



Charnwood Borough Council

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report  
&  
Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening Report

Sileby Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Version

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March 2019

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report seeks to determine whether the Sileby Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects and will require a strategic environmental assessment (SEA). It will also assess the likelihood of the proposals within the Plan having an adverse impact upon internationally designated wildlife sites, as required by the European Habitats Directive.
- 1.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Assessment requirements are prescribed by the European Directive 2001/42/EC. The requirements have been introduced into the planning system by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations).
- 1.3 As regards the Habitats Regulations, Schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 requires, as a basic condition, that the making of a neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect upon a European site.

## 2. The Sileby Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.1 The Sileby Neighbourhood Plan 2018 – 2036 Pre-Submission Version has been produced by the Neighbourhood Planning Advisory Committee for pre-submission consultation. The advisory committee comprises parish councillors and a number of volunteers from the community. The Parish Council appointed Neighbourhood Plan Consultants 'Yourlocale' to advise and assist the Advisory Committee.
- 2.2 The entire parish of Sileby was designated as the neighbourhood area to be covered by the plan on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017. An initial public consultation day was held during September 2017 which identified which aspects of life in the village were important and highly valued, and which, if any, needed change. A series of display boards and large-scale village maps were set out in the hall with each focusing on a topic relating to planning and development. A total of 147 people attended the event and many comments were recorded. A logo competition amongst local school children was judged at the event and a logo chosen which features in the neighbourhood plan. A comprehensive questionnaire was produced in late 2017 to obtain further information from the community. Consultation events were held with young people in the community and theme groups were established to gather evidence and formulate draft policy ideas. These groups and the Advisory Committee met regularly reporting back to the Parish Council.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018, an open event was held in the Parish Hall to allow parishioners to view draft policy statements. A total of 107 people attended the session and a further 65 people completed an online survey.

- 2.3 The responses received from these consultations have been used to determine the emerging vision and objectives which have formed the basis of the draft plan. The vision for the Neighbourhood Plan is:

*Our vision:*

*Sees Sileby as a village where people of all ages and backgrounds are proud and happy to live, work and relax.*

- It will provide strong support, facilities and housing for all, from the young to the very old.*
- Public infrastructure (education, health and care facilities) will be excellent, fit for purpose for today and flexible for the needs of the future.*
- High added value commercial activities will be incorporated into development where appropriate.*

*Sees movement between different parts of the village as being easy on foot, cycle, public transport, (car if necessary) and safe at all times of the day and night.*

- Traffic will by-pass the village leaving streets free for local traffic with adequate public parking. The need for cars will be reduced by better public transport and by better connected footpaths.*

*Sees the use of the many sports and recreation facilities being more integrated. The Park and its building will be redesigned to offer more flexibility and to facilitate inter-connection between social groups and societies.*

*Sees the village increase its environmental and sustainability offering, with tree and shrub planting, the brook widened and organised as an attractive and beneficial watercourse to enhance the natural environment and wildlife habitats.*

- Electric vehicle charging will be embedded into highway developments and opportunities for energy self-sufficiency utilised.*

*Sees us shaping further employment and residential development to meet the changing needs of our community, integrating carefully and sympathetically with the facilities of the village.*

- Homes will include a mix of design features including contemporary and traditional, adding to the village's vibrancy and community focus and including a mix of housing for young, elderly and infirm.*

2.4 To help deliver this vision, a number of objectives were identified to provide a framework for the policies contained in the plan. The principle objectives of the Plan are:

- To provide a balanced range of housing choices which meet the diverse needs of all generations, by increasing the supply of smaller homes and homes for elderly 'down-sizers';*
- To encourage high-quality design reflecting the rural character of the village;*

- To protect and improve the provision of current facilities and assets which contribute to a vibrant community spirit (e.g. Village Hall, Pub, Cricket Pitch, Churches);
- To promote the development of new community facilities which enhance and enrich community life;
- To safeguard the most valued and 'special' open spaces in the parish from inappropriate development;
- To enhance the biodiversity characteristics of the parish;
- To promote development that is safe and that respects the character of neighbouring properties and preserves the rural aspect of the village providing a strong 'sense of place';
- To ensure that the village is at the forefront of technological advancements that will support village employment opportunities;
- To ensure that all listed buildings and any identified community or environmental heritage 'assets' are protected and improved;
- Ensure development is compliant within the National Planning Policy Framework and the local plan and target growth identified by Charnwood Borough Council.

The Plan will be kept under review. It incorporates Planning Policies and Community Actions, which are not policies and will not be subject to examination but represent actions to be taken by the Parish Council/ another delivery organisation in support of the Neighbourhood Plan policies.

2.5 To achieve the above objectives, the Neighbourhood Plan contains a series of specific policies and proposals maps. The policies which have been included in the plan to address these areas are:

**POLICY G1: Limits to development** - Development proposals within the Neighbourhood Plan area will be supported on sites within the settlement boundary as shown in Figure 2 (below) where the proposal complies with the policies in this Neighbourhood Plan.

Land outside the defined Limits to Development will be treated as open countryside, where development will be carefully controlled in line with local and national strategic planning policies.

Appropriate development in the countryside includes:

- a) For the purposes of agriculture – including farm diversification and other land-based rural businesses;
- b) For the provision of affordable housing through a rural exception site, where local need has been identified;

c) For the provision of a formal recreation or sport use or for rural tourism that respects the character of the countryside.

**POLICY G2: Design** - This policy will apply to all new commercial and residential developments, including one or more houses, extensions and replacement dwellings. The following criteria should be met:

a) New development should enhance and reinforce the local distinctiveness and character of the area in which it is situated, particularly within the Conservation Area, and proposals should clearly show within a Design and Access Statement how the general character, scale, mass, density and layout of the site is sympathetic to any neighbouring properties and the surrounding area. The development should not have any adverse effect on the visual amenities of the street scene nor wider rural landscape views;

b) Design principles that apply to the Conservation Area should be applied where development is adjacent to the Conservation Area to help ensure a controlled transition between the Conservation Area and new development outside the Conservation Area

c) New residential development shall include a minimum of two off-street car parking spaces for 1 or 2 bedrooled dwellings; three for three-bedrooms and four for 4+ bedrooled properties. Extensions should not result in the loss of parking spaces below the minimum level.

d) All new housing should continue to reflect the character and historic context of existing properties and developments within the Parish and incorporate a diversity of quality materials. Design will be encouraged and supported where improvement can be demonstrably evidenced without detracting from the surrounding historic context;

e) Development should be enhanced by a focus on biodiversity and landscaping with as much preservation as possible of existing trees, hedges and wildlife habitats. In particular developments should where practicable:

a. Provide roof and wall constructions that follow technical best practice recommendations for integral bird nest boxes and bat breeding and roosting sites;

b. Provide hedges or fences with ground level gaps for property boundaries that maintain connectivity of habitat for hedgehogs;

c. Ensure that any intruder switched security lighting is not constantly switched on and that any other site or sports facility lighting meets the best practice guidelines in Bats and Lighting (ref LREC 2014);

f) Development should incorporate sustainable design and construction techniques to meet high standards for energy and water efficiency. Dwellings should be built with rainwater recycling to both front and rear of property. Property frontages must also have either lawns or gardens to avoid water run-off from hard standing;

- g) Development should incorporate sustainable drainage systems with maintenance regimes to minimise the risk of flooding and the effects of climate change;
- h) Development should ensure the appropriate provision for the storage of household waste and any recyclable materials;
- i) With the development of Hybrid and electric vehicles all properties should have located at the front of the property, or within allocated car parking, Electric charging points.

**POLICY H1: Reserve Sites** – Further allocations will be considered for residential development on the following sites (see figure 4): The Oaks, Ratcliffe Road (Site 10 for around 11 dwellings); 36 Charles St (Site 11 for around 11 units); Rear of 107 Cossington Road (Site 12 for around 18 units); Barrow Road (Site 13 for around 12 units); factory – corner of Park and Seagrave Road (Site 21 for around 11 units); 9, King Street (Site 22 for around 14 units) if:

- a) It is required to remediate a substantial shortfall in the supply of housing land due to the failure of existing housing sites in Sileby to deliver the anticipated scale of development required; or
- b) It becomes necessary to provide for additional homes in the Parish in accordance with any new development plan document that replaces the Charnwood Local Plan.

**POLICY H2: Windfall Development** - Small residential development proposals of up to 5 units on infill and redevelopment sites will be supported subject to proposals being well designed and meeting all relevant requirements set out in other policies in this Plan and Borough-wide planning policies and where such development:

- a) Comprises a restricted gap in the continuity of existing frontage buildings or on other sites within the built-up area of Sileby or where the site is closely surrounded by existing buildings;
- b) Is within the Limits to Development;
- c) Respects the shape and form of Sileby in order to maintain its distinctive character and enhance it where possible;
- d) Retains existing important natural boundaries such as trees, hedges and streams;
- e) Does not reduce garden space to an extent where it adversely impacts on the character of the area, or the amenity of neighbours and the existing and future occupiers of the dwelling (s); and
- f) Does not result in an unacceptable loss of amenity for neighbouring occupiers by reason of loss of privacy, loss of daylight, visual intrusion or noise in line with Charnwood Borough Council Planning Guidance.

**POLICY H3: Housing mix** - In order to meet the future needs of the residents of the Plan area, new housing development proposals should:

- a) Provide a range of housing suited to local need and appropriate to their location;
- b) Ensure that at least 60% of new market housing in developments of 5 dwellings or more comprise 2 and/or 3-bedroom dwellings to redress the shortfall of smaller houses available locally;
- c) Provide a balance of accommodation, including bungalows, which meets the needs of people of all ages, including older people, subject to monitoring and review; and
- d) Be constructed to a minimum space standard of building regulations 2015 M2 – “accessible housing” whilst a minimum of 4% of new housing will be built to a minimum space standard of building regulations 2015 M3 – “wheelchair housing”.

**POLICY H4: Affordable housing** - To meet identified needs within the community at least 30% of all new housing developments of 11 units or more will be high quality affordable housing. The provision of affordable housing through Starter Homes (around 30%) or Shared Ownership schemes (around 30%) will be particularly supported subject to a registered provider being prepared to deliver the units, as there is an under provision of owner-occupied housing in the Parish.

The affordable housing stock should be made available as an integral part of the development, should be visually indistinguishable from the equivalent market housing on the site and should be provided as individual units dispersed throughout the development, subject to a registered provider being prepared to deliver the units if applicable.

All affordable housing will be subject to conditions, or a planning obligation will be sought, to ensure that when homes are allocated, priority is given to people with a local connection to Sileby Parish (i.e. including living, working or with close family ties in the Parish).

The achievement of Lifetime Homes Standards for affordable housing will be supported.

**POLICY ENV 1: PROTECTION OF LOCAL GREEN SPACE** – The sites listed below and shown in figure 7 above are designated as Local Green Spaces, where development will only be supported in very special circumstances, unless it is consistent with the function of the Local Green Space.

- St Mary’s churchyard
- Memorial Park

**POLICY ENV 2: PROTECTION OF SITES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE** – The sites listed and mapped (figures 8.1, 8.2) are identified as being of local (or higher) significance for their natural and/or historical environment features. They are ecologically important in their own right, their historical features are extant and have visible expression, and they are locally valued.

Development proposals which would destroy or harm the species, habitats or features occurring on these sites should not be approved other than in exceptional circumstances.

**POLICY ENV 3: IMPORTANT OPEN SPACES** – The following sites (listed below and mapped in Fig. 9 and detailed in Appendix 4) are of high value for sport, recreation, amenity, tranquillity or as green spaces within the built-up area. Development proposals that result in their loss, or have a significant adverse effect on them, will not be supported unless the open space is replaced by equivalent or better provision in an equally suitable location, or unless it can be demonstrated to the Parish Council that the open space or is no longer required by the community.

- St Mary's churchyard
- Memorial Park (CBC OSSR)
- Colliingwood Drive open space (CBC OSSR)
- Dudley Bridge to Brook Street open space
- Memorial Park extension to Highgate Road (south of brook) (CBC OSSR)
- Memorial Park extension (Sibley Brook flood management area) (CBC OSSR)
- Harlequin Dive / Melody Drive open space (off Cossington Road)
- Flaxland Crescent open space
- Brook Street to The Banks open space
- Quaker Road open space (Chalfont Drive /Wallace Drive)
- Cossington Road open space (99-121 Cossington Road)
- Cricket Ground and pavilions (CBC OSSR)

**POLICY ENV 4: BUILT ENVIRONMENT: NON-DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS**  
– The structures and buildings listed here (figure 10, above) are non-designated local heritage assets. They are important for their contribution to the layout and characteristic mix of architectural styles in the village, and their features and settings will be protected wherever possible. The benefits of a development proposal, or of a change of land use requiring planning approval, will need to be balanced against their significance as heritage assets.

1. Site of former non-conformist chapel, Mountsorrel Lane
2. Barrow Road façade
3. The Banks
4. Underhill, Barrow Road
5. Chine House at Sibley Hall, 12 Cossington Road
6. The Angel Yard, Little Church Lane
7. Ladkins chimney, Seagrave Road
8. Workshop/factory at rear of 100 King Street
9. Goose Green farmhouse, 69 Barrow Road
10. Former Bellringers' Arms public house
11. Brook Street
11. Sibley Mill
12. Community Centre, High Street
13. General Baptist Chapel, Cossington Road
14. Back Lane bridge
15. Brook Street bridge
16. King Street bridge

17. Underhill bridge
18. Old hosiery factory, Barrow Road
19. Sileby Primitive Methodist Chapel, King Street
20. Methodist Chapel Sunday School, Swan Street

**POLICY ENV 5: RIDGE AND FURROW** - The areas of ridge and furrow earthworks mapped above (Figure 12) are local non-designated *heritage assets*.

Any loss or damage arising from a development proposal (or a change of land use requiring planning permission) is to be avoided; the benefits of such development must be balanced against the significance of the ridge and furrow features as heritage assets.

**POLICY ENV 6: BIODIVERSITY, HEDGES AND HABITAT CONNECTIVITY** – Development proposals will be expected to safeguard locally significant habitats and species, especially those protected by relevant English and European legislation, and, where possible, to create new habitats for wildlife.

Development proposals that damage or result in the loss of the identified hedges of historical and ecological significance and amenity value (Figure. 13) will be resisted. Proposals should be designed to retain and manage such hedges where possible.

Development proposals should not damage the features of, or adversely affect the habitat connectivity provided by, the wildlife corridor identified on the map below.

**POLICY ENV 7: PROTECTION OF IMPORTANT VIEWS** – Development that adversely impacts on the identified locally important and valued views will not be supported other than in exceptional circumstances.

**POLICY ENV 8: BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION IN NEW DEVELOPMENT** – Proposals for new development (two or more houses) should incorporate measures for the protection and enhancement of local biodiversity, as follows:

- Roof and wall construction should follow current technical best-practice recommendations for integral bird nest boxes and bat breeding and roosting sites
- Hedges (or fences with ground-level gaps) should be used for property boundaries to maintain connectivity of habitat for hedgehogs
- Security lighting should be operated by intruder switching, not on constantly. Site and sports facility lighting should be switched off during 'curfew' hours between March and October, following best practice guidelines in *Bats and Lighting* (Leicestershire & Rutland Environmental Record Centre 2014). Maximum light spillage onto bat foraging corridors should be 1 lux.
- Existing trees and hedges of ecological or arboricultural value on and immediately adjacent to new development sites should be retained and protected whenever possible. Where this is demonstrably not practicable, the developer should be responsible for arranging new plantings on a one-for-one (or better) ratio, using native species, either on site or elsewhere in suitable locations in the Plan Area.

- Sustainable Drainage and landscaping schemes should be designed to incorporate measures for habitat creation and biodiversity enhancement and should include a resourced management plan to maintain the designed biodiversity value of these features.

**COMMUNITY ACTION ENV 1: BIODIVERSITY** – The Parish Council/another delivery organisation in conjunction with other bodies will maintain the environmental inventory list of known sites of biodiversity interest prepared for this Plan.

The Parish Council/another delivery organisation will work with community groups, landowners, funding bodies and other organisations to enhance the biodiversity of the Parish by creating and/or managing habitat sites (e.g. wildflower meadows, woodland, wetland) on suitable parcels of land, and particularly to:

- Increase the quantity of suitable breeding and terrestrial habitat for great crested newts in the western part of the parish.
- Increase woodland cover in the eastern part of the parish.
- Create, improve and manage habitats adjacent to existing watercourses and local wildlife sites.

**POLICY ENV 9: FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS** - Development proposals that result in the loss of, or have a significant adverse effect on, the existing network of footpaths and bridleways will not be supported. Development proposals that include diversion of a footpath or other pedestrian right of way should recreate its previous character (e.g. historic village footway ('jitty'), green lane) by the use of appropriate materials, landscaping and

**POLICY ENV 10: MANAGING FLOOD RISK:** All development in the Plan Area will be required to demonstrate that:

- The risks of all types of flooding have been considered and quantified
- For the lifetime of the development the development itself and its occupants are safe from the effects of flooding
- It does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere
- Its design includes, as appropriate, sustainable drainage systems (SUDS)

The role of climate change in increasing or altering flood risk (location and intensity) during the lifetime of developments in Sibleby will be taken into account in developers' responses to the above conditions.

**POLICY ENV 11: RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION INFRASTRUCTURE**

a) Renewable energy generation infrastructure will be supported if the proposal can demonstrate that it:

- I. will not have an adverse impact (including, *inter alia*, noise, visual impact, reflections, glare, shadow flicker, water pollution, smell, air quality, gaseous or particulate emissions) on the health, wellbeing or amenities of residents and visitors

- II. will not have an adverse impact on the area in relation to views or the character of the surrounding landscape
- III. will not have an adverse effect on biodiversity (species and habitat sites, as in Policy ENV 8)
- IV. will not have an adverse effect on statutory or significant historic environment sites, non-designated heritage assets or ridge and furrow (Policies ENV 2, 4 and 5)
- V. will be of an appropriate scale for the size, character and level of other facilities, the built environment and services in the three villages
- VI. will be supported by appropriate and relevant assessments and documentation in respect of, *inter alia*, transport, heritage, archaeology, landscape impact, environmental impact, flood impact, ecological mitigation, arboriculture (impact and method) and tree protection.

b) Wind turbine development proposals will only be supported if:

- I. Turbine tip height is less than 25 metres
- II. The proposal is for no more than one turbine

c) Further large-scale solar energy generation development proposals will be supported if:

- I. The ground area covered by panels does not exceed 625m<sup>2</sup> (25mx25m)
- II. The panel array is not visible from any valued and accessible viewpoint (see Policy ENV 7), or from any private or residential property
- III. Reflection (glare) is not evident from any viewpoint

d) Small-scale, local resident, business, amenity or community-initiated, solar and wind generation infrastructure will be supported, subject to the conditions in paragraphs 1 to 3 above.

**POLICY CF1: Retention of Community Facilities and Amenities** - Development leading to the loss of an existing community facility or which detrimentally impacts on an existing community facility in such a way that it loses amenity value including primary schools, the community centre, allotments, the library etc will not be supported unless it can be demonstrated that:

- a) There is no longer any need or demand for the existing community facility; or
- b) The existing community facility is no longer economically viable; or
- c) The proposal makes alternative provision for the relocation and wherever possible, enhancement of the existing community facility to an equally or more appropriate and accessible location within the village which complies with the other general policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

**POLICY CF 2: New and Improved Community Facilities** - Proposals that improve the quality and range of community facilities will be supported where the development:

- a) Meets the design criteria in policy G2;
- b) Will not result in unacceptable traffic movements that generate increased levels of noise, fumes, smell or other harmful disturbance to residential properties
- c) Will not generate a need for additional parking which cannot be catered for within the curtilage of the property;
- d) Is of a scale appropriate to the needs of the locality and conveniently accessible for residents of the village wishing to walk or cycle;
- e) Takes into account the needs of people living with both physical and mental disability. This includes people living with Dementia and will incorporate, where possible, the principles advised by both the Alzheimer's Society's Dementia friendly communities charters and the Local Government Association guidance for Councils.

**Community Action CF 1** – The Parish Council/another delivery organisation will use the findings from the Village Needs Assessment for Community and Sports Facilities to negotiate with key stakeholders including CBC, Sport England and Parishioners to consider ways to address any shortcomings that are identified.

**POLICY CF 3: Assets of Community Value** - Development that would result in the loss of or has a significant adverse effect on a designated asset of community value will not be permitted unless in special circumstances, such as the asset is replaced by an equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in an equally suitable location or it can be clearly demonstrated that it is not viable or is no longer needed.

**POLICY CF 4: Schools** - Proposals for the expansion of existing schools in the village are supported here it can be demonstrated that:

- a) Expansion would not exacerbate existing access-related or traffic circulation problems, or that suitable mitigation measures are brought forward as part of the proposal;
- b) There is no loss of land already used for recreation by the schools, and
- c) The development would not result in a significant loss of amenity to residents or other adjacent users.

Proposals for the creation of a new school would be supported where it can be demonstrated that the development:

- a) Would be safely accessible for pedestrians and cyclists, and is well related to bus routes and/or there is adequate provision for waiting school buses to park;
- b) Has appropriate vehicular access, and does not adversely impact upon traffic circulation; and
- c) Would not result in a significant loss of open space, amenity to residents or other adjacent users.

The use of a Community Use Agreement will be required to prevent facilities being underused and to help ensure a viable and sustainable business model over the longer term.

**Community Action CF 2:** The Parish Council/another delivery organisation will continue the dialogue with both schools to discuss what facilities that they are able to accommodate if the village is identified to be lacking certain facilities or services from feedback on the Village needs appraisal.

**POLICY CF 5: Health and Wellbeing** - Proposals for additional GP premises that increase the accessibility of health and wellbeing services for residents living in Sileby will be supported providing that the development:

- a) Will not result in unacceptable traffic movements, noise, fumes, smell or other disturbance to residential properties, and
- b) Will include adequate parking provision.

**Community Action CF 3:** Discussions with CBC & CCG around brand-new medical centre to provide more preventative services locally, due to restrictions on current medical centres ability to increase capacity. (See supporting information).

The Parish Council/another delivery organisation will continue the dialogue with the existing Medical Centres to ensure Sileby residents have access to 'Care Closer to Home' (reference: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/moving-healthcare-closer-to-home>) and provide more high quality services within their current infrastructure.

The Parish Council/another delivery organisation will arrange meetings with Key Stakeholders to propose and agree potential solutions for the lack of flexibility the current infrastructure has and its impact on providing high quality of healthcare services for the next 70 years.

The Parish Council/another delivery organisation will meet with the Pharmacy providers within the village to discuss service provision matters identified by residents with a view to improving existing services including technological advances to meet future demands.

**Policy CF6: Parks and Play Areas** - Where recreational provision is required as part of a new development the enhancement of existing play provision, including equipment for a wide range of users, is supported in preference to the creation of new small play areas.

**Community Action CF 4:** The Parish Council/another delivery organisation will task the Parks working group to seek support towards utilising the full potential of the Sileby's Parks for the benefit of all demographics.

**POLICY CF 7: Noisy Sports** - Proposals for the permanent use of land for noisy sport will be supported provided that:

- a) Their noise impact on noise sensitive development or areas valued for their tranquility can be adequately mitigated through a scheme of noise mitigation measures;
- b) They would not result in excessive noise levels at the boundaries of noise sensitive development;

**Policy T1: Public Car Parking** - The extension and improvement of existing off-street car parks to provide additional spaces and cycle parking to serve the Village Centre will be supported. The loss of Village Centre car parking will not be supported unless it is replaced by equivalent or better car parking provision in terms of quality, quantity and location.

New developments within the limits to development are to incorporate additional car parking spaces in accordance with the LCC Highways standards for residential and commercial development.

Improved on-street parking schemes, such as along Cossington Road, Barrow Road, Seagrave Road, Ratcliffe Road and Mountsorrel Lane, linking the village centre and the central link roads, will be supported where they improve the efficiency of operation and capacity of the Sileby road network

**POLICY T 2: Road Network** - Development proposals will not be supported if there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety or if the cumulative impact of additional traffic on the local highway network is severe, unless appropriate mitigation measures are undertaken that contribute to off-site improvements to the highway network to mitigate the effects of increased traffic from the new development.

**POLICY T3: Sileby Railway Station** - An upgrade of the Midland Main Line and improvements to off-street car parking, access and facilities at Sileby Railway Station is supported.

**POLICY T 4: Bus Transport** – All development proposals, where appropriate, shall have layouts that provide safe and convenient routes for walking and cycling and access to public transport that connect to other developments and to key destinations such as the village centre, GP surgery and schools.

**POLICY T 5: Walking and Cycling** - New development should retain, and where appropriate incorporate, linkages to the Public Rights of Way network and key destinations such as the town centre, GP Surgeries, leisure facilities and neighbouring villages.

**POLICY T 6: Canal** - Development proposals affecting the biodiversity, historic heritage or setting of the canal will be required to protect or enhance those features. Developers will be required to support the objectives of the river Soar & Grand Union Canal Strategy and any related community initiatives.

**POLICY E 1: EMPLOYMENT** - Development proposals for new small-scale employment related development or the expansion of existing employment uses will

be supported where it can be demonstrated that it will not generate unacceptable impacts (including noise, fumes, smell and vehicular movements); they respect and are compatible with the local character and surrounding uses and where appropriate protect residential amenity.

Development proposals that result in the loss of, or have a significant adverse effect on, an existing employment use will not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that the site or building is not viable for employment uses and has been marketed for at least a year.

**POLICY E 2: Farm Diversification** - The re-use, conversion and adaptation of rural buildings and well-designed new buildings for commercial use will be supported where it:

- a) The use proposed is appropriate to the rural location and respects the local character of the surrounding area;
- b) The development will not have an adverse impact on any archaeological, architectural, historic or environmental features;
- c) The local road system is capable of accommodating the traffic generated by the proposed new use and adequate parking can be accommodated within the site;
- d) There is no significant adverse impact on neighbours – e.g. through noise, light or other pollution, increased traffic levels or flood risk.

**POLICY E 3:** Proposals for the use of part of a dwelling for office and/or light industrial uses, and for small-scale free-standing buildings within its curtilage, extensions to the dwelling or conversion of outbuildings for those uses, will be supported where:

- a) Such development will not result in unacceptable traffic movements and that appropriate parking provision is made;
- b) No significant and adverse impact arises to nearby residents or other sensitive land uses from noise, fumes, light pollution, or other nuisance associated with the work activity;
- c) Any extension or free-standing building shall be designed having regard to policies in this Plan and should not detract from the quality and character of the building to which they are subservient by reason of height, scale, massing, location or the facing materials used in their construction.

**POLICY E 4:** Proposals to provide access to a super-fast broadband service for new development (of at least 30mbps) and to improve the mobile telecommunication network that will serve businesses and other properties within the Parish will be supported. This may require above ground network installations, which must be sympathetically located and designed to integrate into the landscape and not be located in or near to open landscapes.

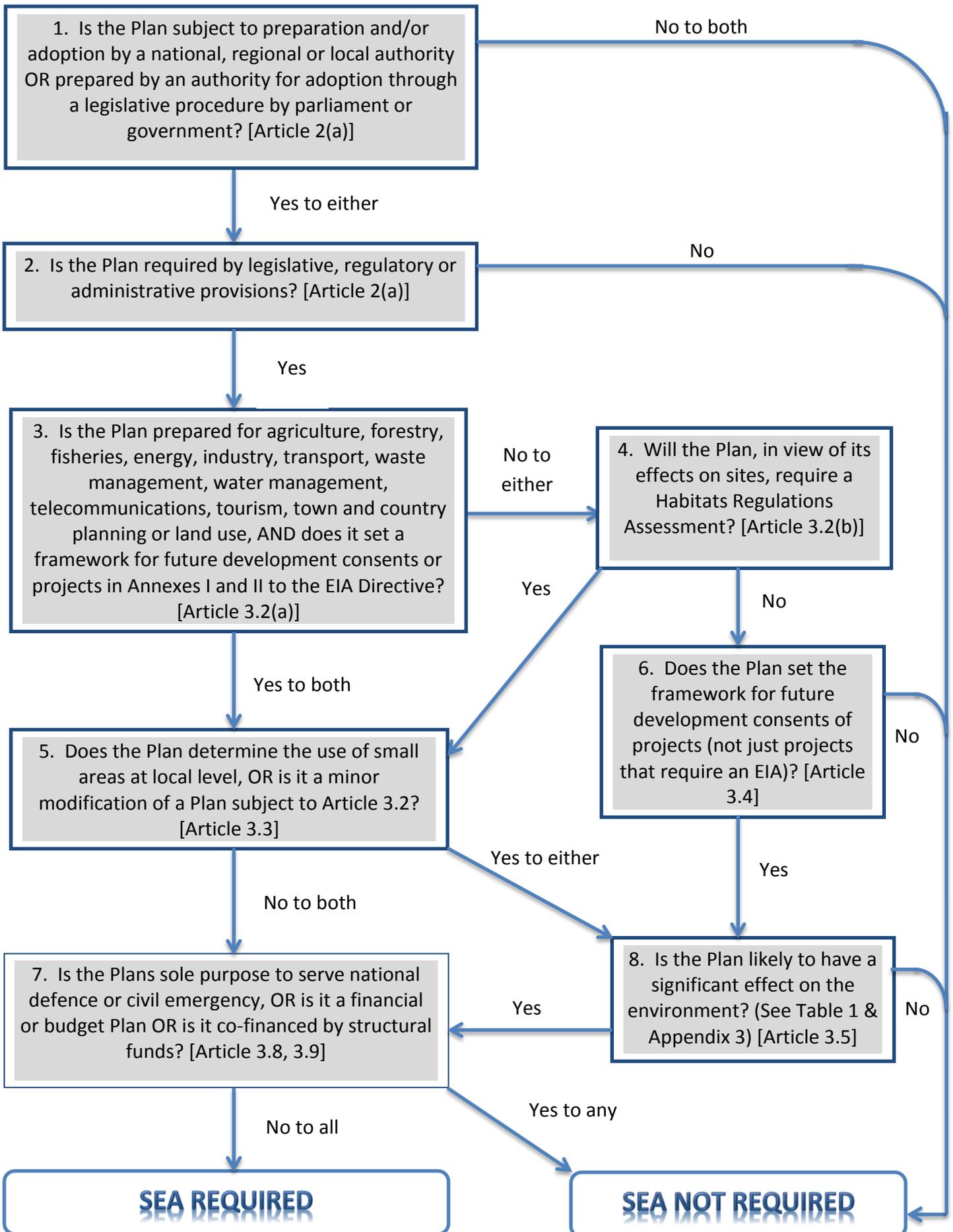
**POLICY E 5: Tourism and visitor economy** - Development proposals will be supported where they do not have adverse residential or visual amenity impacts. The loss of tourism and leisure facilities will not be supported unless they are no longer viable or alternative provision is made available.

### 3. Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.1. The SEA Directive aims to ensure a high level of protection for the environment and to integrate environmental considerations into the preparation of plans. The Directive seeks to promote sustainable development by ensuring that an SEA is undertaken for any plans which may have a significant effect on the environment.
- 3.2 To establish if a plan needs to be accompanied by a full SEA, a “screening” assessment is undertaken against a series of criteria set out in the SEA Directive. Figure 1 which follows, shows this screening process and how a plan can be assessed against the SEA Directive criteria.

**Figure 1**

Application of criteria of the SEA Directive to Plans



3.3 The assessment provided in Table 1, below, has provided answers to the questions posed in the flow diagram in Figure 1. If the steps shown in Figure 1 are followed then the requirement for an SEA can be determined.

**Table 1**  
Assessment of the characteristics of the Quorn Neighbourhood Plan

	Assessment Criteria	Y/N	Assessment
1	Is the Neighbourhood Plan subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a))	Y	The preparation and adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan is provided for by The Town and Country Planning Act 1990, (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017. The Neighbourhood Plan will be prepared by Sileby Parish Council (as the relevant body) and will be made by Charnwood Borough Council as the local authority. The preparation of Neighbourhood Plans is subject to the following regulations: i. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, and, ii. The Neighbourhood Planning (referendums) Regulations 2012.
2	Is the Neighbourhood Plan required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))	Y	The Neighbourhood Plan is optional under the provisions of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Localism Act 2011; however, if “made” it will form part of the development plan for the Borough and must meet statutory requirements. Therefore, it is important that the screening process considers whether the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects and thus if an SEA is required under the Directive. On that basis, a Yes answer is provided to the question.
3	Is the Neighbourhood Plan prepared for agriculture,	Y	The Neighbourhood Plan is prepared for town planning and

	Assessment Criteria	Y/N	Assessment
	forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, <b>AND</b> does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II (see Appendix 1) to the EIA Directive? (Art. 3.2(a))		<p>could potentially set the framework for future development consent of projects in the EIA Directive, notably through the location of housing and employment which may fall under 10(b) of Annex II of the Directive. (See Appendix 1).</p> <p>A definition of what is covered by the term 'urban development' is provided in <a href="#">planning practice guidance</a>.</p>
4	Will the Neighbourhood Plan, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Art 3.2(a))	N	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have a significant effect upon any European (Natura 2000) site. A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report was undertaken as part of the Charnwood Local Plan 2011 to 2028 Core Strategy preparation process. The final report, published in March 2013, concluded that the Core Strategy <i>"is not likely to have a significant effect upon any European site, including River Mease SAC and Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, and therefore an Appropriate Assessment is not required."</i></p> <p>Charnwood Borough does not have any European sites within its boundaries; however, two sites are examined further in the Screening Report. The River Mease SAC lies to the west of the Borough and the Rutland Water SPA and Ramsar site lies to the east.</p> <p>The HRA Screening Report found the Core Strategy unlikely to have a significant effect upon these</p>

	Assessment Criteria	Y/N	Assessment
			<p>sites due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) A lack of pathway for effects arising from development in Charnwood to reach and affect the River Mease SAC; and</li> <li>ii) The level of management measures implemented by Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust in partnership with Anglian Water for the Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar site.</li> </ul> <p>The HRA Screening Report concluded that the Core Strategy is not likely to have a significant effect upon any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.</p> <p>It is considered that the Neighbourhood Plan would not affect any European site, including the two identified, beyond those impacts already identified in the HRA Screening Report undertaken in 2013 for the Core Strategy. Therefore, it is considered that an Appropriate Assessment is not required.</p> <p>The Charnwood Core Strategy Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report can be viewed at Appendix 2.</p>
5	Does the Neighbourhood Plan determine the use of small areas at local level, <b>OR</b> is it a minor modification of a Plan subject to Art. 3.2? (Art. 3.3)	Y	The Neighbourhood Plan involves the determination of the use of small sites at a local level.
6	Does the Neighbourhood Plan set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just in	Y	The Neighbourhood Plan will be used in the determination of planning applications.

	Assessment Criteria	Y/N	Assessment
	annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art. 3.4)		
7	Is the Neighbourhood Plan's sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, <b>OR</b> is it a financial or budget Plan OR is it co-financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art. 3.8, 3.9)	N	The Neighbourhood Plan does not have a sole purpose which falls within any of these categories.
8	Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	N	<p>The Sileby Neighbourhood Plan will cover a relatively self-contained area.</p> <p>The plan makes provision for 6 reserve housing sites. Appendix 3(d) 'Site Selection Process' sets out the site selection process for the allocation of land for housing development. This is done using 28 scoring criteria in a Sustainable Site Assessment Scoring matrix. A total of 22 sites were considered. This has ensured that the most appropriate sites in environmental and sustainability terms are prioritised as reserve housing sites.</p> <p>No ecological concerns have been identified from the local scale of development; therefore, it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental effects arising.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan offers an opportunity to protect and enhance the natural environment and heritage assets within the area through the policies it contains.</p> <p>See more detailed Assessment of Significance of Effects on the Environment in Appendix 3.</p>

3.4 Following the flow diagram in Figure 1, with the responses to the questions outlined in Table 1 results in the screening decision that an SEA is not necessary in this instance. The answers and subsequent following question are as follows:

1: Yes → 2: Yes → 3: Yes → 5: Yes → 8: No → SEA Not Required

Question 4, 6 and 7 are missed as the response given in the previous question does not trigger a requirement to answer them. Whilst, for the purposes of the flow chart, they are avoided, answers have been given in Table 1 as this is helpful in providing context for the decision making process. As a result of the assessment above, our initial view is that it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the Sileby Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Version.

3.5 The environmental assessment consultation bodies (Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency) will now be consulted on this Screening Report and the responses to this consultation will be made available. Once responses have been received from this consultation, a formal determination will be made as to whether a full environmental assessment is required. This determination will be accompanied by a statement of reasons.

#### 4. Habitats Regulations Assessment

4.1 Alongside the SEA screening process there is also a need to assess whether the Neighbourhood Plan would have an adverse impact upon internationally designated wildlife sites, as required by the European Habitats Directive.

4.2 The Charnwood Local Plan 2011 to 2028 Core Strategy was accompanied by a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report to examine whether the plan would have a significant effect upon any European (Natura 2000) site. The final report, published in March 2013, concluded that the Core Strategy “*is not likely to have a significant effect upon any European site, including River Mease SAC and Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, and therefore an Appropriate Assessment is not required.*”

4.3 There are no European sites within the boundaries of Charnwood Borough; however, the Screening Report did examine the River Mease SAC, which lies to the west of the Borough, and the Rutland Water SPA and Ramsar site, which lies to the east.

4.4 The HRA Screening Report considered that the Core Strategy would be unlikely to have a significant effect upon these sites due to:

- i) A lack of pathway for effects arising from development in Charnwood to reach and affect the River Mease SAC; and

ii) The level of management measures implemented by Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust in partnership with Anglian Water for the Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar site.

4.5 The HRA Screening Report concluded that, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, the Core Strategy is not likely to have a significant effect upon any European site.

4.6 The Neighbourhood Plan is required to be in conformity with the Core Strategy. Given this requirement and the limited scale of development proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan, it is not considered that the Neighbourhood Plan will further affect any European site in addition to the impacts identified in the HRA Screening Report undertaken in 2013 for the Core Strategy. Therefore, it is considered that an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

4.7 The Charnwood Core Strategy Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report can be viewed as Appendix 2.

## 5. Conclusion

5.1 The Sileby Neighbourhood Plan has been considered against the European requirements for both environmental and habitat assessments as is required by the relevant legislation.

5.2 The Strategic Environmental Assessment screening process will determine whether there is likely (or not) to be any significant environmental effects arising from the Sileby Neighbourhood Plan 2018 – 2036 Pre-Submission Version. Once the consultation bodies have been formally consulted, a determination will then be made as to whether a full SEA will need to be undertaken.

5.3 An HRA Screening Report was undertaken for the Charnwood Local Plan 2011 to 2028 Core Strategy which concluded that, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects; it would not be likely to have a significant effect upon any European site. As the scale of development proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan is small scale, it is not considered that there will be any further affect upon any European site; therefore, it is considered that an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

# Appendix 1

## Annex I Projects

1. Crude-oil refineries (excluding undertakings manufacturing only lubricants from crude oil) and installations for the gasification and liquefaction of 500 tonnes or more of coal or bituminous shale per day.
2. Thermal power stations and other combustion installations with a heat output of 300 megawatts or more, and nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors (except research installations for the production and conversion of fissionable and fertile materials, whose maximum power does not exceed 1 kilowatt continuous thermal load).
3. (a) Installations for the reprocessing of irradiated nuclear fuel  
(b) Installations designed:-
  - for the production or enrichment of nuclear fuel,
  - for the processing of irradiated nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste,
  - for the final disposal of irradiated nuclear fuel,
  - solely for the final disposal of radioactive waste,
  - solely for the storage (planned for more than 10 years) of irradiated nuclear fuels or radioactive waste in a different site than the production site.
4. (a) Integrated works for the initial smelting of cast-iron and steel  
(b) Installations for the production of non-ferrous crude metals from ore, concentrates or secondary raw materials by metallurgical, chemical or electrolytic processes.
5. Installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos: for asbestos-cement products, with an annual production of more than 20 000 tonnes of finished products, for friction material, with an annual production of more than 50 tonnes of finished products, and for other uses of asbestos, utilization of more than 200 tonnes per year.
6. Integrated chemical installations, i.e. those installations for the manufacture on an industrial scale of substances using chemical conversion processes, in which several units are juxtaposed and are functionally linked to one another and which are:
  - i) for the production of basic organic chemicals;
  - ii) for the production of basic inorganic chemicals;
  - iii) for the production of phosphorous-, nitrogen- or potassium-based fertilizers (simple or compound fertilizers);
  - iv) for the production of basic plant health products and of biocides;
  - v) for the production of basic pharmaceutical products using a chemical or biological process;
  - vi) for the production of explosives.
7. (a) Construction of lines for long-distance railway traffic and of airports with a basic runway length 2,100 m or more;  
(b) Construction of motorways and express roads  
(c) Construction of a new road of four or more lanes, or realignment and/or widening of an existing road of two lanes or less so as to provide four or more lanes, where such new road, or realigned and/or widened section of road would be 10 km or more in a continuous length.
8. (a) Inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic which permit the passage of vessels of over 1 350 tonnes;  
(b) Trading ports, piers for loading and unloading connected to land and outside ports (excluding ferry piers) which can take vessels of over 1 350 tonnes.

9. Waste disposal installations for the incineration, chemical treatment as defined in Annex IIA to Directive 75/442/EEC (3) under heading D9, or landfill of hazardous waste (i.e. waste to which Directive 91/689/EEC (4) applies).
10. Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment as defined in Annex IIA to Directive 75/442/EEC under heading D9 of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 100 tonnes per day.
11. Groundwater abstraction or artificial groundwater recharge schemes where the annual volume of water abstracted or recharged is equivalent to or exceeds 10 million cubic metres.
12. (a) Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where this transfer aims at preventing possible shortages of water and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 100 million cubic metres/year;  
(b) In all other cases, works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where the multi-annual average flow of the basin of abstraction exceeds 2 000 million cubic metres/year and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 5 % of this flow.  
In both cases transfers of piped drinking water are excluded.
13. Waste water treatment plants with a capacity exceeding 150 000 population equivalent as defined in Article 2 point (6) of Directive 91/271/EEC (5).
14. Extraction of petroleum and natural gas for commercial purposes where the amount extracted exceeds 500 tonnes/day in the case of petroleum and 500 000 m<sup>3</sup>/day in the case of gas.
15. Dams and other installations designed for the holding back or permanent storage of water, where a new or additional amount of water held back or stored exceeds 10 million cubic metres.
16. Pipelines for the transport of gas, oil or chemicals with a diameter of more than 800 mm and a length of more than 40 km.
17. Installations for the intensive rearing of poultry or pigs with more than:
  - (a) 85 000 places for broilers, 60 000 places for hens;
  - (b) 3 000 places for production pigs (over 30 kg); or
  - (c) 900 places for sows.
18. Industrial plants for the
  - (a) production of pulp from timber or similar fibrous materials;
  - (b) production of paper and board with a production capacity exceeding 200 tonnes per day.
19. Quarries and open-cast mining where the surface of the site exceeds 25 hectares, or peat extraction, where the surface of the site exceeds 150 hectares.
20. Construction of overhead electrical power lines with a voltage of 220 kV or more and a length of more than 15 km.
21. Installations for storage of petroleum, petrochemical, or chemical products with a capacity of 200,000 tonnes or more.

## **Annex II Projects**

1. Agriculture, silviculture and aquaculture
  - (a) Projects for the restructuring of rural land holdings;
  - (b) Projects for the use of uncultivated land or semi-natural areas for intensive agricultural purposes;
  - (c) Water management projects for agriculture, including irrigation and land drainage projects;

- (d) Initial afforestation and deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use;
  - (e) Intensive livestock installations (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (f) Intensive fish farming;
  - (g) Reclamation of land from the sea.
2. Extractive industry
- (a) Quarries, open-cast mining and peat extraction (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (b) Underground mining;
  - (c) Extraction of minerals by marine or fluvial dredging;
  - (d) Deep drillings, in particular:
    - geothermal drilling,
    - drilling for the storage of nuclear waste material,
    - drilling for water supplies;
  - (e) Surface industrial installations for the extraction of coal, petroleum, natural gas and ores, as well as bituminous shale.
3. Energy industry
- (a) Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (b) Industrial installations for carrying gas, steam and hot water; transmission of electrical energy by overhead cables (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (c) Surface storage of natural gas;
  - (d) Underground storage of combustible gases;
  - (e) Surface storage of fossil fuels;
  - (f) Industrial briquetting of coal and lignite;
  - (g) Installations for the processing and storage of radioactive waste (unless included in Annex I);
  - (h) Installations for hydroelectric energy production;
  - (i) Installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms).
4. Production and processing of metals
- (a) Installations for the production of pig iron or steel (primary or secondary fusion) including continuous casting;
  - (b) Installations for the processing of ferrous metals:
    - (i) hot-rolling mills;
    - (ii) smithies with hammers;
    - (iii) application of protective fused metal coats;
  - (c) Ferrous metal foundries;
  - (d) Installations for the smelting, including the alloyage, of non-ferrous metals, excluding precious metals, including recovered products (refining, foundry casting, etc.);
  - (e) Installations for surface treatment of metals and plastic materials using an electrolytic or chemical process;
  - (f) Manufacture and assembly of motor vehicles and manufacture of motor-vehicle engines;
  - (g) Shipyards;
  - (h) Installations for the construction and repair of aircraft;
  - (i) Manufacture of railway equipment;
  - (j) Swaging by explosives;
  - (k) Installations for the roasting and sintering of metallic ores.
5. Mineral industry
- (a) Coke ovens (dry coal distillation);
  - (b) Installations for the manufacture of cement;
  - (c) Installations for the production of asbestos and the manufacture of asbestos-products (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (d) Installations for the manufacture of glass including glass fibre;
  - (e) Installations for smelting mineral substances including the production of mineral fibres;
  - (f) Manufacture of ceramic products by burning, in particular roofing tiles, bricks, refractory bricks, tiles, stoneware or porcelain.

6. Chemical industry (Projects not included in Annex I)
  - (a) Treatment of intermediate products and production of chemicals;
  - (b) Production of pesticides and pharmaceutical products, paint and varnishes, elastomers and peroxides;
  - (c) Storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical and chemical products.
  
7. Food industry
  - (a) Manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats;
  - (b) Packing and canning of animal and vegetable products;
  - (c) Manufacture of dairy products;
  - (d) Brewing and malting;
  - (e) Confectionery and syrup manufacture;
  - (f) Installations for the slaughter of animals;
  - (g) Industrial starch manufacturing installations;
  - (h) Fish-meal and fish-oil factories;
  - (i) Sugar factories.
  
8. Textile, leather, wood and paper industries
  - (a) Industrial plants for the production of paper and board (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (b) Plants for the pre-treatment (operations such as washing, bleaching, mercerization) or dyeing of fibres or textiles;
  - (c) Plants for the tanning of hides and skins;
  - (d) Cellulose-processing and production installations.
  
9. Rubber industry - Manufacture and treatment of elastomer-based products.
  
10. Infrastructure projects
  - (a) Industrial estate development projects;
  - (b) Urban development projects, including the construction of shopping centres and car parks;
  - (c) Construction of railways and intermodal trans-shipment facilities, and of intermodal terminals (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (d) Construction of airfields (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (e) Construction of roads, harbours and port installations, including fishing harbours (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (f) Inland-waterway construction not included in Annex I, canalisation and flood-relief works;
  - (g) Dams and other installations designed to hold water or store it on a long-term basis (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (h) Tramways, elevated and underground railways, suspended lines or similar lines of a particular type, used exclusively or mainly for passenger transport;
  - (i) Oil and gas pipeline installations (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (j) Installations of long-distance aqueducts;
  - (k) Coastal work to combat erosion and maritime works capable of altering the coast through the construction, for example, of dykes, moles, jetties and other sea defence works, excluding the maintenance and reconstruction of such works;
  - (l) Groundwater abstraction and artificial groundwater recharge schemes not included in Annex I;
  - (m) Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins not included in Annex I.
  
11. Other projects
  - (a) Permanent racing and test tracks for motorised vehicles;
  - (b) Installations for the disposal of waste (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (c) Waste-water treatment plants (projects not included in Annex I);
  - (d) Sludge-deposition sites;
  - (e) Storage of scrap iron, including scrap vehicles;
  - (f) Test benches for engines, turbines or reactors;
  - (g) Installations for the manufacture of artificial mineral fibres;
  - (h) Installations for the recovery or destruction of explosive substances;
  - (i) Knackers' yards.

12. Tourism and leisure

- (a) Ski-runs, ski-lifts and cable-cars and associated developments;
- (b) Marinas;
- (c) Holiday villages and hotel complexes outside urban areas and associated developments;
- (d) Permanent camp sites and caravan sites;
- (e) Theme parks.

13. Any change or extension of projects listed in Annex I or Annex II, already authorised, executed or in the process of being executed, which may have significant adverse effects on the environment; Projects in Annex I, undertaken exclusively or mainly for the development and testing of new methods or products and not used for more than two years

## Appendix 2

Web link to the Draft Charnwood Core Strategy: Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Record (2013) [here](#).

## Appendix 3

### The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 Schedule 1 – Criteria for Determining the Likely Significance of Effects on the Environment

Significant effect criteria	Assessment
The characteristics of the plans, having regard to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;</li> </ul>	<p>The Sileby Neighbourhood Plan, if made, would form part of the statutory development plan; therefore, it would contribute to the future development consent of projects. However, the Neighbourhood Plan sits within a wider framework set by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the adopted Charnwood Local Plan 2011 to 2028 Core Strategy. The Neighbourhood Plan helps to set a framework for projects which are local in nature and must conform to the wider framework set at a strategic level.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the degree to which the plan influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;</li> </ul>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan will be in conformity with the NPPF and the policies will conform to the strategic policies in the adopted Local Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to influence other plans or programmes.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;</li> </ul>	<p>The Sileby Neighbourhood Plan takes a positive approach to sustainable development setting out local considerations for shaping, directing and delivering sustainable development across Sileby parish. Sustainable development is central to the Neighbourhood Plan's Vision for Sileby in 2036.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan contains policies which relate to environmental considerations regarding the natural and historic environment. These policies follow national and local policies as required by the Basic Conditions. The</p>

Significant effect criteria	Assessment
	<p>Neighbourhood Plan is also required to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development to enable it to be approved at Examination and “made” by the Borough Council. Development would also be subject to the policies in the Charnwood Local Plan; therefore, all environmental considerations will be taken into account.</p>
<p>- environmental problems relevant to the plan; and</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan has identified local issues and addresses these through the plan including landscape, green infrastructure, biodiversity and heritage assets.</p> <p>An analysis of Local Green Spaces has also been undertaken and Policy ENV1: Protection of Local Green Space proposes a number of these designations which have notable environmental (natural, historical and/or community) features.</p> <p>The Parish has a variety of ecological assets, including the River Soar and Cossington Meadows, which are protected through Policy ENV2: Protection of Sites of Environmental Significance and Policy ENV6: Biodiversity, Hedges and Habitat Connectivity.</p> <p>Policy ENV3: Important Open Spaces identifies a number of sites which are of high value for sport, recreation, amenity, tranquillity or as green spaces within the built-up area.</p> <p>Policy ENV5: Ridge and Furrow identifies a number of areas of ridge and furrow which it seeks to protect as heritage assets.</p> <p>The area contains no national landscape designations but the plan has identified</p>

Significant effect criteria	Assessment
	<p>a number of Important Views through Policy ENV7: Protection of Important Views which seeks to protect locally important and valued views.</p> <p>Policy ENV8: Biodiversity Protection in New Development seeks to secure measures for the protection and enhancement of local biodiversity in new developments.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the relevance of the plan for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans linked to waste-management or water protection).</li> </ul>	<p>The Sileby Neighbourhood Plan is not directly relevant to any of these. The Neighbourhood Plan has to be in conformity with the Charnwood Local Plan Core Strategy. The Core Strategy has had regard to European Community legislation on the environment and therefore this legislation will not be relevant for the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
<p>Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;</li> </ul>	<p>Policy H1 makes provision for six reserve housing sites which will be considered for residential development if there is a shortfall in the supply of housing land due to the failure of existing housing sites to deliver homes or if it becomes necessary to provide for additional homes in the Parish in accordance with the new Local Plan. This reflects the Local Plan which makes provision for development to meet local housing or employment need adjoining the Service Centres, of which Sileby is one. A Sustainable Site Assessment of all the reserve housing supply site options has been undertaken and no significant effects have been identified arising from the residential site allocation or the reserve site.</p> <p>Policy H2 makes provision for windfall development on infill and redevelopment sites which will be of a local scale</p>

Significant effect criteria	Assessment
	<p>resulting in limited effect.</p> <p>Development within the countryside will be limited, in accordance with the NPPF and Local Plan policies relating to the countryside.</p> <p>No environmental concerns have been identified from the development proposed and the Neighbourhood Plan includes policies to ensure that should any potential issues arise that they are addressed. Therefore, it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the plan.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the cumulative nature of the effects;</li> </ul>	<p>The cumulative effects of potential development which may occur will be limited due to their local nature. Housing development will seek to meet the identified local housing need for Sileby</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the transboundary nature of the effects;</li> </ul>	<p>Any development which occurred through the Plan would be located within or adjacent to the village of Sileby, with limited exceptions. The scale of any development would have extremely limited impact upon surrounding parishes.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents);</li> </ul>	<p>There are no significant risks to human health or the environment. The Plan may improve human health by protecting areas which are important to the local community for recreation, along with providing suitable homes to meet local needs.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);</li> </ul>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan relates to the parish of Sileby, with small-scale development concentrated within the redefined limits to development. Therefore, the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects are likely to be small.</p>

Significant effect criteria	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;</li> <li>• exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values;</li> <li>• intensive land-use; and</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan offers an opportunity to enhance the natural environment and cultural heritage of the area through the policies it contains.</p> <p>There are ecological sites within the parish which the Plan seeks to safeguard. Potential development will be focussed within or adjacent to the settlement boundary for Sileby with no impact upon these sites. A number of policies in the Plan aim to protect the natural environment, habitats and associated biodiversity.</p> <p>There are Listed Buildings and a Conservation Area within the parish. The Neighbourhood Plan contains a policy which seeks to preserve heritage assets and development would be required to take these assets into account.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.</li> </ul>	<p>There are no national designations within the Parish boundary.</p>