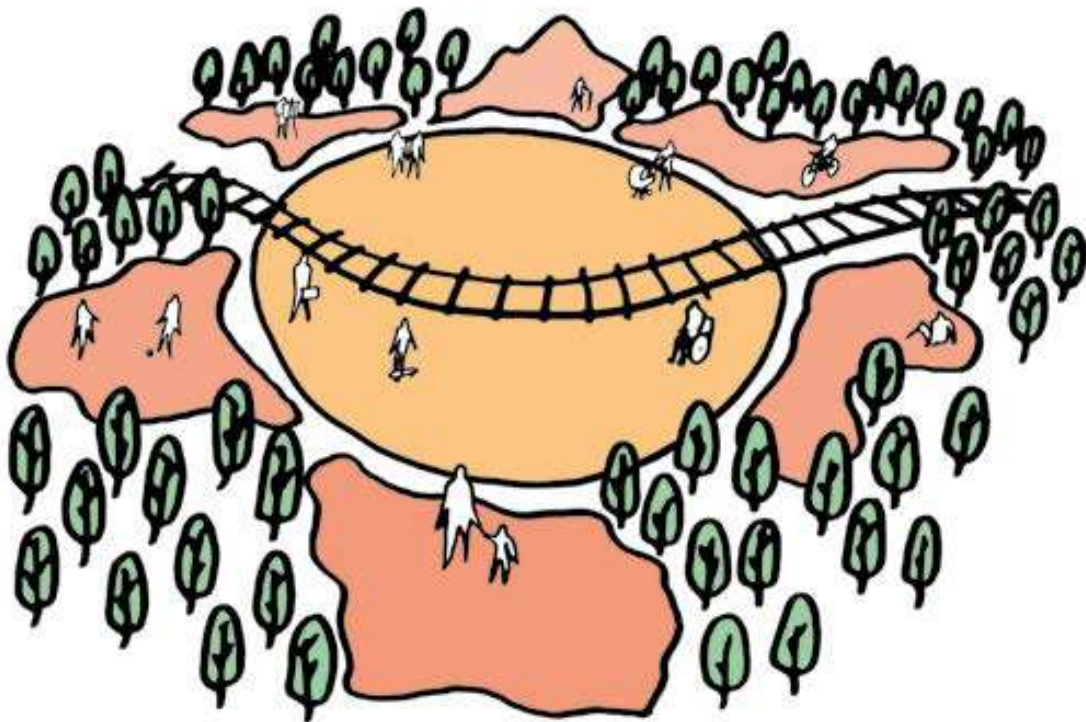


New Settlement (Maltkiln) Development Plan Document (DPD)



Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations Adoption Statement

November 2025

Contents

1 Introduction	2
2 Plan-making and SA up to adoption	4
3 How has the SA influenced decision making?	8
4 Consultation responses and how they have been taken into account	11
5 Monitoring	12
6 Conclusions	18

1 Introduction

Background

- 1.1** The New Settlement (Maltkiln) Development Plan Document (DPD) was adopted by North Yorkshire Council on 12 November 2025.
- 1.2** The Draft New Settlement (Maltkiln) DPD was submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination on 27 March 2024. Examination in Public Hearings took place at the Civic Centre, St Luke's Mount, Harrogate between 17 September 2024 and 20 September 2024.
- 1.3** Following the hearings and at the request of the Inspector, the Council prepared a schedule of proposed Main Modifications to the DPD, as well as amendments to the Policy Map boundary. These modifications, alongside an updated Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment, were subject to public consultation between 10 February 2025 and 24 March 2025.
- 1.4** The Examination concluded on 7 August 2025 following receipt of the Inspectors' Report, which concluded that, incorporating his recommended main modifications, the New Settlement (Maltkiln) Development Plan Document satisfies the requirements of Section 20(5)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and is sound.
- 1.5** The Adopted New Settlement (Maltkiln) Development Plan Document incorporates the Inspectors main modifications, along with additional minor modifications made by the Council which do not materially affect the policies in the plan.
- 1.6** A parallel process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was undertaken alongside plan-making, the early stages supported by consultants AECOM.

SA Explained

- 1.7** SA is a mechanism for considering and communicating the likely significant effects of an emerging plan, and the reasonable alternatives considered during the plan-making process, in terms of key sustainability issues. The aim of SA is to inform and influence the plan-making process with a view to avoiding or mitigating negative effects and maximising positive effects. Through this approach, the SA seeks to maximise the Development Plan Document's contribution to sustainable development.
- 1.8** A SA is undertaken in line with the procedures prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations). SA incorporates the requirement for SEA and widens the scope of the assessment to also include social and economic issues.

This SA Adoption Statement

- 1.9** Regulation 16 of the SEA Regulations sets out the post-adoption procedures with respect to SEA. It requires that, as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of a plan for which an SA / SEA has been carried out, the planning authority must make a copy of the plan publicly available alongside a copy of the SA Report and an 'SEA Adoption Statement', and inform the public and prescribed bodies of the availability of these documents. The prescribed bodies are the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England.
- 1.10** This document is the Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment) Adoption Statement to accompany the adoption of the Maltkiln (New Settlement) DPD.

Introduction 1

- 1.11** The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Adoption Statement describes the process, how the findings of the SA were taken into account and informed the development of the Local Plan, and the monitoring indicators that will be applied to check the accuracy of predicted effects and to monitor progress against sustainability objectives.
- 1.12** In the context of the requirements of the SEA Regulations, this SA Adoption Statement for the Maltkiln (New Settlement) DPD must explain:
- How environmental (and sustainability) considerations have been integrated into the plan;
 - How the SA Report has been taken into account during preparation of the plan;
 - The reasons for choosing the plan as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with;
 - How the opinions expressed by the public and consultation bodies during consultation on the plan and SA Report have been taken into account; and
 - The measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant effects identified for the Local Plan.
- 1.13** In association with the above requirements, the SA Adoption Statement is structured as follows:
- Chapter 2 presents the narrative for plan-making and the accompanying SA process to date.
 - Chapter 3 describes how the SA has influenced the Plan making process at key steps in plan-making.
 - Together, these two chapters incorporate a description of the elements required by the first three bullet points above.
 - Chapter 4 describes how consultation responses have been taken into account through the Local Plan / SA process.
 - Chapter 5 presents the monitoring programme for the SA.
 - Chapter 6 sets out some overall conclusions on the SA process.

2 Plan-making and SA up to adoption

2.1 This section gives consideration to each of the main plan-making and SA steps.

Key Plan-making Milestone	SA Stages and Outputs
Harrogate District Local Plan Adopted 2020 The Harrogate District Local Plan was adopted in 2020 which establishes the principle of a new settlement in the Hammerton / Cattal area. Policy DM4 states that a DPD will be produced and sets out the parameters for this, as well as the quantum and requirements of the development.	Sustainability Appraisal Post-Adoption Statement Dec 2020 The Local Plan was adopted at Full Council in 2020 The post-adoption statement explained: • How environmental (and sustainability) considerations had been integrated into the plan. • How the Environmental Report had been taken into account as part of local plan preparation. (This was contained within the SA). • How the opinions expressed by the public, consultation bodies and (where appropriate) other European Member States during consultation on the plan and the Environmental/SA Report had been taken into account. • The reasons for choosing the plan as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives considered. • The measures that were to be taken to monitor the significant environmental and sustainability effects of the implementation of the plan.
New Settlement DPD Regulation 18 Consultation 19 October 2020 to 22 January 2021 Preliminary work carried out in consultation with a number of stakeholders and community representatives which helped to develop a draft vision and distinct spatial options to deliver the requirements of Local Plan policy DM4 within known available land in the identified broad location for growth. This work was consulted upon along with a preferred option and draft development framework.	Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report August 2018 prepared by AECOM The Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report August 2018 was prepared by AECOM. Key sustainability issues were identified in the Scoping Report. Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report October 2020 The SA Interim Report outlined the baseline position for a range of environmental, economic and social factors. Identifying 12 SA Objectives. • To protect, conserve and enhance air quality • Protect and enhance the function and connectivity of biodiversity habitats and species

Plan-making and SA up to adoption 2

Key Plan-making Milestone	SA Stages and Outputs
	• Support the resilience of the Green Hammerton / Cattal area to flood risk • Contribute to climate change mitigation • Protect, enhance and manage the character, function and enjoyment of the historic environment • Ensure that development protects and complements important landscape features whilst retaining a rural character • Minimise the avoidable loss of the most valuable soils and agricultural land • Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses, ground and surface water quality • Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing which meets the needs of occupiers throughout their life • Protect and improve the health and well-being of residents by enhancing the quality and accessibility of open space facilities for recreation and health • Reduce the need to travel and support a modal shift to active and sustainable modes of travel such as walking, cycling and public transport • Support and maintain a strong and sustainable economy The three prescribed bodies were consulted • Historic England • Natural England • Environment Agency The comments received were summarised in Appendix 1 of the Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report October 2020 together with a response showing how they have influenced the evolution of the SA.
New Settlement (Maltkiln) DPD Regulation 19 Pre-submission draft 3 October to 25 November 2022	Sustainability Appraisal Report June 2022 prepared by AECOM The SA Report accompanying the Pre-submission draft version of DPD was prepared by AECOM.

2 Plan-making and SA up to adoption

Key Plan-making Milestone	SA Stages and Outputs
The responses from the Regulation 18 consultation were taken into account, the preferred option was worked on and policies were drafted in consultation with key stakeholders. The Draft DPD was published and the focus was on whether the plan had been prepared in accordance with legal requirements and met the tests of soundness.	The Regulation 19 SA Report updated the Interim Report findings on the options following the consultation and focused on policies. The SA Report presented an updated appraisal of the Plan 'as a whole', focusing on the three options and the preferred option (Option 3) assessing them against the 12 SA objectives. The findings were presented as a RAG (red amber green) table, setting out recommendations and a framework of monitoring measures, as required by the SEA Regulations.
Submission The DPD was submitted for Examination on 27 March 2024	Sustainability Appraisal Submission Draft February 2024: The SA Submission Draft submitted as a Core Document, in relation to the SA objectives this report explored the implications of the modifications proposed in response to the Regulation 19 consultation feedback and responses received on the Regulation 19 consultation of the SA.
Examination in Public It was the role of the Inspector is to test whether the Plan is sound and legally compliant. The Examination was held at the Harrogate Civic Centre on 17 to 20 September 2024	Matter 1 Issue 3 considered the SA and was heard on the 17 September 2025. The four questions asked are as follows: <i>Q1. What are the 'concept options' in the Sustainability Appraisal ('SA') based on? How have they been determined, and do they adequately reflect a reasonable range of alternatives? If not, what should the SA have considered at this stage?</i> <i>Q2. Are there any other reasonable spatial options that should have been tested by the Council through the SA, and if so, why?</i> <i>Q3. Do each of the concept options propose the same amount of growth? How has the potential loss of any best and most versatile agricultural land been considered?</i> <i>Q4. The preferred option (Option 3) is predicted to have likely significant negative effects in terms of biodiversity and potential significant negative effects in terms of landscape including retaining the area's rural character. How will these negative effects be addressed by the DPD?</i>

Plan-making and SA up to adoption 2

Key Plan-making Milestone	SA Stages and Outputs
Following the hearings, the Council prepared a schedule of Main Modifications at the request of the Inspector.	The Main Modifications are summarised as follows: • Revising the indicative layout and boundary as shown on the updated Policy Map and Indicative Development Framework; • Ensuring that the masterplanning process for the development of the new settlement is clear by making changes to Policies NS1, NS2 and NS3; • Clarifying how the priorities set by the Climate Change Strategy will be implemented by the DPD's climate change policies (Policies NS4 to NS11); • Ensuring that the infrastructure necessary for the delivery of the new settlement is provided in a clear and effective way by inserting a new policy (NS38); • Inserting a glossary; and • A number of other modifications to ensure that the Plan is positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. The SA Main Modifications report assessed the main modifications proposed against the 12 SA Objectives.
Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications January 2025 Consultation 10 February to 24 March 2025 Comments received on the main modifications proposed were forwarded to the Inspector.	Sustainability Appraisal Main Modifications January 2025 All comments received during the main modifications consultation period were forwarded to the Inspector.
Inspectors Report received 7 August 2025	Inspectors report received August 2025 In relation to the SA, the Inspector detailed in his report that <i>"the Council have carried out an adequate SA of the Plan and reasonable alternatives have been considered to a sufficient degree"</i> The Inspector concluded that subject to the main modifications recommended that the Plan is sound and capable of adoption.

3 How has the SA influenced decision making?

3.1 Essentially, SA must feed-into and inform plan-making in two ways:

1. Appraisal of alternatives and draft policies should inform preparation of the draft Plan.
2. The SA Report, and consultation responses received during the Draft Plan / SA Report consultation, should inform plan finalisation.

3.2 This section briefly discusses the key elements of the SA process, and how the findings were fed-into the plan making process. There is a focus on explaining how sustainability considerations have been taken into account and influenced plan-making, including as a result of alternatives appraisal, site assessments, policy appraisal, and consultation on DPD / SA documents.

Influencing the new settlement site allocation

3.3 The 'concept options' considered in the SA were developed within a framework in which both the principle of the new settlement within the broad location for growth and the overall minimum size/requirements of the settlement had already been established by the adopted Harrogate District Local Plan 2014-2025. The purpose of the DPD is therefore to determine the most appropriate settlement boundary within that area.

3.4 The "concept options" were based on known available land at the time within the broad location for growth identified in the adopted Harrogate District Local Plan 2014-2025. They take into account known constraints and opportunities and importantly these represented distinct spatial options, each of which contained enough land to include the requirements outlined in adopted policy DM4.

3.5 All three concept options had a land area of sufficient scale to deliver the required number of housing units, employment space, local centre and social infrastructure, this is evidenced in New Settlement Concept Framework- Stage 5b Final Concept Framework Report (2020) which shows how the options were developed. These were consulted upon during the Regulation 18 consultation (which also put forward a preferred option) at which point any further reasonable options could have been put forward.

3.6 At Regulation 18 the three framework options were considered and tested in the SA with an emerging preferred option, Option 3, identified. The SA findings showed that the 3 options performed similarly across of range of SA objectives, the main points of difference related to air quality, biodiversity, heritage and transport.

3.7 Objective 1 (Air quality), the point of difference was very small, with Option 1 identified as having likely negative effects, whereas Options 2 and 3 potential negative effects are noted, the difference being due to the potential re-routing of the A59 as part of Option 1.

3.8 For biodiversity, the potential for significant negative effects was considered to be higher for Option 3 compared to Options 1 and 2, due to the proximity to Aubert Ings SSSI. These are not definite effects though and could potentially be mitigated, hence the uncertain / potential nature of effects.

3.9 For heritage, Option 3 performed the most favourably as it would be less intrusive in terms of the character of existing settlements and would be less likely to lead to coalescence effects.

3.10 For transport, the potential for significant positive effects is considered to be greater for Option 3, and there was considered to be less uncertainty as the focus of growth around Cattal station should help to boost and encourage rail travel.

How has the SA influenced decision making? 3

3.11 The AECOM report concluded that when assessed against the SA framework, Option 3 performed marginally better than either of the other two options and that this mirrored the conclusions of the Gillespie's assessment of the options as they drew up the concept framework. This concluded that Option 3 had slightly more positives than negatives, notably:

- The sustainable travel opportunities presented by the focus around an enhanced Cattal rail station, as opposed to a significant rerouting of the A59
- Facilities clustered around Cattal station as a community hub
- A sensitive arrangement of development and greenspace, minimising impact on nearby conservation area villages and the landscape setting
- In line with stakeholder emphasis on steering development away from the existing conservation area villages – as communicated in stakeholder events
- Facilities clustered around the station are approximately 1,200m from nearby villages - enhanced connectivity can be further developed
- A land promoter is in place to support and progress delivery of an approach similar to this spatial option.

Influencing policy content

3.12 The SA is an iterative process, in which proposals for mitigation and enhancement have been considered at different stages.

3.13 As well as appraising options, draft versions of each plan policy have been appraised through the SA process, and a number of recommendations were set out, below.

Issue	Recommendation	Council Response
Potential for negative effects on heritage in terms of archaeology.	Requiring a programme of investigation, recording and public dissemination of results where development would result in the loss of archaeological features considered to be of lower significance.	A Heritage Impact Assessment was carried out which Historic England were consulted on. Historic England were happy with the conclusions of the assessment.
New development will increase water usage. There is an opportunity to ensure this is minimised through the DPD.	With the addition of more explicit requirements relating to water efficiency in new developments / buildings, then the potential for minor positive effects would be more certain.	Policy NS10 was strengthened to include the requirement for new development to implement higher standards of water use.

3.14 The DPD has been developed using a robust evidence base, taking into account a range of evidence, feedback from community consultation and key principles for creating a sustainable settlement. The plan sought to minimise negative effects, maximise positives and respond to identified issues at each stage. The proposed approach and supporting policies are not predicted to generate any significant negative effects. The report concluded that the recommendations for mitigation in the SA are therefore relatively limited.

3 How has the SA influenced decision making?

Influencing the main modifications

- 3.15** Further sustainability appraisal was undertaken at this stage to understand the implications of the proposed Main Modifications.
- 3.16** The Main Modifications recommended following the Examination, which included a revised boundary to the policy map which increased the developable area reducing the area designated as Strategic Green Gap, were tested assessed against the SA 12 Objectives.
- 3.17** The modifications did not result in changes to the SA assessment for the majority of the objectives, with the exception of Objective 5: Protect, enhance and manage the character, function and enjoyment of the historic environment.
- 3.18** In this case of Objective 5 the proposed modification changed the overall conclusion to likely *minor negative effects* from *potential negatives effects*. The impact was already acknowledged in the overall SA conclusion, and therefore did not change the previous conclusion or the overall SA Report findings. The Inspector concluded:

"It was also noted that whilst the proposed modifications decrease the area designated as Strategic Green Gap, this does not lead to full coalescence or significant negative impacts on the Kirk Hammerton or Green Hammerton Conservation Areas. The assessment also concluded that the proposed modifications do not change the previous SA's conclusions in relation to any of the other original SA objectives.

Consequently, I find that in overall terms the SA demonstrates that the Council has identified, described, and evaluated the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the DPD and considered reasonable alternatives taking into account its objectives and geographical scope. Whilst the conclusions and relationship to other parts of the evidence-base could have been clearer, the Council has nonetheless carried out an adequate SA of the Plan and reasonable alternatives have been considered to a sufficient degree."

Consultation responses and how they have been taken into account 4

- 4.1** Regulation 16 of the SEA Regulations requires that the SA Adoption Statement includes a description of how the opinions expressed by the public and consultation bodies during consultation on the plan and SA Report were taken into account.
- 4.2** As discussed in Chapter 2, SA Reports were published for consultation at key milestones in the Plan making process.
- 4.3** Consultation was carried out with:
- the three statutory bodies for SEA (the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England);
 - other key stakeholders; and
 - the general public.

Responses received at Regulation 18 and 19 stages

- 4.4** The responses received prior and subsequent to publication of the Maltkiln DPD have been presented in the New Settlement (Maltkiln) DPD Consultation Statement February 2024. This includes a description of the key consultation processes undertaken for the DPD, a summary of the main issues raised by responses and how they have been addressed. Key issues received on the SA, the Council's response and any action identified, are set out in the New Settlement (Maltkiln) DPD Sustainability Appraisal Submission Draft February 2024. Comments received included concerns that the Scoping Report and evidence base which the three options were appraised in the SA Report 2022 against was out of date. Comments from the prescribed consultees fed into the work on the monitoring framework.
- 4.5** In response the Council confirmed that the three concept options were appraised in support of an interim SA Report in 2020 (a voluntary stage of the SA process). The findings were reviewed and set out in the final SA Report in 2022, and that the SA is an iterative process and that scoping is an early stage to determine key issues and methods for appraisal.
- 4.6** Representations referring directly to the published SA documents were taken into account and informed subsequent stages of the SA process, and, as set out above, fed into further work on the monitoring framework.

Responses received at the Main Modifications stage

- 4.7** Representations on the SA received at the main modifications stage were sent directly to the Inspector for consideration. These raised concern over the assessment of the impact on Green Hammerton due to the reduction of the Green Gap and impact on landscape character and distinctive open views. Another comment raised concern that the Main Modifications SA relies on the 2022 Heritage Impact Assessment which referred to up to 3000 new homes, whereas DM4 of the Harrogate District Local Plan and the DPD refer to at least 3000 dwellings. These comments were sent directly to the Inspector.

5 Monitoring

- 5.1** The SEA Regulations require that: “*The responsible authority shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of each plan or programme with the purpose of identifying unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and being able to undertake appropriate remedial action*”.
- 5.2** The purpose of monitoring is to measure the significant sustainability effects of a plan, as well as to measure success against the plan’s objectives. This will enable appropriate interventions to be undertaken if monitoring highlights negative trends relating to the relevant elements identified in the SA Report. It is therefore beneficial if the monitoring strategy builds on monitoring systems which are already in place. To this end, many of the indicators of progress chosen for the SA are based on data that is already being routinely collected at a local level by North Yorkshire Council and its partner organisations.
- 5.3** The DPD under Policy NS1: Maltkiln New Settlement Allocation requires a detailed masterplan to be prepared for the whole site inline with Policy NS3: Master-Planning Design Principles with the other policies in the DPD developed to ensure the Objectives in the SA are met in full. Policy NS38: Infrastructure Delivery ensures that the infrastructure and mitigation measures necessary to support the delivery of the Maltkiln New Settlement allocation. The Objectives in the SA will therefore be an intrinsic part of the master-planning and delivery of Maltkiln with monitoring carried out and reported through the Council's Authority Monitoring Report of the DPD and Harrogate District Local Plan policies (or any subsequent development plan).
- 5.4** The table outlines a monitoring framework for measuring effects of the DPD against each of the SA Topics presented in the SA Report. This will ensure that any significant effects continue to be monitored over the plan period.
- 5.5** For completeness the DPD Monitoring Table is included within the Appendix. The Monitoring table for the Harrogate District Local Plan policies can be found in the Appendix of the adopted plan on the Council website www.northyorks.gov.uk searching Harrogate District Local Plan.

SA Topics	Proposed Monitoring Measures
Objective 1: To protect, conserve and enhance air quality Neutral effects	Policies within the DPD along with Harrogate District Local Plan Policy NE1: Air Quality require assessment and mitigation measures to be submitted for applications which create emissions of dust during demolition, earth moving and construction, where they would impact on air quality of protected sites and/or where development would create significant amounts of traffic. Objective 1 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.
Objective 2: Protect and enhance the function and connectivity of biodiversity habitats and species	Green Blue Infrastructure policies set out in Chapter 6 seek to protect and enhance the function and connectivity of biodiversity habitats and species.

Monitoring 5

SA Topics	Proposed Monitoring Measures
Potential minor negative effect	Objective 2 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Policies in the DPD seek to ensure proposals are supported by an acceptable green blue infrastructure strategy, require the delivery a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain, and provide recreational open space designed to mitigate additional recreational impact on Aubert Ings SSSI. The monitoring of these policies and any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.
Objective 3: Support the resilience of the Green Hammerton / Cattal area to flood risk Significant positive effects	Climate Change policies set out in Chapter 5 including Policy NS11: Flood Risk and Drainage sets out overarching requirements, to ensure that people and property are resilient to the impacts of flooding over the lifetime of the development through a strategy that avoids development on land at risk of flooding, and not increase flood risk elsewhere, using reasonable opportunities provided by development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding to support the resilience of the Green Hammerton / Cattal area to flood risk. Objective 3 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Policies in the DPD sets out overarching requirements and requires detailed site specific flood risk assessment, drainage strategy and mitigation measures in accordance with the masterplan. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.
Objective 4: Contribute to climate change mitigation Significant positive effects	Climate Change policies set out in Chapter 5 recognise that addressing climate change satisfactorily through the development of Maltkiln is a critical issue and will, therefore attach great importance to this when considering compliance with the climate change policies and climate change elements of other policies in the DPD. Objective 4 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent

5 Monitoring

SA Topics	Proposed Monitoring Measures
	development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Policies in the DPD require proposals to demonstrate how the new settlement supports delivery of net zero carbon by 2038 across all development phases and requiring the submission of a net zero carbon movement strategy. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.
Objective 5: Protect, enhance and manage the distinctive character and appearance of the historic environment Minor negative effects	It is recognised that the historic environment brings wide social, economic and environmental benefits to the district, Policy NS2: Strategic Green Gap seeks to protect the rural setting of Kirk Hammerton, Green Hammerton and their respective conservation areas, with the policies in Chapter 7 of the DPD identifying key heritage assets which are likely to be impacted by the development of Maltkiln. Detailed policies are proposed to conserve and enhance heritage assets, ensuring that design minimises impact to their setting and significance. Objective 5 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Policies in the DPD identify the designated heritage assets and non-designated heritage assets including the Scheduled Monument, Cattal Bridge which are likely to be impacted by the development of Maltkiln. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.
Objective 6: Ensure that development protects and complements important landscape features whilst retaining a rural character Minor negative effects	The Strategic Green Gap seeks to protect the landscape setting of the surrounding villages. The policies within the DPD requiring master-planning of the settlement help to mitigate harm. Objective 6 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Policies in the DPD require master planning to help protect landscape character and provide positive relationships with nearby villages. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.

Monitoring 5

SA Topics	Proposed Monitoring Measures
Objective 7: Minimise the avoidable loss of the most valuable soils and agricultural land Minor negative effects	Local Plan Policy NE8 requires the masterplanning of larger sites to be informed by agricultural land classifications surveys with the aim of minimising any loss, whilst the new settlement broadly overlaps with Grade 2 agricultural land, the DPD safeguards land to the east of the new settlement as a strategic green gap. Objective 7 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.
Objective 8: Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses, ground and surface water quality Minor positive effects	The policies within the DPD seek to protect and enhance the quality of watercourses, ground and surface water quality with the delivery of a green blue infrastructure strategy including SuDS, water ponds and bodies to manage any increased demand in a sustainable way. The DPD also explicitly requires, through policy, new development to exceed current standards with regard to water use/efficiency. Objective 8 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Policies in the DPD require master-planning and the submission of a green blue infrastructure strategy, to mitigate risks to the new settlement and protect water quality of the River Nidd, along with a biodiversity net gain strategy which provides an opportunity to help enhance the riparian habitat of on-site streams etc. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.
Objective 9: Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing which meets the needs of occupiers throughout their life Significant positive effects	Maltkiln is expected to deliver a wide mix of housing types and sizes, tenures and homes with potential for adaptation. With housing standards and delivery of affordable housing set out in the Harrogate District Local Plan (or subsequent development plans) and policies within the DPD. Objective 9 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within

5 Monitoring

SA Topics	Proposed Monitoring Measures
	the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Policies in the DPD require each phase or housing development to deliver a range of house types, tenure and sizes that reflect and respond to identified local housing needs, with the delivery of affordable housing, specialist housing and self-build and custom-build plots. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.
Objective 10: Protect and improve the health and wellbeing of residents by enhancing the quality and accessibility of open space, facilities for recreation and health Significant positive effect	Through the policies in the DPD Maltkiln seeks to secure the provision of new health, community and social infrastructure as well as a range of sport, recreational, open spaces, parks and green infrastructure. Objective 10 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Policies in the DPD require delivery of open space, leisure and green space close to peoples homes to help support and maintain health and wellbeing. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.
Objective 11: Reduce the need to travel and support modal shift to active and sustainable modes of travel such as walking, cycling and public transport Significant positive effect	The policies in the DPD require, as a minimum, appropriate public transport, a comprehensive network of walking and cycling routes suitable for micro-mobility and a connected network of green infrastructure, with a detailed masterplan to be produced which sets out key design principles which seek to reduce the need to travel and support modal shift to active and sustainable modes of travel. Objective 11 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Policies in the DPD require master-planning to ensure the delivery of walkable neighbourhoods and aid the modal shift to active and sustainable modes of travel. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.

Monitoring 5

SA Topics	Proposed Monitoring Measures
Objective 12: Support and maintain a strong and sustainable local economy Significant positive effect	The new settlement will require the re-location of the existing nursery business at Cattal and result in some loss in farming activity (from the change in land use). This will result in some effects on the existing rural economic activity, but this is not anticipated to be significant given the economic benefits of the new settlement in terms of wider employment opportunities. In addition, Maltkiln is required, at a minimum, to provide 5 hectares of employment land, with a broad range of uses provided within the local centre, helping to support and maintain a strong and sustainable local economy. Objective 12 will be considered as part of the master planning of the new settlement and consideration of any planning applications, the policies in the DPD along with those within the Harrogate District Local Plan or any subsequent development plan will inform the development of the new settlement. Any mitigation measures recommended would be monitored through the planning application process and inline with the Monitoring Table in the Appendix.

6 Conclusions

- 6.1 SA Adoption Statement demonstrates that a robust and iterative SA process has been progressed alongside plan-making, with appraisal findings feeding-in to decision-making at each stage. Any representations received were taken into account and informed subsequent stages of the SA process. The SA Report demonstrably complies with the SEA Regulations and is found to be adequate by the Inspectors.
- 6.2 In summary, the following reports were published as part of the SA process:
- Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report October 2020
 - Sustainability Report June 2020
 - Sustainability Report Submission Draft February 2024
 - Sustainability Report Main Modifications January 2025
- 6.3 Most importantly, in terms of compliance with both the SEA and Local Planning Regulations, the SA Report was published alongside the New Settlement (Maltkiln) DPD (Regulation 19 version) October 2022 presenting the required information. The report served to inform representations on the Plan, and then served to inform plan finalisation. The Inspector's Final Report (7 August 2025) discusses the SA process and concludes that in terms of legal compliance *"I find that in overall terms the SA demonstrates that the Council has identified, described, and evaluated the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the DPD and considered reasonable alternatives taking into account its objectives and geographical scope. Whilst the conclusions and relationship to other parts of the evidence-base could have been clearer, the Council has nonetheless carried out an adequate SA of the Plan and reasonable alternatives have been considered to a sufficient degree"*.
- 6.4 This SA/SEA Adoption Statement is the final step in the SA process.

