21/02/19]

What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the historic environment SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect, maintain and enhance the cultural heritage resource within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including the historic environment and archaeological assets.	Will the option/proposal help to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conserve, enhance and support the integrity of buildings and structures of architectural or historic interest?• Conserve and enhance the archaeology and scheduled monuments within Burghclere?• Conserve and enhance local diversity and character?• Support access to, interpretation and understanding of the historic environment?

THIS DRAWING IS TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ISSUE THAT IT WAS ISSUED FOR AND IS SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT

- LEGEND**
- Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Area
 - Record of Scheduled Monument
 - ▨ Registered Parks and Garden
 - ▨ North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Listed Building**
- Grade I
 - Grade II*
 - Grade II



Copyright
Contains Ordnance Survey Data © Crown Copyright and database right 2018
© Historic England 2018. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019 The Historic England GIS Data contained in this material was obtained on 14/02/2019
Conservation Areas were digitised indicatively from data provided by Historic England

Purpose of Issue: **DRAFT**

Client: **BURGHCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP**

Project Title: **BURGHCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Drawing Title: **LANDSCAPE AND HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESIGNATIONS**

Drawn: CN	Checked: JW	Approved: TS	Date: 14/02/2019
AECOM Internal Project No: 60571087		Scale: @ A3 1:35,000	

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN PREPARED PURSUANT TO A CONTRACT SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF AECOM'S STANDARD CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT. AECOM ACCEPTS NO LIABILITY FOR THE USE OF THIS DOCUMENT OTHER THAN BY ITS ORIGINAL CLIENT TO FOLLOW THE ACCURATE INFORMATION APPROPRIATE TO SUCH USE, AND ONLY FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH IT WAS PROVIDED AND PROVIDED.

AECOM
15000 Old Street, Birmingham, B3 7NP
Telephone: 0121 717 0000
Fax: 0121 717 0001
www.aecom.co.uk



File Name: I:\0506 - Information Systems\6571087 - Burghclere\Burghclere_NP\GIS\maps\figs\figs_6.1 - Historic Environment and Landscape Designations.mxd

7. Land, soil and water resources

Focus of theme

- Soils resource
- Waste management
- Watercourses
- Water availability
- Water quality

Policy context

- 7.1 The EU's Soil Thematic Strategy⁴² presents a strategy for protecting soil resources in Europe. The main aim of the strategy is to minimise soil degradation and limit associated detrimental effects linked to water quality and quantity, human health, climate change, biodiversity, and food safety.
- 7.2 The EU Water Framework Directive⁴³ (WFD) drives a catchment-based approach to water management. In England and Wales there are 100 water catchments and it is Defra's intention is to establish a 'framework for integrated catchment management' across England. The Environment Agency is establishing 'Significant Water Management Issues' and recently presented second River Basin Management Plans to ministers. The plans seek to deliver the objectives of the WFD namely:
- Enhance the status and prevent the further deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetlands which depend on aquatic ecosystems;
 - Promote the sustainable use of water;
 - Reduce the pollution of water, especially by 'priority' and 'priority hazardous' substances; and
 - Ensure the progressive reduction of groundwater pollution.
- 7.3 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework⁴⁴ (NPPF) include:
- 'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
 - a. Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils
 - b. recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland; and

⁴² European Commission (2006) Soil Thematic Policy [online] available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index_en.htm> last accessed [15/02/19]

⁴³ European Commission (2016) The EU Water Framework Directive – integrated river basin management for Europe [online] available at: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html last accessed [15/02/19]

⁴⁴ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

- Prevent new or existing development from being 'adversely affected' by the presence of 'unacceptable levels' of soil pollution or land instability and be willing to remediate and mitigate 'despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate'.
 - 'Planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions. Strategic policies should set out a clear strategy for accommodating objectively assessed needs, in a way that makes as much use as possible of previously-developed or 'brownfield' land.'
 - 'Encourage multiple benefits from both urban and rural land, including through mixed use schemes and taking opportunities to achieve net environmental gains.'
 - Planning policies and decisions should 'give substantial weight to the value of using suitable brownfield land within settlements for homes and other identified needs', and 'promote and support the development of under-utilised land and buildings.'
 - Taking a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for water supply.
 - Prevent new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of water pollution.
 - The government has produced a separate plan that specifically deals with planning policy in relation to waste management; this should be read in conjunction with the NPPF.
 - Encourage the effective use of land' through the reuse of land which has been previously developed, 'provided that this is not of high environmental value'. Whilst there is no longer a national requirement to build at a minimum density, the NPPF requires local planning authorities to 'set out their own approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances'.
 - Produce strategic policies to deliver the provision of a variety of infrastructure, including that necessary for water supply.
 - With regards to waste, the NPPF does not contain any specific waste policies as waste planning policy will be published as part of the National Waste Management Plan.
- 7.4 Along with the policies contained within Chapter 1 'Using and managing land sustainably' and Chapter 4 'Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste', Goal 2 'Clean and plentiful water', Goal 5 'Using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently' and Goal 8 'Minimising waste' of the Government's 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'⁴⁵ directly relates to the land, soil and water resources SEA theme.
- 7.5 Other key documents at the national level include Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England⁴⁶, which sets out a vision for soil use in England, and the Water White Paper⁴⁷, which sets out the Government's vision for a more resilient water sector. It states the measures that will be taken to tackle issues such as poorly performing ecosystems, and the combined impacts of climate change and population growth on stressed water resources.

⁴⁵ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

⁴⁶ DEFRA (2009) Safeguarding our Soils: A strategy for England [online] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-our-soils-a-strategy-for-england> [accessed 15/02/19]

⁴⁷ DEFRA (2011) Water for life (The Water White Paper) [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/228861/8230.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

- 7.6 In terms of waste management, the Government Review of Waste Policy in England⁴⁸ recognises that environmental benefits and economic growth can be the result of a more sustainable approach to the use of materials.
- 7.7 The National Waste Management Plan⁴⁹ provides an analysis of the current waste management situation in England, and evaluates how it will support the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the revised Waste Framework Directive⁵⁰. This includes an assessment of the need for new collection schemes, additional waste infrastructure and investment channels, as well as providing general or strategic waste management policies.
- 7.8 The South East River Basin Management Plan⁵¹ provides a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. It also informs decisions on land-use planning and provides baseline classification of water bodies, statutory objectives for protected areas, statutory objectives for water bodies, and a summary programme of measures to achieve statutory objectives.
- 7.9 At the local level, Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan provides policies SS4 (Ensuring a supply of deliverable sites), EM6 (Water Quality), EM9 (Sustainable Water Use), EM10 (Delivering High Quality Development) and EM12 (Pollution) which are relevant to the Land, soil and water resources SEA theme.
- 7.10 The Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Water Cycle Study⁵² forms part of the Local Plan and aims to better understand the relationship between development and the water environment around Basingstoke, by examining the potential impacts of future growth on the water cycle. Regarding water quality, it looks at the potential increased generation of sewerage and other wastewater and the potential increased risk to the quality of the water environment.

Baseline

Summary of current baseline

Soil resources

- 7.11 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) classifies land into size grades (plus 'non-agricultural land' and 'urban'), where Grades 1 to 3a are recognised as being the 'best and most versatile' land and Grades 3b to 5 of poorer quality. In this context, there is a need to avoid loss of higher quality 'best and most versatile' agricultural land.
- 7.12 In terms of the location of the best and most versatile agricultural land, a detailed classification has been undertaken in the north eastern corner of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area. Of this small area of land that has been classified, it has been classified as a combination of Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3a, Grade 4b and 'Other'. There are also some limited areas classified as Grade 3a and Grade 3b agricultural land located around the built up village of Burghclere.

⁴⁸ DEFRA (2011) Government Review of Waste Policy in England [online] available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69401/pb13540-waste-policy-review110614.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

⁴⁹ DEFRA (2013) Waste Management Plan for England [online] available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/265810/pb14100-waste-management-plan-20131213.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

⁵⁰ Directive 2008/98/EC

⁵¹ DEFRA & Environment Agency (2015) Water for life and livelihoods Part 1: South East river basin district River basin management plan [online] available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718337/South_East_RBD_Part_1_river_basin_management_plan.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

⁵² Halcrow (2007) Basingstoke Cycle Study [online] available at: <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/ENV06> [accessed 15/02/19]

- 7.13 Elsewhere in the Neighbourhood Plan area a detailed classification has not been undertaken for the majority of the Neighbourhood Plan area. As such, there is a need to rely on the national 'Provisional Agricultural Land Quality' dataset.
- 7.14 The Provisional Agricultural Land Quality dataset⁵³ shows that the Neighbourhood Plan area is predominantly covered by Grade 3 agricultural land, however; without the subset grading (3a or 3b) it is not possible to tell at this stage whether the agricultural land is considered to be 'best and most versatile'. It is also important to note that the national dataset is of very low resolution, and may not necessarily provide an accurate reflection of the agricultural land quality within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Water resources

- 7.15 The main watercourse flowing through the Neighbourhood Plan area is the River Enborne which flows through the northern section of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area and eventually joins the River Kennet.

Water quality

- 7.16 The Neighbourhood Plan area lies within the Kennet and Trib operational catchment⁵⁴. The operational catchment contains 1 waterbody – River Enborne. The River Enborne is classified by the Environment Agency as having 'good' chemical quality, and 'moderate' ecological quality. This is likely to be linked to nitrates; given that the southern end of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area lies within a designated Surface Water Nitrate Vulnerable Zone.⁵⁵ The reasons for not achieving 'good' status relates to sewage discharge and agriculture and rural land management.

Summary of future baseline

- 7.17 Further development has the potential to affect water quality through diffuse pollution, waste water discharges, water run-off, and modification. However, water companies are likely to maintain adequate water supply and wastewater management over the plan period, and the requirements of the Water Framework Directive are likely to lead to continued improvements to water quality within the Neighbourhood Plan area and wider area.
- 7.18 It is unlikely that small scale development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan area would have a significant impact on the wider area's Nitrate Vulnerable Zone unless agricultural intensification occurs.
- 7.19 Development in the Neighbourhood Plan area has the potential to lead to losses of higher quality (best and most versatile) agricultural land.

Headline sustainability issues

- The southern part of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area falls within a designated Surface Water Nitrate Vulnerable Zone.
- The ecological quality of the River Enborne is considered to be "moderate".
- There evidence to ascertain agricultural land quality within the Neighbourhood Plan area. National provisional quality datasets indicate Grade 3 land, and as part of a precautionary approach it is noted that there is the potential for loss of high quality (Grade 3a 'best and most versatile') agricultural land.

⁵³ Natural England (2018) Agricultural Land Classification map London and the South East (ALC007) [online] available at <<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/141047?category=5954148537204736>> [accessed 15/02/19]

⁵⁴ Environment Agency (2019) Catchment Data Explorer [online] available at <https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/RiverBasinDistrict/6> [accessed 15/02/19]

⁵⁵ Natural England (2018) Magic Map Application [online] available at: <http://magic.gov.uk/> [accessed 15/02/19]

What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the land, soil and water resources SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Ensure the efficient and effective use of land.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the use of previously developed land? Avoid the development of the best and most versatile agricultural land, which in the parish may comprise Grade 1 to 3a agricultural land?
Promote sustainable waste management solutions that encourage the reduction, re-use and recycling of waste.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the amount of waste produced? Support the minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste? Maximise opportunities for local management of waste in order to minimise export of waste to areas outside? Encourage recycling of materials and minimise consumption of resources during construction?
Use and manage water resources in a sustainable manner.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support improvements to water quality? Minimise water consumption? Protect surface water resources?

8. Population and community

Focus of theme

- Population size
- Population density
- Age structure
- Deprivation
- House prices and affordability
- Homelessness
- Education and skills

Policy context

8.1 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework⁵⁶ (NPPF) include:

- 'One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is a social objective to; 'support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural wellbeing.'
- To support the Government's objective of significantly boosting the supply of housing, strategic policies 'should be informed by a local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning guidance. In addition to the local housing need figure, any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas should also be taken into account in establishing the amount of housing to be planned for.'
- The size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies. Where a need for affordable housing is identified, planning policies should specify the type of affordable housing required, and expect it to be met on-site where possible.
- Recognise the important contribution of small and medium sized development sites in meeting housing needs. Local Plans should identify land to accommodate at least 10% of their housing requirement on sites no larger than one hectare, and neighbourhood planning groups should also consider the opportunities for allocating small and medium-sized sites.
- In rural areas, planning policies and decisions should be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs, particularly for affordable housing, including through rural exception sites where appropriate. Authorities should consider whether allowing some market housing would facilitate the provision of affordable housing to meet local needs.
- Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.

⁵⁶ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 09/01/19]

- Ensure that developments create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion. Places should contain clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public spaces, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.
 - Ensuring that there is a 'sufficient choice of school places' and taking a 'proactive, positive and collaborative approach' to bringing forward 'development that will widen choice in education'.
- 8.2 The 'Ready for Ageing?' report, published by the Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change⁵⁷ warns that society is underprepared for an ageing population. The report states that 'longer lives can be a great benefit, but there has been a collective failure to address the implications and without urgent action this great boon could turn into a series of miserable crises'. The report recognises that the supply of specialist housing for the older generation is insufficient for the demand. There is a need for central and local Government, housing associations, and house builders to ensure that these housing needs are better addressed, giving as much priority to promoting an adequate market of social housing for the older generation as is given to the younger generation.
- 8.3 Policies contained in Chapter 1 'Using and managing land sustainably' and Chapter 4 'Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste' of the Government's 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'⁵⁸ directly relates to the Population and Communities SEA theme.
- 8.4 At the local level, Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan identifies the following objectives:
- 'Facilitate a well-educated and highly skilled local population and workforce with strong connections to the local business community and opportunities to access high quality education and jobs with lifelong learning for all.
 - Focus the provision for new housing and supporting infrastructure within a number of development sites around Basingstoke town, with local level housing provision in our other main settlements, and homes which respond to local needs in smaller settlements.
 - Ensure that infrastructure is planned for prior to development and delivered alongside development to meet the changing needs of our residents and employers, including the broader infrastructure needs of an increasingly ageing population. This will include the provision of flexible accommodation that responds to varying needs and supports mixed and inclusive communities with the opportunity for social interaction.
 - Provide new housing which incorporates a mix of tenure, size and type to meet the borough's needs and enable accommodation for all, including older people and downsizers, smaller households, families, and resident gypsies and travellers.
 - Promote and support successful regeneration and renewal schemes to improve social, built and natural environments, and improve housing and employment areas of poor quality. This will be delivered through a partnership approach and close working with local communities and businesses to address existing pockets of deprivation and reduce inequalities at a neighbourhood level'.
- 8.5 Policies SS5 (Neighbourhood Planning), CN1 (Affordable Housing), CN2 (Rural Exceptions for Affordable Housing), CN3 (Housing Mix for Market Housing), CN4 (Housing for older

⁵⁷ Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change (2013) Ready for Ageing? [online] available at: <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldselect/ldpublic/140/140.pdf> [accessed 15/02/19]

⁵⁸ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

people/Specialist Housing), CN5 (Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople), CN6 (Infrastructure), CN7 (Essential Facilities and Services), CN8 (Community, Leisure and Cultural Facilities), EP1 (Economic Growth and Investment), EP3 (Town, District and Local Centres), and EP4 (Rural Economy) are all relevant to the Population and Community SEA theme.

- 8.6 The Basingstoke and Deane Housing and Homelessness Strategy⁵⁹ sets out the strategic approach to meet housing needs of those residents who are unable to afford or access a home of a suitable standard.

Baseline

Summary of current baseline

Population

Table 8.1: Population growth 2001-2011⁶⁰

Date	Burghclere	Basingstoke and Deane	South East	England
2001	1,138	152,573	8,000,645	49,138,831
2011	1,152	167,799	8,634,750	53,012,456
Population Change 2001-2011	+1.2%	+10.0%	+7.9%	+7.9%

- 8.7 As shown in **Table 8.1**, the population of Burghclere increased at a lower rate between 2001 and 2011 in comparison to Basingstoke and Deane Borough, the South East of England and England averages.

Age Structure

Table 8.2: Age Structure (2011)⁶¹

	Burghclere	Basingstoke and Deane	South East	England
0-15	20.7%	20.2%	19.0%	18.9%
16-24	9.6%	9.7%	11.2%	11.9%
25-44	19.8%	28.9%	26.5%	27.5%
45-59	23.4%	20.7%	19.9%	19.4%
60+	26.5%	20.5%	23.3%	22.3%
Total Population	1,152	167,799	8,634,750	53,012,456

⁵⁹ Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (2016) Housing and Homelessness Strategy 2016 to 2020 [online] available at: <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/content/page/32000/Housing%20and%20Homelessness%20Strategy%202016-2020.pdf> [accessed 15/02/19]

⁶⁰ ONS (no date): Census 2011: Population Density 2011 (Table QS102EW); Population Density 2001 (Table UV02)

⁶¹ ONS (no date): Census 2011: Age Structure 2011 (Table KS102EW)

8.8 Generally, there is a higher proportion of residents within the 60+ age category within the Neighbourhood Plan area (26.5%) in comparison to the total for Basingstoke and Deane (20.5%), the South East (23.3%) and England (22.3%), as shown in **Table 8.2**. In contrast, a lower proportion of residents are within the working age categories (25-44 and 45-59) in the Neighbourhood Plan area (43.1%) in comparison to the percentages for the borough of Basingstoke and Deane (49.6%), the South East of England (46.4%) and England (46.9%). Additionally, 30.4% of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area are within the younger age categories (0-15 and 16-24), broadly similar to the percentages for Basingstoke and Deane (29.9%), the South East of England (30.2%) and England (30.8%).

Household deprivation

8.9 Census statistics measure deprivation across four 'dimensions' of deprivation, summarized below:

- **Employment:** Any person in the household (not a full-time student) that is either unemployed or long-term sick.
- **Education:** No person in the household has at least a level 2 qualification and no person aged 16-18 is a full-time student.
- **Health and Disability:** Any person in the household that has generally 'bad' or 'very bad' health, or has a long term health problem.
- **Housing:** The household accommodation is either overcrowded (with an occupancy rating of -1 or less), in a shared dwelling or has no central heating.

Table 8.3: Relative household deprivation dimensions⁶²

	Burghclere	Basingstoke and Deane	South East	England
Household not deprived	55.4%	52.0%	47.7%	42.5%
Deprived in 1 dimension	31.0%	31.1%	32.2%	32.7%
Deprived in 2 dimensions	11.7%	14.1%	16.0%	19.1%
Deprived in 3 dimensions	1.8%	2.7%	3.7%	5.1%
Deprived in 4 dimensions	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%	0.5%

8.10 Based on the information presented in **Table 8.3**, fewer households are deprived in 1 or more dimensions within the Neighbourhood Plan area (44.6%) in comparison to Basingstoke and Deane (48.0%) the South East of England (52.3%) and England (57.5%). Out of the 44.6% of households which are deprived in the Neighbourhood Plan area, the majority are deprived in one or two dimensions, which is similar to the regional and national averages.

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

8.11 The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015 (IMD) is an overall relative measure of deprivation constructed by combining seven domains of deprivation according to their respective weights, as described below. The seven deprivation domains are as follows:

⁶² ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Households by Deprivation Dimensions 2011 (Table QS119EW)

- **Income:** The proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income, including those individuals that are out-of-work and those that are in work but who have low earnings (satisfying the respective means tests).
 - **Employment:** The proportion of the working-age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market, including those individuals who would like to work but are unable to do so due to unemployment, sickness or disability, or caring responsibilities.
 - **Education, Skills and Training:** The lack of attainment and skills in the local population.
 - **Health Deprivation and Disability:** The risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health. Morbidity, disability and premature mortality are also considered, excluding the aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation.
 - **Crime:** The risk of personal and material victimisation at local level.
 - **Barriers to Housing and Services:** The physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services, with indicators categorised in two sub-domains.
 - a. 'Geographical Barriers': relating to the physical proximity of local services
 - b. 'Wider Barriers': relating to access to housing, such as affordability.
 - **Living Environment:** The quality of the local environment, with indicators falling categorised in two sub-domains.
 - c. 'Indoors Living Environment' measures the quality of housing.
 - d. 'Outdoors Living Environment' measures air quality and road traffic accidents.
 - Two supplementary indices (subsets of the Income deprivation domains), are also included:
 1. Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index: The proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families.
 2. Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index: The proportion of all those aged 60 or over who experience income deprivation.
- 8.12 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are a geographic hierarchy designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics in England and Wales. They are standardized geographies designed to be as consistent in population as possible, with each LSOA containing approximately 1,000 to 1,500 people. In relation to the IMD 2015, LSOAs are ranked out of the 32,844 in England and Wales, with 1 being the most deprived. Ranks are normalized into deciles, with a value of 1 reflecting the top 10% most deprived LSOAs in England and Wales.
- 8.13 The Neighbourhood Plan area falls within the LSOA Basingstoke and Deane. This LSOA is within the 40% least deprived LSOAs in England.

Housing tenure

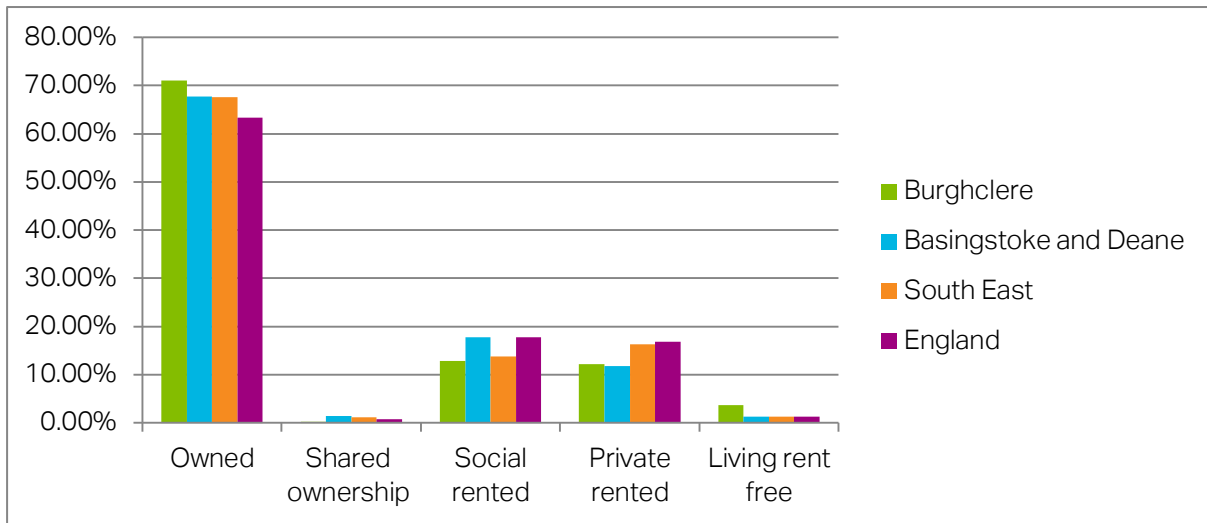


Figure 8.4: 'Tenure by Household' ⁶³

8.14 Within the Neighbourhood Plan area, 71.0% of residents either own their home outright or with a mortgage, higher than the totals for Basingstoke and Deane (67.7%), the South East of England (67.6%) and England (63.3%). As shown in **Figure 8.4**, there are a lower proportion of residents living within privately rented in the Neighbourhood Plan area in comparison to the regional and national trends. Additionally, there are a lower proportion of residents living in social rented accommodation in comparison to Basingstoke and Deane, the South East of England and England. The percentage of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area living in shared ownership accommodation (0.2%) is lower than the totals for Basingstoke and Deane (1.4%), the South East of England (1.1%) and England (0.8%).

Education

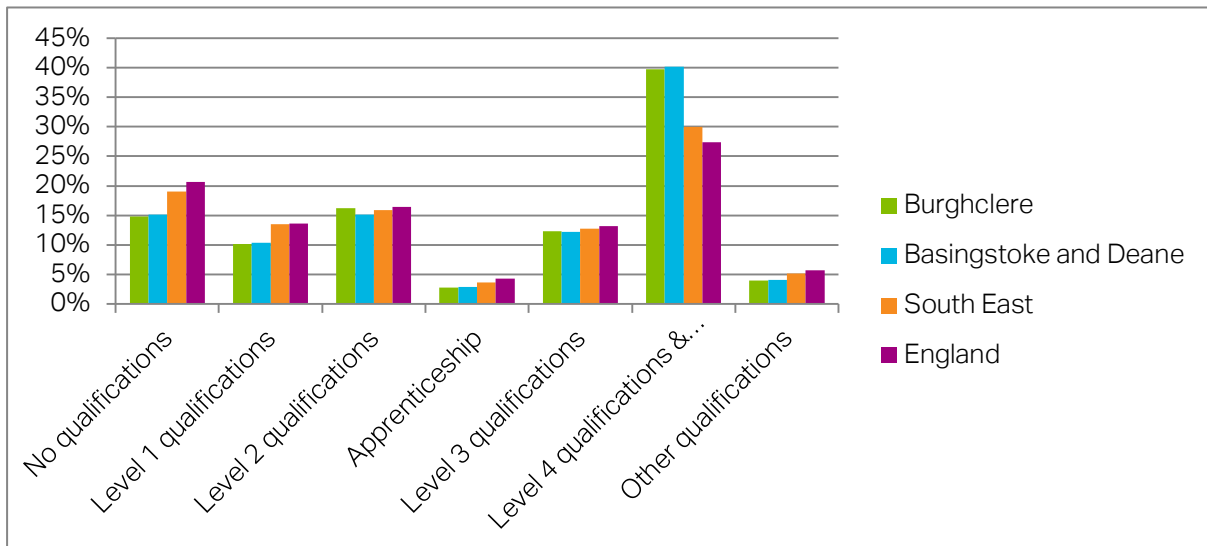


Figure 8.5: 'Highest level of Qualification' ⁶⁴

8.15 Based on the 2011 census data presented in **Figure 8.5**, 14.8% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area have no qualifications, slightly lower than the total for Basingstoke and Deane (15.2%), the South East of England (19.1%) and England (20.7%). Comparatively, 39.8% of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area have a Level 4 qualification or above, which is

⁶³ ONS (no date): Census 2011: Tenure-Households 2011 (Table QS405EW)

⁶⁴ ONS (no date): Census 2011: Highest Level of Qualification 2011 (Table QS501EW)

over 10% higher than the total for the South East of England (29.9%) and the total for England (27.4%).

Employment

8.16 In regards to employment within the Neighbourhood Plan area, the following three occupation categories support the most residents:

- Professional occupations (20.4%);
- Managers, directors, senior officials (19.6%) and
- Associate professional & technical occupations (12.5%).

8.17 Overall, 52.5% of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area are employed in one of the above three occupation categories, higher than the totals for Basingstoke and Deane (45.8%), the South East of England (44.8%) and England (41.1%). This is highlighted in **Figure 8.6**. This suggests that the Neighbourhood Plan area has a highly skilled workforce, supported by the percentage of residents with a Level 4 qualification or above (as shown in **Figure 8.5**).

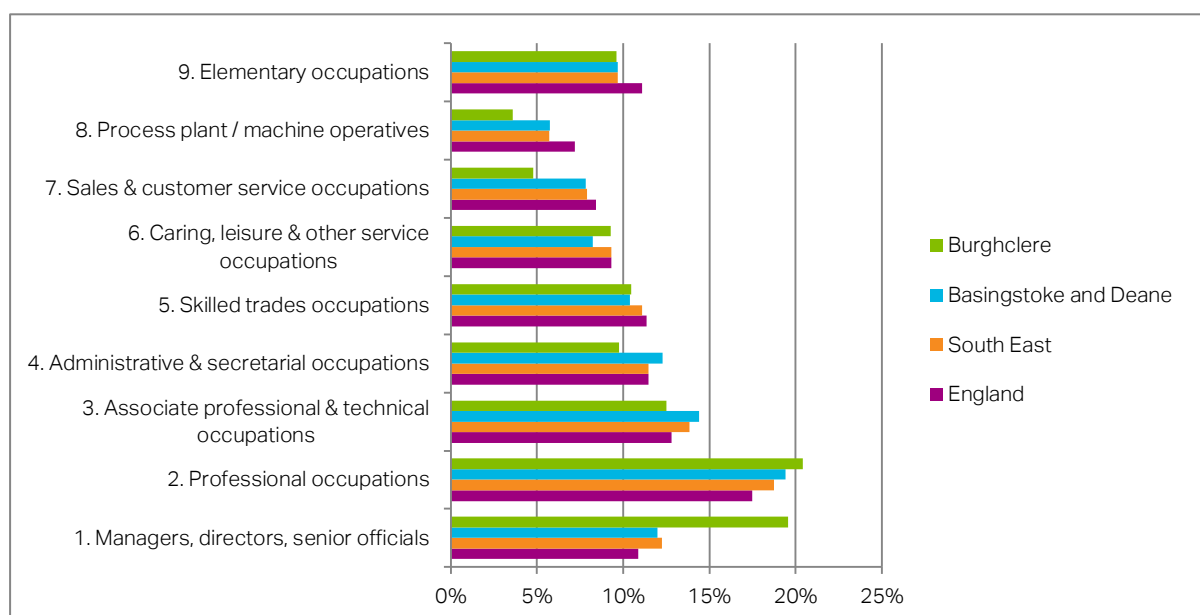


Figure 8.6: 'Occupation of usual residents aged 16 to 74 in employment'⁶⁵

Services

8.18 Services within the Neighbourhood Plan area are limited to two pubs (The Carpenters Arms and The Carnarvon Arms), two churches (Old Burghclere and Church of the Ascension) and four educational establishments (St Michael's, The Clere, Burghclere Primary and Burghclere pre-school).

Summary of future baseline

8.19 As the population continues to age, this has the potential to place pressures on wider services and facilities within the timeframe of the Neighbourhood Plan. This could negatively impact on the future vitality of the local community and economy.

8.20 Population trends indicate an ageing population. Considering that the area is not deprived in relation to indices such as health deprivation and disability, it is expected that increasing

⁶⁵ ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Occupation 2011' (Table KS608EW)

numbers of elderly residents will continue. This can have implications for housing, and may indicate a need for more specialist accommodation to meet the needs of the elderly in the future.

8.21 Overall levels of deprivation in the Neighbourhood Plan area are likely to remain low.

8.22 A large number of people run businesses from home in the Neighbourhood Plan area and there is small business community present.

Headline sustainability issues

- The population of Burghclere increased at a lower rate between 2001 and 2011 than Basingstoke and Deane, the South East of England and England averages.
- Generally, there is a larger proportion of residents within the 60+ age category within the Neighbourhood Plan area (26.5%) in comparison to the totals for Basingstoke and Deane (20.5%), the South East of England (23.3%) and England (22.3%).
- There are low levels of deprivation within the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- Services within the Neighbourhood Plan area limited to two pubs, two churches and four educational establishments.
- There are a large number of small businesses present within the parish.

What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the population and community SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Cater for existing and future residents' needs as well as the needs of different groups in the community, and improve access to local, high-quality community services and facilities.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and promote social cohesion and encourage active involvement of local people in community activities? • Minimise fuel poverty? • Maintain or enhance the quality of life of existing local residents? • Improve the availability and accessibility of key local facilities, including specialist services for disabled and older people? • Support the provision of land for allotments and cemeteries?
Reduce deprivation and promote a more inclusive and self-contained community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support provision for flexible working practices?
Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing, and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the provision of a range of house types and sizes? • Support enhancements to the current housing stock? • Meet the needs of all sectors of the community? • Provide quality and flexible homes that meet people's needs? • Promote the use of sustainable building techniques, including use of sustainable building materials in construction? • Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities?

9. Health and wellbeing

Focus of theme

- Health indicators and deprivation
- Influences on health and well-being

Policy context

9.1 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework⁶⁶ (NPPF) include:

- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is a social objective to; 'support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural wellbeing.'
- 'Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling.'
- Policies and decisions should take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community.
- Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and wellbeing of communities. Development should avoid building on existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields.
- Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.

9.2 The policies contained in Chapter 3 'Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing' of the Government's 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'⁶⁷ directly relates to the health and wellbeing SEA theme.

9.3 Other key national messages in relation to health include; Fair Society, Healthy Lives⁶⁸ ('The Marmot Review') which investigated health inequalities in England and the actions needed in order to tackle them. Subsequently, a supplementary report was prepared providing additional evidence relating to spatial planning and health on the basis that there is 'overwhelming evidence that health and environmental inequalities are inexorably linked and that poor environments contribute significantly to poor health and health inequalities'.

⁶⁶ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

⁶⁷ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

⁶⁸ The Marmot Review (2011) The Marmot Review: Implications for Spatial Planning [online] available at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20170106161952/http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=106106> [accessed 15/02/19]

- 9.4 The increasing role that local level authorities are expected to play in providing health outcomes is demonstrated by recent government legislation. The Health and Social Care Act 2012⁶⁹ transferred responsibility for public health from the NHS to local government, giving local authorities a duty to improve the health of the people who live in their areas. This will require a more holistic approach to health across all local government functions.
- 9.5 The Basingstoke and Deane Health and Wellbeing Partnership comprises representatives from various local organisations seeking to improve health outcomes for local residents. The partnership published a Shared Plan to Improve Health and Wellbeing in Basingstoke and Deane.⁷⁰ The plan aims to support and raise awareness of activities and services in the community, as well as to influence the design of places and systems to make it easier for residents to be and stay well. It identifies 4 priority areas:
- Physical activity;
 - Mental wellbeing;
 - Positive healthy behaviours; and
 - Social connections.
- 9.6 The Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan identifies an objective to 'promote healthy lifestyles by maintaining and enhancing the quality and value of community, health, cultural, leisure and recreational facilities and open spaces that support and provide opportunities for participation in social and physical activity in local communities and good access to health services'. The plan presents policies CN7 (Essential Facilities and Services) and CN8 (Community, Leisure and Cultural Facilities) which are relevant to the Health and Wellbeing SEA theme.

⁶⁹ Health and Social Care Act 2012: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/7/contents/enacted>

⁷⁰ Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (2016) Our shared plan To improve health and wellbeing in Basingstoke and Deane 2016 to 2020 [online] available at: <https://basp.basingstoke.gov.uk/content/doclib/77.pdf> [last accessed 15/02/18]

Baseline

Summary of current baseline

Health indicators and deprivation

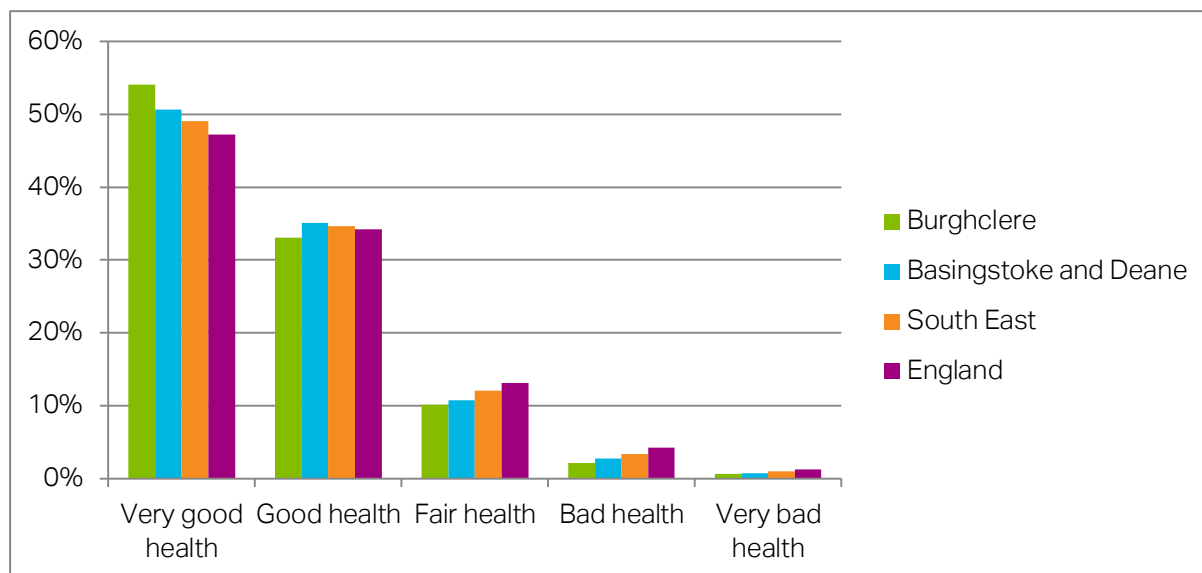


Figure 9.1: 'General Health'⁷¹

9.7 Deprivation is a significant contributor to poor health and can have adverse effects on wellbeing, with elements related to poor housing quality, living environment, income and employment previously discussed in detail in Chapter 8. As highlighted in **Figure 9.1**, 87.2% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area consider themselves as having 'very good health' or 'good health', similar to the totals for Basingstoke and Deane (85.8%), but higher than the South East of England (83.7%) and England (81.4%). Similarly, the percentage of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area considering themselves to have 'bad health' or 'very bad health' is 2.7%, lower than the totals for Basingstoke and Deane (3.5%), the South East of England (4.3%) and England (5.4%).

Table 9.1: Disability⁷²

	Burghclere	Basingstoke and Deane	South East	England
Activities limited 'a lot'	3.5%	5.6%	6.9%	8.3%
Activities limited 'a little'	8.5%	8.0%	8.8%	9.3%
Activities 'not limited'	88.0%	86.5%	84.3%	82.4%

9.8 The total percentage of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area who report that their activities are limited 'a little' is broadly similar the regional and national totals shown in **Table 9.1**. There are a lower number of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area who report that their activities are limited 'a lot' (3.5%) in comparison to Basingstoke and Deane (5.6%), the South East of England (6.9%) and England (8.3%). Overall, 88.0% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area report that their activities are 'not limited', slightly higher than the totals for Basingstoke and Deane (86.5%), the South East of England (84.3%) and England (82.4%).

⁷¹ ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'General Health 2011' (Table QS302EW)

⁷² ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Long-term Health Problem or Disability 2011' (Table QS303EW)

Summary of future baseline

- 9.9 Health and wellbeing levels within the Neighbourhood Plan area are generally better than regional and national averages with a higher percentage of residents reporting 'good' or 'very good' health.
- 9.10 A growing and ageing population within the Neighbourhood Plan area may increase the reported cases of disability, reduce the levels of good health, and place future pressures on health services in the wider area. Similarly, ongoing cuts to community services have the potential to lead to effects on health and wellbeing.
- 9.11 Obesity is also seen as an increasing issue by health professionals, and one that will contribute to significant health impacts on individuals, including increasing the risk of a range of diseases, including heart disease, diabetes and some forms of cancer.

Headline sustainability issues

- 87.2% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area consider themselves as having 'very good health' or 'good health', similar to the totals for Basingstoke and Deane (85.8%), but higher than the totals for the South East of England (83.7%) and England (81.4%).
- A smaller proportion of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area report that their activities are limited in some way compared to regional and national averages.

What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the health and wellbeing SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Improve the health and wellbeing residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote accessibility to a range of leisure, health and community facilities, for all age groups? • Provide and enhance the provision of community access to green infrastructure, in accordance with Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards? • Promote the use of healthier modes of travel? • Improve access to the countryside for recreational use?

10. Transportation

Focus of theme

- Transportation infrastructure
- Traffic flows and congestion
- Accessibility
- Car ownership
- Travel to work

Policy context

10.1 European and UK transport policies and plans place emphasis on the modernisation and sustainability of the transport network. Specific objectives include reducing pollution and road congestion through improvements to public transport, walking and cycling networks and reducing the need to travel. National policy also focuses on the need for the transport network to support sustainable economic growth.

10.2 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework⁷³ (NPPF) include:

- 'Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals, so that:
 - a. The potential impacts of development on transport networks can be addressed
 - b. Opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure, and changing transport technology and usage, are realised
 - c. Opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use are identified and pursued
 - d. The environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account
 - e. Patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes, and contribute to making high quality places.'
- 'Significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. This can help to reduce congestion and emissions, and improve air quality and public health. However, opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary between urban and rural areas, and this should be taken into account in both plan-making and decision-making.'

10.3 At the local level, each Local Transport Authority in England and Wales has a statutory duty to produce and adopt a Local Transport Plan through the Local Transport Act 2000, as amended by the Local Transport Act 2008.⁷⁴ A draft Transport Strategy is currently being prepared by Basingstoke and Deane and proposes a range of measures for improving transport including:

- Improving access to and within the town centre;

⁷³ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 15/02/19]

⁷⁴ Local Transport Act 2008 [online] available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/26/contents> [accessed 15/02/19]

- Creating new developments which are well-planned and integrated with the existing transport network;
- Providing a step change in the quality of local public transport;
- Developing high quality priority strategic walking and cycling corridors;
- Managing journey times and reliability;
- Maintaining strong strategic transport connections; and
- Forward planning of the transport network to meet future needs.

10.4 The Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan identifies an objective to 'Reduce the need to travel, providing sustainable and fully accessible transport opportunities, and promoting walking and cycling across the borough. Work in partnership to address issues around junction 6 of the M3 and the delivery of strategic transport infrastructure.' The plan provides policies SS10 (Chineham Railway Station) and CN9 (Transport) which are relevant to the Transport SEA theme.

Baseline

Summary of current baseline

Rail network

10.5 There are no railway stations within the Neighbourhood Plan area. The nearest stations to the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area are Newbury (approximately 3.2km from the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area) and Newbury Racecourse (approximately 3.1km from the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area). Additionally Whitchurch station is approximately 6.2km away from the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area and Overton is 6.8km away. Newbury station provides regular services to Reading and London Paddington. Whitchurch and Overton stations provide services into London Waterloo, Basingstoke, Andover and Salisbury.

Bus network

10.6 In regards to the bus network, there are relatively limited services running from Burghclere. The 7A bus service runs between Burghclere and Newbury but is restricted to 3 services a day.

Road network and congestion

10.7 The Neighbourhood Plan area is well connected with the national road network. The A34 runs north-south along the western side of the parish and is accessed at Tot Hill from the Winchester Road and the B4640. The A34 is the main North-South arterial link from Southampton to Oxford and beyond. North west of Newbury the A34 connects the M4 with routes East to Reading, Heathrow and London, and West to Swindon and Bristol. To the south the A34 bisects the A303 with routes to Basingstoke and London on the M3, and to the West Country. The A339, running between Newbury and Basingstoke, is easily accessible from the north of the parish.

Cycle and footpath network

10.8 The parish has a well-developed public rights of way network. The Brenda Parker Way is a long distance path which runs across north Hampshire and passes through Burghclere. There are no national cycle routes running through the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan area.

Availability of cars and vans

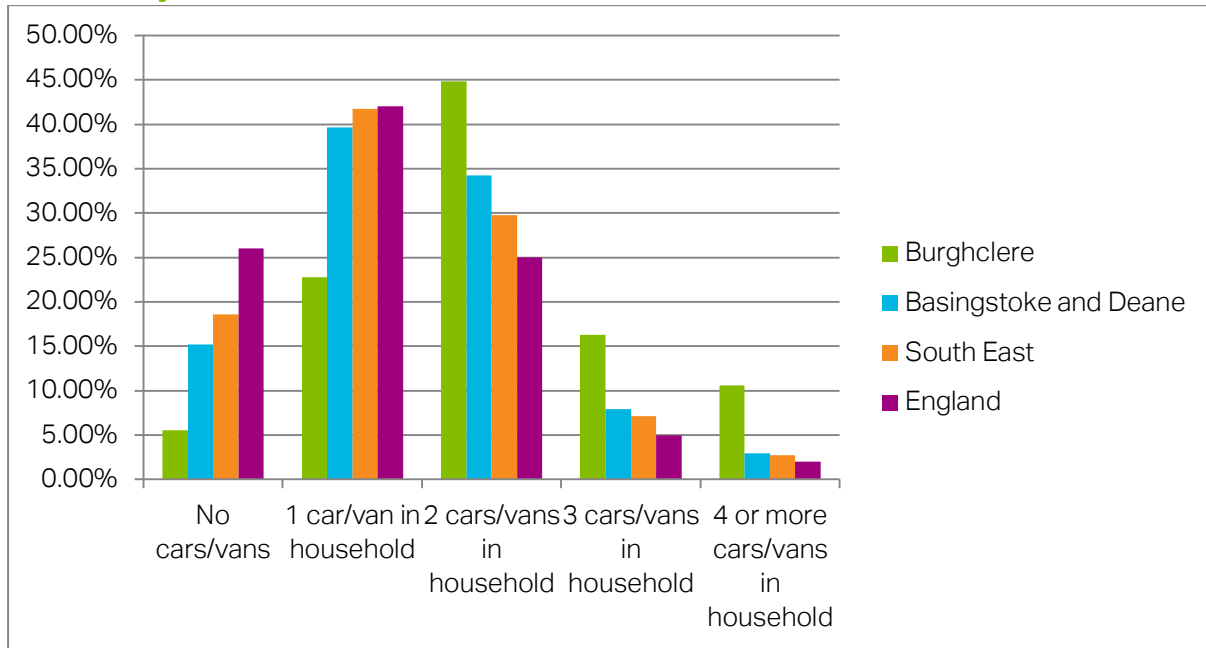


Figure 10.1: 'Car and van ownership' ⁷⁵

10.9 Based on the 2011 census data presented in **Figure 10.1**, 94.5% of households in the Neighbourhood Plan area have access to at least one car or van, which is significantly higher than the percentages for Basingstoke and Deane (84.8%), the South East of England (81.4%) and England (74.2%). The total number of households in the Neighbourhood Plan area with access to at least two cars or vans (71.7%) is almost 30% higher than the total for Basingstoke and Deane (45.1%), and over 30% higher than the total for the South East of England (39.7%) and over 40% higher than the total for England (32.0%).

Travel to work

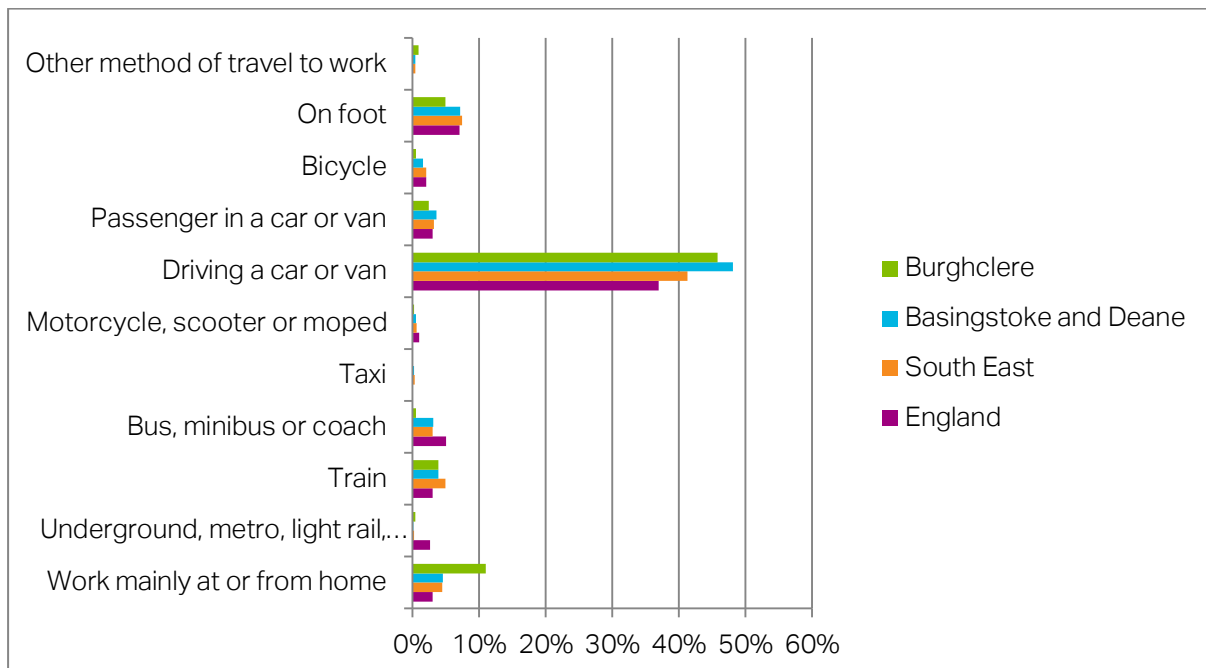


Figure 10.2: 'Method of Travel to Work' ⁷⁶

⁷⁵ ONS (no date): 'Car or Van Availability 2011', (Table QS416EW)

10.10 As shown in **Figure 10.2**, the most popular method of travelling to work in the Neighbourhood Plan area is via driving a car or van (45.8%) which is slightly lower than Basingstoke and Deane (48.2%), but higher than the total for the South East of England (41.3%) and England (36.9%). A higher percentage of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan work mainly from home in comparison to the regional and national trends. In contrast, a lower proportion of residents walk to work or catch a bus, minibus or coach.

Summary of future baseline

10.11 A continued reliance on the private car is highly likely within the Neighbourhood Plan area, particularly given the size of the village and its rural nature; residents are likely to continue to travel outside of the Neighbourhood Plan area to access key services and facilities.

10.12 Public transport use is likely to remain low compared with private car use given the lack of public transport options.

10.13 Given the scale of development likely to come forward through the Neighbourhood Plan area, it is unlikely that this development will contribute to any significant improvements in public transport provision. The limited scale is also unlikely to significantly impact upon the road network and congestion.

Headline sustainability issues

- The nearest railway station to the Neighbourhood Plan area is Newbury, approximately 3.1km away from the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary.
- Bus services are limited in the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- The Neighbourhood Plan area is well linked to the strategic road network, with access to the M3 and M4 via the A34 and the A339.

What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the transportation SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Promote sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel? • Facilitate working from home and remote working? • Improve road safety? • Reduce the impact on residents from the road network?

⁷⁶ ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Method of Travel to Work 2011' (Table QS701EW)

11. Next steps

Subsequent stages for the SEA process

11.1 The five stages of the SEA process⁷⁷ are identified below. Scoping (the current stage) is the second stage of the SEA process.

1. Screening;
2. Scoping;
3. Assess reasonable alternatives, with a view to informing preparation of the draft plan;
4. Assess the draft plan and prepare the Environmental Report with a view to informing consultation and plan finalisation;
5. Publish a 'statement' at the time of plan adoption in order to 'tell the story' of plan-making / SEA (and present 'measures concerning monitoring')

11.2 The next stage will involve appraising reasonable alternatives for the BURGHCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN. This will consider alternative policy approaches for the plan, including alternative spatial strategies. The findings of the appraisal of these alternatives will be fed back to BURGHCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Steering Group (the Neighbourhood Plan group) so that they might be taken into account when preparing the draft plan.

11.3 Once the draft (submission version) plan has been prepared by the Neighbourhood Plan group, it will be subjected to SEA and the Environmental Report prepared for consultation alongside it.

11.4 Following submission to Basingstoke and Deane Council, and consultation, the Neighbourhood Plan will be put forward for Independent Examination.

Consultation on the Scoping Report

11.5 Public involvement through consultation is a key element of the SEA process. At this scoping stage, the SEA Regulations require consultation with statutory consultation bodies but not full consultation with the public.

11.6 The statutory consultation bodies are the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England. The Scoping Report has been released to these three statutory consultees.

11.7 Consultees are invited to comment on the content of this Scoping Report, in particular the evidence base for the SEA, the identified key issues and the proposed SEA Framework.

11.8 This consultation period runs from 1st March 2019 to 5th April 2019. Comments on the Scoping Report should be sent to:

Tamsin Stevens, AECOM

Email address: Tamsin.Stevens@aecom.com

11.9 All comments received on the Scoping Report will be reviewed and will influence the development of the SEA where appropriate.

⁷⁷ In accordance with the stages set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance

This page is intentionally blank.

