

Strategic Environment Assessment

Screening Report

Prepared for the submission of the
Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan



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Notes:

- (1.) As part of the Strategic Environment Assessment process, this Screening Report document is an appropriate appraisal of a neighbourhood plan's potential impacts in this context, namely those of a social, environmental and economic nature;
- (2.) It may be useful to refer to the Sustainability Appraisal documents produced for the adopted Craven Local Plan (2012 to 2032), when reading this document. The Craven Local Plan was adopted at a Full Council Meeting on 12th November 2019. These documents are available within the planning policy pages of the website of North Yorkshire Council (Craven District Council, along with some other neighbouring District Councils, were amalgamated into the newly formed North Yorkshire Council in April 2023);
- (3.) This SEA document is produced at the request of Bradley Parish Council in line with the neighbourhood plan document lodged with Craven District Council in October 2019. A previous iteration of this document was produced in November 2019 in response to a previous such neighbourhood plan lodgement from Bradley Parish Council. This neighbourhood plan version considered the suggested modifications from the Planning Policy team of the former Craven District Council to previous drafts of the neighbourhood plan document;
- (4.) Following the approval of the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) in November 2023, the Parish Council have stated that it became apparent to them that a Local Green Space (LGS), at the location of Sweet Croft, needed to be included in the list of LGSs in the NDP. There has been a revision of the Neighbourhood Development Plan to reflect the inclusion of that LGS. The Chairman of Bradleys Both Parish Council placed a note in the document reflecting this revision, which was dated October 2024. Bradleys Both Parish Council sent the revised NDP to the author in April 2025, and requested that the author update the existing SEA to include this LGS inclusion. This updated document represents the response to this request;
- (5.) Although Craven District Council, along with some other neighbouring District and Borough Councils, was amalgamated into the newly formed North Yorkshire Council in April 2023, the Craven Local Plan (2012 – 2032) still serves the Bradley area until the time that the first North Yorkshire Local Plan is made and adopted. From referring to the North Yorkshire Council planning webpages, this first North Yorkshire Local Plan is in preparation stages at the time of writing, and hence continued reference is made to the Craven Local Plan and its area in this document;
- (6.) This updated document has been prepared for Bradleys Both Parish Council at their request by a qualified environmental engineering, planning and ecological consultant.

Photograph on front page of report: The traditional built form in the village centre of Bradley; image copyright of Craven District Council (Craven District Council, along with some other neighbouring District and Borough Councils, were amalgamated into the newly formed North Yorkshire Council in April 2023).

For comments or queries in relation to this document, please e-mail: bradleysbothparishcouncil@gmail.com.

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Author's name and qualifications on cover page of this report.

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Executive Summary

Bradleys Both Parish Council has prepared a neighbourhood plan with the intention to guide new development in the designated neighbourhood area of Bradley until 2032. It is intended that this neighbourhood plan can be consulted alongside the adopted Local Plan (2012-2032) of Craven District Council. The Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan sets out a vision, related objectives and a number of planning policies for the subject area. This document analyses the likely significant effects of the neighbourhood plan on various social, environmental economic subject areas, in order to fulfil the requirements of the SEA Directive.

The village of Bradley is located in the local authority area of Craven District Council, and thus within the Craven Local Plan area. This area has a long history of settlement, and the village has a strong and distinctive architectural heritage. The surrounds of Bradley have an important natural environment, which is reflected in biodiversity and landscape designations together with other heritage assets. The Craven plan area has distinctive rural landscapes which provide a high quality environmental setting to complement the nearby Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). There are also social challenges in the village, in terms of trying to ensure social sustainability in a rural region which has a relatively high cohort of retired and elderly people.

A neighbourhood plan sets out local planning policies and identifies how some land is to be used, and it can assist a local plan in influencing what will be built where. Development principles should be consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Like local plans, neighbourhood plans must be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy in accordance with the NPPF and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

The potential for adverse impacts from the neighbourhood plan's proposals on socio-economic and environmental elements are examined in this document. There are a range of impact avoidance and standard mitigation mechanisms described alongside the development proposed. Overall, with a relatively low number of planned dwellings and an effective policy strategy for development in the neighbourhood plan, it is shown that adverse effects for any of these impact pathways on European designated sites are very unlikely to arise.

The Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan proposes one housing site for new residential development in the village during the plan period, with a total yield of 24 dwellings. Along with existing planning permissions, the proposed housing site will contribute towards meeting the objectively

assessed housing need for Bradley required by Craven District Council, under the adopted Craven Local Plan (2012 -2032). Craven District Council, along with some other neighbouring Councils, has since been amalgamated into the new North Yorkshire Council, but its adopted local plan remain relevant until the time that the first North Yorkshire Local Plan is made and adopted.

In terms of cumulative impacts arising from this neighbourhood plan in combination with other plans, the Craven Local Plan, adopted in November 2019, is the most significant, and it has an accompanying HRA Appropriate Assessment which concludes that there is an unlikely to be any negative cumulative effects arising from the proposals within it. The Bradford Core Strategy is also important, as it proposes a relatively large number of dwellings over its plan period. Analysis of the effective mitigation measures in its Appropriate Assessment, along with green infrastructure provision and development avoidance measures in the southeast of the Craven Local Plan area, shows that there are unlikely to be any significant cumulative effects from the neighbouring plans in the area.

This updated document coincides with the revised version of the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan, which includes an additional Local Green Space (LGS) at Sweet Croft (site reference 15). The SEA Screening Report has been previously sent to the three statutory bodies of the Environment Agency, Natural England, and Historic England alongside the neighbourhood plan document itself, as part of the consultation stage of the neighbourhood plan's process towards adoption. These three statutory bodies are of the view that a Strategic Environment Assessment is not required for this neighbourhood plan.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Neighbourhood Plan and Strategic Environment Assessment

Representatives of Bradleys Both Parish Council have prepared a neighbourhood plan for the period up to 2032 in respect of its designated plan area. The vision and objectives for the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan were prepared by its working group following consideration of the results of various public consultations on the emerging draft plan. From the working group's consultations with the community of the neighbourhood plan area, the following vision was developed of how they wish their community to be shaped in 2032:

"Our vision is to provide existing and new residents with the opportunity to live and work in a rural community which can grow proportionately whilst still retaining, enhancing and respecting the vitality and character of the parish. Wherever possible, we want to protect our heritage, including the surrounding countryside, our open spaces and recreational facilities, without significantly increasing traffic in the village." (Bradleys Both NP, page 13)

The specifics of the neighbourhood plan, in terms of its spatial strategy and policies, relevant to the document are described and analysed in Chapters 4 and 5, and Appendix V.

A neighbourhood plan must meet what are referred to as 'Basic Conditions' to come into being. These include that the making of the plan "does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations." One of the obligations is Directive 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment', which is regularly referred to as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.

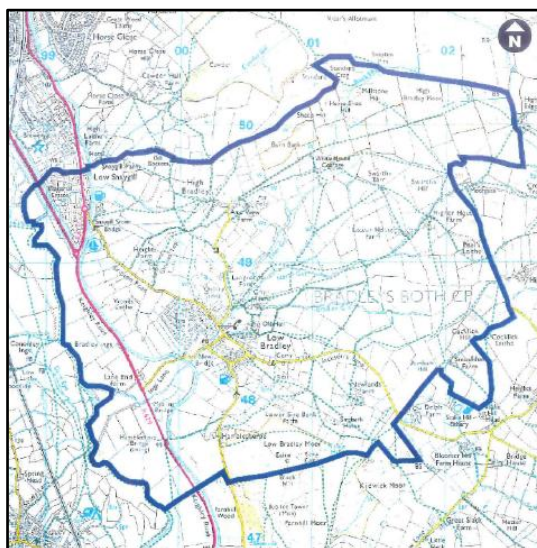
This document aims to determine whether or not the implementation of neighbourhood plan strategies and policies can have negative or adverse consequences for social, economic or environmental interests in the plan. Environmental matters are examined in more depth as part of the Habitats Directive Assessment (HDA), resulting in a Habitat Regulations Assessment document. A document entitled 'An Examination of Likely Significant Effects' has been completed for this assessment, to assess the neighbourhood plan's likely impacts on the habitats or plant and animal species for which European sites are designated. These designated European sites are referred to Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

Following the approval of the NDP in November 2023, the Parish Council have stated that it became apparent to them that a Local Green Space (LGS), at the location of Sweet Croft, needed to be included in the list of LGSs in the NDP. There has been a revision of the Neighbourhood Development Plan to reflect the inclusion of that LGS. The Chairman of Bradleys Both Parish Council placed a note reflecting this revision which was dated October 2024. Bradleys Both Parish Council requested that the author update the existing SEA to include this LGS inclusion.

1.2 The Area of the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan

The neighbourhood plan area is the geographical area covered by the plan, in this case featuring the village of Bradley itself, and the immediate surrounding areas. Figure 1 illustrates the boundary of the parish which is the designated neighbourhood area for the Bradleys Both neighbourhood plan. An application to Craven District Council for the designation of the neighbourhood area was made in August 2013. The neighbourhood area was designated by Craven District Council in December 2013, and the neighbourhood plan's content then applies to this area.

Figure 1: The designated neighbourhood area for the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan.



1.3 Purpose and Structure of this Document

This screening report analyses and evaluates the potential social, economic and environmental impacts arising from the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan. The analysis in this document is assisted by the Sustainable Appraisal work which has been undertaken for the Craven Local Plan (2012 – 2032), a plan which was submitted to the Secretary of State in March 2018 for examination, and was adopted by Full Council in November 2019. The document was sent to the statutory bodies of the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England as part of the consultation process for the neighbourhood plan, after the plan was submitted to Craven District Council. The next chapter describes the legislative background to SEA and the screening process. Chapter 3 discusses the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan area. The proposed policies and development in the neighbourhood plan area are then examined in chapter 4, with chapter 5 analysing any likely significant effects from the plan. Finally, chapter 6 draws conclusions and notes the subsequent steps.

2. Legislative background and Screening process

2.1 SEA Guidance and Best Practice

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive “seeks to provide a high level of protection of the environment by integrating environmental considerations into the process of preparing plans and programmes.” The SEA Directive is transposed into English planning law through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (the ‘SEA Regulations’) and it is these regulations that the plan will require to be compatible with. A key stage in the neighbourhood planning process is determining whether or not SEA is required.

The content of a neighbourhood plan will be informed by a wide range of evidence. The SEA, where required, is a component of the evidence base. SEA does not make decisions on plan content, but assists the neighbourhood planning process to understand the socio-economic and environmental impacts of their proposals, and then alter a neighbourhood plan’s content accordingly if required. SEA can assist to improve and tailor the plan’s objectives and policies and ensure that the plan promotes a more sustainable form of development.

If a SEA is required, it should be clear, consistent, defensible, and compliant with the SEA Regulations and Planning Policy Guidance (PPG). This will assist to ensure that the neighbourhood plan meets the Basic Conditions, and is considered robust by the independent examiner at the neighbourhood plan examination, thus enabling the plan to proceed to referendum.

SEA is a process with specific outputs. The SEA Regulations set out a series of sequential steps that must be undertaken as part of any SEA. The PPG sets out a six stage process for undertaking SEA for a neighbourhood plan, as follows:

- Stage A: Screening;
- Stage B: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope;
- Stage C: Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects;
- Stage D: Prepare the Environmental Report;
- Stage E: Publish and consult the consultation bodies and the public on the environmental report;
- Stage F: Post making reporting and monitoring.

2.2 The Habitats Directive

Another key obligation for neighbourhood plans is Directive 92/43/EEC 'on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora', regularly referred to as the Habitats Directive. Under the Habitats Directive, an assessment referred to as an Appropriate Assessment is required if it is likely, or if there is still uncertainty, that there would be significant effects on a European protected wildlife site, i.e. if policies and proposals in the plan may impact on one or more European sites. The Appropriate Assessment document is referred to as an 'Examination of Likely Significant Effects', when addressing neighbourhood plans. This SEA document can be read in combination with the HRA report for this neighbourhood plan, for a more in-depth analysis of environmental and ecological subjects.

Habitats Directive Assessment is an iterative process which runs parallel to and informs both the neighbourhood plan making process and the SEA process. It involves analysis and review of strategies and policies to ensure that their implementation will not impact on sites designated for

nature conservation, nor on the habitats or species for which they are designated. Within this process, regard must also be had to the potential for policies to contribute to impacts which on their own may be acceptable, but which may be significant when considered in combination with the impacts arising from the implementation of other plans or policies.

2.3 Working Methods

This document assessing potential impacts on SEA interests for the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by a suitably qualified consultant. There was continuing interaction between the Parish Council's neighbourhood plan members and Craven District Council's Planning Policy team during the development phase for the neighbourhood plan, in terms of office meetings, e-mail communication and telephone calls.

The purpose of this interaction was to (1.) encourage the development of suitable social, environmental and economic policies in the neighbourhood plan; (2.) to identify any potential conflicts between the protection of SEA interests and spatial strategies, emerging site allocations and land use policies; (3.) to provide opportunities to resolve potential areas of conflict prior to the finalisation of plan policy; and also (4.) to establish innovative solutions and mitigation measures to any potential conflicts. The finalised document, along with the HRA document, was made available for the statutory consultees of Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England to comment on during the consultation stage, following the submission of the neighbourhood plan to Craven District Council.

2.4 The Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan

The Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan has set out a list of policies related to a number of matters including housing, employment, green space and biodiversity. The plan has named and analysed a number of locations for preferred housing sites, and chosen one location in common with that chosen in the adopted Craven Local Plan (2012 – 2032). Overall, the neighbourhood plan for Bradley is intended to be designed according to suitable long-term objectives for the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan area in relation to recent and forecast spatial growth patterns. It has been assisted in this regard by research and published documents undertaken as part of the Craven Local Plan process preparation.

3. Description of the Neighbourhood Plan Area

3.1 Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan Area

Bradley is a picturesque village and civil parish in the Craven district, situated in North Yorkshire, England. Bradley is divided into two parts – High Bradley and Low Bradley, known collectively as Bradleys Both, the name which represents the neighbourhood plan area. In the 2011 census, the village had a population of 1,244 people. The Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan area is situated within the local authority area of Craven District Council, which itself is one of the district authorities in the county of North Yorkshire. The neighbourhood plan area consists of the village of Bradley and a surrounding local environment of predominately low-lying hills, agricultural fields and farm holdings. The Leeds & Liverpool canal passes through the western section of the neighbourhood plan area. There is a section of the Snaygill industrial estate associated with the town of Skipton within the northwestern edge of the neighbourhood plan area.

Travelling along the road A6131, the village of Bradley is situated approximately 4.6 km (2.9 miles) from the town of Skipton to the north, and alternatively 8.5 km (5.3 miles) from Skipton using a combination of the more utilised A59 and A65 routes, in terms of regional traffic flows. The village is located 12 km (7.5 miles) from the town of Keighley to the south along the A629. In terms of proximity to larger urban areas, the village is situated 25.4 km (15.9 miles) from Bradford to the southeast using the A629, and 42 km (26.3 miles) from Leeds, also to the southeast using a combination of the A629 and the A657 routes. Bradley is connected to the A629 roadway (also known as Keighley Road) via Ings Lane.

The closest railway stop is in the village of Cononley to the southwest, which is located 3.4 km (2.1 miles) from the village of Bradley. In Cononley, there are onward regular train connections to Skipton to the north and onwards to Settle and Carlisle to the northwest, each day of the week. To the southeast, there are also regular connections from Cononley to Bradford and Leeds throughout the day. There are currently regular bus services connecting Bradley to Skipton and its rail station from the morning to early evening on Monday to Saturday, with the journey time taking on average eight to ten minutes. The same bus services connect Bradley to Cononley and its railway stop, with the journey time also taking eight to ten minutes on average. There are also connections through the same bus routes to the railway station at Steeton & Silsden to the south, with the journey time taking approximately 22 minutes.

The village is situated approximately 4.4 km (2.75 miles) from the southern boundary of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. It is located approximately 24 km (15 miles) from the eastern boundary of the Forest of Bowland AONB. There are also designated European sites (Special Protection Areas, SPAs and Special Areas of Conservation, SACs) in the vicinity of Bradley. The village is located approximately 6.4 km (4 miles) from the nearest point of the North Pennine Moors SAC & SPA to the north, and approximately 6.3 km (3.9 miles) from the nearest point of the South Pennine Moors SAC & Phase 2 SPA to the south.

3.2 Bradley in the context of settlements in the Craven Local Plan Area

Craven District has a total population of 55,801 (ONS mid-year 2015 estimate). Although Craven District Council, along with some other neighbouring District Councils, has since been amalgamated into North Yorkshire Council in April 2023, the Craven Local Plan (2012 – 2032) still serves the Bradley area until the time that the first North Yorkshire Local Plan is made and adopted. From referring to the North Yorkshire Council planning webpages during the preparation of this updated document, this first North Yorkshire Local Plan is in the process of preparation at the time of writing, and hence continued reference is made to the adopted Craven Local Plan and its subject area in this document. About 82% of the total Craven District population live in the Craven Local Plan area, which has approximately 45,757 residents, according to this ONS estimate. The Craven Local Plan area contains the four largest settlements within Craven District. The market town of Skipton is by far the largest town in the District and plan area, and is located in the east of the Local Plan area in the strategic 'Aire Gap' through the Pennines linking Yorkshire with Lancashire.

The two smaller market towns of Benthams and Settle are located in the northwest and mid areas of the Craven Local Plan area respectively. They both have a good range of services and they provide a range of employment opportunities. These towns are also well connected to the A-road and rail networks, although Benthams is located further away from the A65 than Settle. Glusburn & Crosshills is the largest village in the District, and it is located in the east of the plan area close to the boundary with Bradford Metropolitan District.

The remainder of the plan area is characterised by villages that function as local service centres, or villages that have basic services. Bradley is characterised as one such village with basic services. A number of villages also form clusters of settlements in relatively close proximity to one

another, or to a market town where services and accessed via public transport, walking and cycling. For example, in the north of the plan area, both Ingleton and Burton-in-Lonsdale are in relatively close proximity to Bentham and have good public transport connections with this market town.

In the central part of the plan area the villages of Clapham, Giggleswick, Langcliffe (which is located just over the plan area boundary in the National Park) and Rathmell form a cluster of settlements that have public transport connections, and are either within walking and/or cycling distance of the market town of Settle.

In the south and east of the plan area, the villages of Embsay, Carleton, Cononley and Bradley have good and frequent public transport connections with the main market town of Skipton (Cononley also has a rail connection), and are within walking and/or cycling distance of Skipton. Similarly, the villages of Farnhill, Kildwick, Sutton-in-Craven and Cowling form a cluster of settlements around the larger village of Glusburn/Crosshills. They have good public transport connections, and are within walking and/or cycling distance of its wider range of services and employment opportunities.

Elsewhere in the plan area, there mostly exists a dispersed pattern of small villages and hamlets reflecting the predominately rural nature of the District. Indeed, the Craven District was listed within the top ten least densely populated local authority areas within England in 2017.

Given the settlement context detailed above, Bradley is identified in the Craven Local Plan as a Tier 4a settlement in its settlement hierarchy (along with numerous other villages of a similar role and function within the local plan area). The Craven Local Plan recognises that Bradley has a basic range of services, including a community primary school, shops, public houses, and bus transport facilities. The role and status of Bradley within the settlement hierarchy of the Craven Local Plan is discussed in further detail in Chapter 4.

The Craven District has a built environment of very good quality with many of its historic market towns and villages having a distinctive character, derived from a blend of the agricultural character of North Yorkshire with Pennine industrial heritage. This heritage is historically associated with the building of the Leeds-Liverpool Canal, the railways, early watermills, textile mills and the housing of mill workers. There is little to no derelict land or buildings within the settlements of Craven. Many former historic mills have been conserved and converted for other uses, including housing and employment. Many former contaminated industrial sites have also been remediated and redeveloped for housing. The Leeds and

Liverpool Canal passes through adjacent to the village, with the Bradley section of canal completed in 1775. As mentioned previously, the village contains a primary school, Bradleys Both Community Primary School, a building which is over 100 years old, been first built in 1914.

3.3 The Surrounding Environment of the Neighbourhood Plan area

Bradleys Both has a high quality surrounding natural environment. As mentioned previously, the village is situated close to the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and it also has the Pennine Way National Trail passing close to the village to the north. The Pennine Way National Trail runs for approximately 427 km (267 miles) from Kirk Yetholm on the Scottish border to Edale in the Peak District. Therefore, Bradley is a relatively popular destination for hikers and cyclists. The Leeds-Liverpool Canal passes close to the village to the north.

Craven as a whole has an important and valuable natural environment, which is reflected in local, national and international biodiversity and landscape designations, together with designated and non-designated heritage assets. The Craven plan area sits alongside the western and southern boundary of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and has its own important, distinctive rural landscapes which provide a high quality landscape setting for the National Park, including the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), which covers a considerable part of the plan area.

The underlying gritstone and limestone geologies of the plan area, and the Aire Gap serves to effectively denote the change from limestone geology to the north to gritstone geology to the south. The Aire Gap is a pass through the Pennines in England formed by geologic faults and carved out by glaciers. The effects of glaciation also serve to derive a rich and diverse landscape character and quality in Craven.

The plan area is also rich in biodiversity, and has a number of biodiversity or geodiversity designations of national and European importance, including a small part of the South Pennine Moors Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) in the south of the local plan area. There are also twelve Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) spread across the whole plan area. There are more than eighty Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) located across the plan area. Craven District also has extensive areas of Ancient Woodland (186 sites).

There are plenty of recreational opportunities available, with an extensive rights of way network, and the national long-distance footpath, the Pennine Way passing through the area. There are good cycling opportunities in the local plan area, with access to the National Cycle Network at the villages of Gargrave, Embsay, Giggleswick, Clapham and Ingleton. The Way of the Roses walkway and the Leeds-Liverpool canal towpath present additional potential for active recreation and leisure.

4. Proposed Policies and Development in the Neighbourhood Plan

4.1 Introduction

A neighbourhood plan (sometimes called a neighbourhood development plan) is a way of assisting local communities to influence the planning of the area in which they live and work. It can be used to:

- Develop a shared vision for the neighbourhood;
- Choose where new homes, shops, offices and other development should be built;
- Identify and protect important local green spaces;
- Influence what new buildings should look like.

Unlike local plans, neighbourhood plans are not prepared by the local planning authority. There are two types of ‘qualifying body’ that can prepare a neighbourhood plan. These bodies are:

- Parish and town councils – in areas where a parish or town council exists, these are the only bodies that can prepare a neighbourhood plan. A neighbourhood plan produced by a parish or town council does not have to cover the whole area of the parish or town. A neighbourhood plan can cover just part of the parish or town. Alternatively, a neighbourhood plan can extend across parish boundaries;
- Neighbourhood forums – where a parish or town council does not exist, community members, including those with business interests in the area, can come together to create a neighbourhood forum. Only one neighbourhood forum is allowed to exist for each neighbourhood

to be covered by a neighbourhood plan. There are certain rules that will determine whether a neighbourhood forum has been correctly set up.

Neighbourhood plans are optional and there is no legal requirement for a community to prepare a neighbourhood plan. The policies in the local plan will still apply to the neighbourhood, whether it is decided to prepare a neighbourhood plan or not.

The local planning authority is required to give the neighbourhood plan makers assistance and advice, but it does not control the neighbourhood plan preparation process or produce a neighbourhood plan on behalf of the local community in question. The local planning authority will be required to check the proposed neighbourhood plan to ensure that it meets all the relevant legislation and regulations. It will also check that it generally conforms to the strategic elements of its own local plan.

4.2 Planning for Bradleys Both in the context of the Craven Local Plan

The Craven Local Plan (2012 – 2032) was adopted in November 2019. A local plan sets out planning policies and identifies how land is used, determining what will be built where. Adopted local plans provide the framework for development across England. Development should be consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2019). Local plans must be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy in accordance with section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the NPPF.

The NPPF gives guidance to local authorities in drawing up their local plans. The adopted Craven Local Plan sets out appropriate planning policies for the location of housing, employment space, and local green spaces in the District. The spatial strategy of the Local Plan identifies the most appropriate locations for providing these new homes, in addition to the accompanying employment, retail, community, visitor facilities and green space over the time period of the local plan.

In practice, a district council take a proactive approach and will work co-operatively with people and organisations wishing to carry out development and applying for planning permission, to find solutions to secure a more sustainable type of development that meets relevant plan

policies and can be approved wherever possible. Bradleys Both Parish Council identified key planning objectives in their neighbourhood plan following public consultation. The neighbourhood plan aims to enhance the character and vitality of the village by:

- Minimising the impact of new development on the surrounding countryside, landscape and ecosystems;
- Providing homes of predominately 2-3 bedrooms;
- Prioritising road safety considerations by addressing the impact of existing road traffic congestion and on-street parking;
- Supporting businesses that enhance and complement the village and do not impact on its historic character and rural location.

(Source: Bradley NP, page 13)

4.3 The Craven Local Plan Settlement Hierarchy and Site Allocations

Within the adopted Craven Local Plan, the settlement hierarchy for towns and villages in the plan area is shown below. Bradleys Both (named here as Low Bradley) is listed in Tier 4a, as a 'Village with Basic Services'.

Principal Town (Tier 1): Skipton.

Key Service Centres (Tier 2): High & Low Bentham, Settle.

Local Service Centres (Tier 3): Glusburn & Cross Hills, Ingleton, Gargrave.

Villages with Basic Services (Tier 4a): Burton-in-Lonsdale, Carleton, Cononley, Cowling, Farnhill & Kildwick, Hellifield, Low Bradley, Sutton-in-Craven.

Villages with Basic Services bisected by Yorkshire Dales National Park boundary (Tier 4b): Bolton Abbey, Clapham, Embsay, Giggleswick, Long Preston.

Small villages, hamlets and open countryside: All other villages and hamlets in the plan area not listed in Tiers 1 to 4b above.

Each settlement in the proposed settlement hierarchy was allocated a percentage of housing growth, generally based on the settlement size, its range of services and facilities, and also its location within the District. To meet the objectives of the adopted Craven Local Plan and to respond

to the underpinning evidence, the settlement hierarchy shown in Table 2 was selected as the required distribution of growth and the preferred option to deliver the most sustainable patterns of development in Craven.

Tier	Settlement	Proportion of housing growth (%) at 230 net dwellings per annum	Housing provision (approximately number of net dwellings)
1	Skipton (Principal Town Service Centre)	50%	2300
2	Settle (Key Service Centre for mid sub area)	10.9%	501
2	Low & High Bentham (Key Service Centre for north sub area)	10.9%	501
3	Glusburn & Crosshills (Local Service Centre)	3.5%	160
3	Ingleton (Local Service Centre)	3.5%	160
3	Gargrave (Local Service Centre)	3.5%	160
4a	Villages with Basic Services		
4a	Burton-in-Lonsdale	0.4%	18
4a	Carleton	1.2%	55
4a	Cononley	2.5%	115
4a	Cowling	0.8%	37
4a	Farnhill & Kildwick	0.4%	18
4a	Hellifield	0.8%	37
4a	Low Bradley	0.8%	37
4a	Sutton	1.2%	55
4b	Village with Basic Services that are bisected by the National Park boundary		
4b	Bolton Abbey	0%	0
4b	Clapham	0.8%	37
4b	Embsay	2%	92
4b	Giggleswick	0.8%	37
4b	Long Preston	0%	0
5	Tier 5 settlements	1.5%	69
	Open Countryside and Small Sites Allowance	4.5%	207

Table 1: Settlement Hierarchy for the Craven Local Plan area

A number of spatial strategy alternatives have been considered and assessed in the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process of the adopted Craven Local Plan and were subject to consultation in April 2016. The SA concluded that the preferred option is the most sustainable approach to meet the planning objectives identified, and there were no substantive objections to the preferred spatial strategy.

In table 2, the proportion of housing growth attributed to Low Bradley, at 230 net dwellings per annum, is 0.8%. With planning permissions obtained since the start of the adopted Craven Local Plan's time period in 2012, the remaining gross residual housing requirement for allocation in Bradleys Both is covered by site allocation BR016, which is allocated to accommodate 25 homes. The site is identified as BB03 in the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan, and is identified as accommodating 24 dwellings. The difference of one dwelling relates to the slight difference in site area within the two plans, because there is a common stated density of 32 dwellings per hectare. The site area in the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan is stated as 0.743 hectares, and 0.8 hectares within the adopted Craven Local Plan.

4.4 The Craven Local Plan's preference of chosen dwelling site within Bradley

As mentioned previously, there were a range of factors which determined the distribution of growth within the designated settlements of the Local Plan. The principal factors were each settlement's existing size, range of service functions, and importance to its local hinterland. Other factors were the availability and range of sites put forward under the SHLAA process, flood risk, landscape character, biodiversity and natural environment impact, historic environment impact, and highway and access issues. The initial range of sites available from the Call for Sites process was narrowed to a pool of sites which were deemed environmentally, socially and economically sustainable, using some of the above factors.

An appropriate average housing density for new allocations under the Craven Local Plan has been established at 32 dwellings per hectare, based on research of a range of planning permissions in the District in previous years. Some settlements had a surplus of sites compared to what was required based on their percentage allocation of growth in the spatial strategy, and the adopted average density. Hence, the sites deemed to be most suitable from the pool of sites list were chosen, and this is known as the list of preferred sites. In this section, there is an analysis below of the preferred site within Bradleys Both, and an explanation of the reasoning as to why this site was chosen.

Tier 4, Village with Basic Services: Low Bradley

Under Craven District Council's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) process, numerous potential sites were put forward for residential site consideration. These sites all were considered under the sustainability appraisal process. From this list of 13 sites, there are four sites that made it to 'Level 3 (pool)' stage, namely sites BR005, BR012, BR013 and BR016 which meant that they were considered satisfactory sites for development, because they had no major constraints on potential residential development. Site BR016 was considered the most suitable site for development, and this site was considered large enough to accommodate the remaining residential requirement for Bradley after existing planning permissions were taken into consideration. All of the original site size was not required, given the stated density of 32 dwellings per hectare, and the northern part of the triangular shaped site was not included due to its rising topography.

There has been good agreement between Bradley Parish Council and Craven District Council in choosing the preferred site for proposed residential development in the village. As mentioned previously, Craven District Council published evidence relating to housing densities to be applied to the Craven Local Plan's preferred housing sites. The conclusions of this work is that 32 dwellings per hectare is an indicative density that is recommended to be applied (based on looking at the density and mix of 10 housing schemes with planning permission around the local plan area). This density has been applied to this site in both the Craven Local Plan and the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan.

In terms of the selection details for site BR016, in the sustainability appraisal of the adopted Craven Local Plan process, it is deemed that sufficient frontage is available on site to allow for a safe access. The site is entirely within Flood Zone 1. To ensure the sustainability of the site in terms of connectivity to the village, it is recommended that the southern section of the site is developed only. The site is on greenfield land; it is located on the edge of the settlement and adjoins the existing built up area.

4.5 Local Green Space Allocations

The Neighbourhood Plan states that the sites proposed as Local Green Spaces as part of Policy ENV1 of the Neighbourhood Plan have been assessed in accordance with paragraphs 100 – 103 of the NPPF, and the methodology set out in the Craven Local Green Space Assessment. This comprises three tests as follows:

Test 1: Whether the site is in close proximity to the community it serves;

Test 2: Whether the site is an extensive tract of land;

Test 3: Whether the site is demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular local significance.

The revised Neighbourhood Plan designates a number of Local Green Spaces (see Appendix VII). There is one additional Local Green Space compared to the previous plan, and it is entitled: 'Sweet Croft and land to the east of College Road'. The Neighbourhood Plan states that part of this area is meadowland and a community orchard and green space managed by a local conservation group. Sweet Croft is open to the public. The Neighbourhood Plan notes that Sweet Croft provides very good panoramic view over the Conservation Area, the village, and the upper Aire Valley. The Neighbourhood Plan states Sweet Croft provides an area of quiet reflection and relaxation, as well as offering extensive views.

5. SEA Objectives and Consideration of Likely Significant Effects

5.1 Introduction

A series of SEA objectives have been developed, based on an understanding of relevant baseline conditions and known key strategic issues relating to the study area. These were subsequently refined with reference to the neighbourhood plan's objectives and other policies. Each of the SEA objectives, where appropriate, was divided into more specific sub-objectives relating to each topic. For each objective, and associated sub-objective(s), a framework of associated indicators was established; thus enabling the use of these objectives as appraisal criteria for the option assessment process and the SEA evaluation of the plan.

The seven objectives, sub-objectives and indicators are presented in Table 2. The objectives address issues relating to all of the SEA topics required for consideration under the SEA Directive, except where particular topics have been identified as not relevant to the strategy through

the scoping process. This section considers the likelihood of any significant effects of a range of topics and issues covering social, environmental and economic matters.

SEA Receptors	SEA Objectives	SEA Sub-Objectives	Indicators
1. Population and Human Health	To avoid negative effects on human health and population and seek opportunities for enhancement.	To avoid significantly affecting the existing populace and recreational users of the SEA area.	Disruption and/or damage to residential areas and key recreational areas.
2. Cultural Heritage	To protect and where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	To avoid damage to known archaeological heritage sites.	Likely impact on designated conservation area or listed buildings.
3. Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	To protect and if appropriate enhance biodiversity, fauna and flora.	To avoid significant impacts to international and nationally designated conservation sites including draft, possible, candidate and designated Natura 2000 sites.	Presence of conservation site within the 'footprint' of the options, e.g. – SPA, Ramsar, SAC, SSSI (including possible, draft and candidate sites), and likelihood of potential adverse impacts on conservation site. Note the footprint is determined by the range of the potential impact.
4. Water Resources and Flood Risk Avoidance	To protect surface and aquifer water quality within the neighbourhood plan's area. To avoid flood risk areas when proposed new development.	To maintain chemical, biological and physical water quality of surface and ground waters. To avoid Flood Risk Zone 2 and Flood Risk Zone 3 when planning for new development.	Changes to surface and groundwater quality with respect to chemistry, biology or physical characteristics – e.g. EU Directives (shellfisheries, bathing waters, WFD, MSFD etc.). Flood risk zones increasing in severity in new residential areas.
5. Climatic Factors and Air Quality	To incorporate measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change. To preserve good air quality conditions for people and natural habitats.	To efficiently generate clean energy targets, working towards Craven's energy targets. To keep private vehicles usage to a minimum with new development.	Provision is a renewable source of energy. Positive contributions to reducing Craven's 'carbon footprint'. Keep private car usage to a minimum, through new residential sites located within and close to the village centre.

6. Landscape and Visual Amenity	To protect and conserve landscape character and visual amenity within the neighbourhood plan.	To protect the diversity and local distinctiveness of high sensitivity landscapes. To avoid significantly affecting the special qualities of internationally and nationally designated landscape and historic areas.	Likely adverse effect on areas of high natural heritage sensitivity. Proximity to World Heritage Sites, National Scenic Areas, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Heritage Coasts.
7. Material Assets	Including the architectural and archaeological heritage landscape (and) the interrelationship between the above factors.	Protection of the conservation area and the built integrity of the village, encompassing its landscape and historical value characteristics.	The relationship between proposed residential areas and local green spaces with the existing built environment.

Table 2: SEA receptors, objectives, sub-objectives and indicators

5.2 Population and Human Health

Bradleys Both has a population of 1,244 people (2011 census). As is highlighted in the Craven Local Plan (2012-2032), the Craven district has considerable issues with an ageing population. On the one hand, this broadly indicates that general health amongst people living in the area is of relatively good standard. However, an ageing population puts significant pressures on services, and also on the existing working population, in terms of financially supporting those who have retired and who are on average living longer than in previous decades. This trend is more pronounced in the smaller towns and villages in the district, such as Bradley. The recent evidence of a slightly reducing population overall in the village reflects this trend, as younger people often move away from the village to larger towns and cities such as Skipton, Keighley, or Leeds.

The Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan and the Craven Local Plan have both allocated the same residential site within the village boundaries to provide opportunities to those aged 18-45 years old to stay in the area, and indeed move to the village from elsewhere. The Craven Local Plan (2012 – 2032) has policies encouraging a wide mix of housing types and sizes to help younger people buy a first home. Like many villages in Craven and largely rural areas elsewhere in England, this is a considerable challenge, but the neighbourhood plan's residential allocation has an objective of trying to improve social sustainability over the lifetime of the plan. With 24 new homes intended to be accommodated as part of

the site BB03, this site should greatly assist in attracting younger people to the village. Overall, in the Craven Local Plan's plan period there are homes to be accommodated in accordance with Table 2, at a proportional percentage of 0.8% per year.

In addition, any disruption to the quality of life in existing residential areas as a result of the neighbourhood plan is likely to be minimal. The provision of the proposed local green spaces is likely to increase recreational opportunities for existing and new residents, increasing the quality of life in the village. The provision of these local green spaces does not inhibit the accommodation of 24 dwellings on the same proposed residential site as in the Craven Local Plan (2012 -2032). Hence the improvement in the social and economic sustainability of the village is facilitated by the neighbourhood plan over this plan's lifetime.

Beyond the neighbourhood plan period, it must be noted that the number, location and size of the proposed local green spaces (particularly LGS designations No.6, No. 10 & No. 12) may place limitations on where future residential development can arise that can adjoin the existing built-up area, particularly adjacent to the western, southern and south-eastern edges of the village. There seems to be future opportunities for residential development to the east of the village, but a combination of local green space designations to the west and south, the CFS2 designation (Existing Sporting and Recreation Facility) to the south, and some topography issues to the north, may limit residential growth potential in these directions. If, due to unforeseen circumstances, the current allocated site cannot come forward and realise its dwelling allocation, there may be potentially limitations on what replacement site(s) can be chosen.

Regarding affordable housing, Policy HOU3 of the neighbourhood plan is in agreement with Policy H2 of the Craven Local Plan, which states that with developments of 11 dwellings or more, and developments with a combined gross floor area of more than 1,000 square metres, they will provide not less than 30% of new dwellings as affordable housing. This text ensures that there are possibilities for a larger range of the local population to obtain a first home, and hence provides a greater degree of social sustainability in Bradley and elsewhere in the Craven Local Plan area.

5.3 Cultural Heritage

Nationally listed buildings are classed as Grade I (exceptional interest), Grade II* (particularly important buildings of more than special interest) or Grade II (special interest). Grade I or II* are those of 'outstanding architectural or historic interest' and comprise only 8% of listed buildings in England. Whilst consideration of the fabric and setting of all listed buildings is appropriate through screening, likely effects on Grade I and Grade II* listed structures have the potential to be particularly significant.

Since 2008, Historic England has released an annual Heritage at Risk Register. The Heritage at Risk Register highlights the Grade I and Grade II* listed buildings, and scheduled monuments, conservation areas, wreck sites, and registered parks and gardens in England deemed to be 'at risk'. In some locations surveys of Grade II listed buildings have also been carried out. The listing of a structure on the 'at risk' register highlights a particular sensitivity of a site. Whilst conservation areas are locally designated, they typically represent important concentrations of key historic environment features and townscapes.

The map of Bradley in Appendix III shows the location of all the listed buildings in the neighbourhood plan area. The allocated residential site is not located adjacent to any of the listed buildings in the village, and there should not be a detrimental effect on these buildings from new residential development. The detailed design policy (Policy HOU2, page 25) in the neighbourhood plan advises that new dwellings in the chosen sites will be built in the design and tradition of existing buildings which form the character of the village.

5.4 Biodiversity, Flora, and Fauna

Consideration of sites of biodiversity, fauna and flora importance is reviewed in detail in the aforementioned Habitat Regulations Assessment document prepared for the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan. This document analyses any likely significant effects on European designated sites in the vicinity of the neighbourhood plan, namely Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). The SACS, SPAs and Ramsar sites in and around the Craven Local Plan area are shown in Appendices I and II.

In addition to these European designated sites, National Nature Reserves (NNRs) were established to protect some of England's most important habitats, species and geology, and to provide 'outdoor laboratories' for ecological research. NNRs are of national importance and represent areas which are among the best examples of a particular habitat. There are no NNRs within the neighbourhood plan area or immediately adjacent to it. Therefore, any impacts of the neighbourhood plan should be negligible on the biodiversity value of any NNRs in the wider area, and also the opportunities for research and enjoyment within them.

The local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) identifies a number of 'priority habitats' that are characteristic of an area, and for which the area makes a significant contribution to England's objectives in terms of the BAP. Consideration should be made to the location and extent of BAP Priority Habitats through screening. There are not extensive areas of BAP Priority Habitat located close to the existing settlement boundaries, and there is no risk of important habitats being lost through development of the residential preferred site chosen.

5.5 Water Resources and Flood Risk Avoidance

Significant environmental effects may occur from a neighbourhood plan, particularly where potential development areas are heavily constrained by flood risk zones. In picking the preferred sites for development, the Craven Local Plan selects sites for development in which all or at least most of the area of each the sites are within a Flood Zone 1 designation. Flood Zone 3 represents land with a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding, or a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of sea flooding. Hence, this Flood Zone 3 designation is best avoided when choosing sites for residential development. A Flood Zone 2 designation is not quite as significant, but it is again better to avoid this designation if possible in order to minimise flood risk.

The residential site brought forward in the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan is located on land designated as Flood Zone 1, which is the lowest flood risk designation put forward by the Environment Agency. Flood risks to the village from the proposed site are thereby minimised.

Source Protection Zones for groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs used for public drinking water supply have been designated by the Environment Agency. These zones show the risk of contamination from any activities that might cause pollution in the area. Through the awareness of the presence of Source Protection Zones, consideration may be made to the likelihood of neighbourhood plan

activities contaminating groundwater sources. There are no groundwater protection zones within the neighbourhood plan boundary or in the immediate vicinity of the boundary. From Environment Agency mapping, the nearest zones are in the small settlements of Flasby and Thorlby to the north of Bradley, and west of Skipton.

5.6 Climatic Factors, Air and Soil Quality

Pollutants can include emissions of particulate matter or nitrogen dioxide from transport sources, or sulphur dioxide from industrial activities. In practice, neighbourhood plans have the most potential to affect air quality through increases in road transport users. There is no traffic modelling study available for Bradley. As part of the adopted Craven Local Plan process, only Skipton was judged large enough to warrant a specific traffic modelling study.

Therefore, there is no evidence available to evaluate the likely rise in private vehicle traffic above the current baseline from the proposed residential sites in the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan. However, it is believed that Bradley's contribution to air quality emissions in the Craven plan area and to designated European natural sites in the vicinity is likely to be very small or negligible given the relatively low number of sites,

In terms of air pollution and its relationship to human health, Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are designated in urban areas in England because they are not likely to achieve national air quality objectives. Bradley is not designated as an AQMA, nor is any other town or village in the Craven District.

The Agricultural Land Classification classifies land into six grades (plus 'non-agricultural' and 'urban'), where Grades 1 to 3a are the 'best and most versatile' land and Grades 3b to 5 are of poorer quality. Grade 1 land is the most valuable agricultural land. Consideration should be made to the location of Grade 1 to 3a land in respect to potential development areas.

The likely significance of effects on such land may be influenced in part by the local availability of the best and most versatile agricultural land. The surrounding areas of Bradley are frequently comprised on Grade 3 agricultural land. The proposed residential site situated on greenfield land is classified as Grade 3 in terms of agricultural land.

5.7 Landscape and Visual Amenity

The southern boundary of the Yorkshire Dales National Park is located close to the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan area. During the process of the Craven Local Plan preparation, proposed sites were put forward for selection in a range of locations in and around the village. The chosen site is located on the northern edge of Bradley. It is not considered that the neighbourhood plan constitutes a damaging impact to the wider landscape in the Bradleys Both environs, whether that is the national park landscape or otherwise.

5.8 Material Assets

The material assets of a village or town include the architectural and archaeological heritage landscape of the settlement and the interrelationship between these assets. It is hence important to protect the conservation area and the built integrity of the village, encompassing its landscape and historical value. The relationship between proposed residential areas and local green spaces with the existing built environment is a key indicator of this. In the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan, the proposed residential site has been chosen sensitivity to safeguard the existing conservation area and the listed buildings in the village. Local green spaces have been chosen so that many protect and enhance such designations, and also to increase public enjoyment of them through improved recreational opportunities.

5.9 Cumulative Impacts

In terms of cumulative impacts arising from this neighbourhood plan in combination with other plans, the adopted Craven Local Plan is the most significant, and it has an accompanying HRA Appropriate Assessment which concludes that there is an unlikely to be any negative cumulative effects arising from the proposals within it. Bradford Core Strategy is also important, as it proposes a relatively large number of dwellings over its plan period. Analysis of the effective mitigation measures in its Appropriate Assessment, along with green infrastructure provision and development avoidance measures in the southeast of the Craven Local Plan area, shows that there are unlikely to be any significant cumulative effects associated with the Bradley Neighbouring Plan in the area.

6. Conclusions and Subsequent Steps

6.1 Summary

This assessment has described and analysed the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan, in the context of the Strategic Environmental Assessment process and the Craven Local Plan. It has described the proposed development in the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan in terms of its site allocations and other spatial planning provisions. It has analysed the legislative background and the process of the SEA, and the Bradleys Both neighbourhood plan area. The assessment has examined the proposed site allocations and policies of the plan, and considered any likely significant effects under a range of related social, environmental and economic themes.

6.2 Conclusions

Based on the available evidence, it can be concluded that the policies and development proposed by the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan are not likely to lead to any adverse effects of a social, environmental or economic dimension over the lifetime of the neighbourhood plan.

Through its range of policies, the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan establishes a reasonable and pragmatic strategic approach to appropriately reduce the risk of any adverse impact associated with the promotion of new residential development, and also promote the continual maintenance of the socio-economic values of the village, in terms of quality of life. This includes allocating its proposed development site effectively, promoting high quality building design, providing pathways for green infrastructure networks, and maintaining and establishing alternative recreational sites in the form of local green spaces and otherwise.

The policies of the neighbourhood plan analysed in Appendix V are shown to have negligible negative impacts, and in many cases to have the intended positive impacts on social, environmental and economic interests. Overall, the neighbourhood plan demonstrates that any adverse effects are capable of being avoided over the lifetime of this neighbourhood plan.

There would seem to be no threat to the listed buildings in the village of Bradleys Both from the locations of the proposed residential site. The proposals of the design policy for future dwellings in the village should ensure that new development would be complementary to the existing conservation heritage area and the built environment of the village as a whole.

Additional recreational sites are brought forward in the form of local green space and green infrastructure to support existing recreational areas. This provides social benefits for residents, and also diverts pressure away from areas of important natural habitat. The greenfield site to be released for development does not include areas of important supporting habitat in terms of feeding locations for protected wildlife species, and a sufficiently robust network of offsite foraging habitats continues to exist in and around Bradleys Both village.

The neighbourhood plan proposes a number of local green space designations (including the additional LGS at Sweet Croft; No. 15 on Appendix VII map), and a number of recreation areas. The provision of these local green spaces does not inhibit the accommodation of the number of new dwelling units to meet the required housing target for Bradley within the Craven Local Plan. Hence the socio-economic sustainability of the neighbourhood plan over its lifetime can be achieved through proposed policies. Beyond the neighbourhood plan time period, the number, location and size of the proposed local green spaces (particularly LGS designations No.6, No. 10 & No. 12) may pose potential limitations on where future development can be accommodated adjacent to the existing built-up area of the village. There would seem to be future opportunities for residential development to the east of the village, but a combination of proposed local green space designations to the west, south, and southeast, the CFS2 designation (Existing Sporting and Recreation Facility) to the south, and some topography issues to the north,

may limit residential growth potential in these directions. Hence, beyond the lifetime of this neighbourhood plan, and its housing target, the potential for continual development aligned to the existing built form of the village would seem to be quite limited. This potential restriction may be further analysed during a review of the neighbourhood plan, so that the most appropriate solutions can be considered.

Traffic growth resulting from new development is not likely to add significantly to levels of traffic and atmospheric pollution on roads, given the small size of the village and the relatively low number of sites allocated, with only one site required. Analysis on the potential impacts of air quality of the proposed residential site is shown in the Habitat Regulations Assessment appraisal of this neighbourhood plan. Flood risk is not likely to be increased in the village due to the suitable location of the proposed development site in a Flood Risk Zone 1. Urban edge effects from the relatively low amount of development in Bradleys Both are thought to be negligible.

Therefore, it is thought sufficiently unlikely that the spatial strategy, policies or allocated sites chosen by the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan would have any adverse social, economic or environmental impacts over the lifetime of this plan, and the time period of the associated Craven Local Plan (2012 – 2032). This neighbourhood plan is deemed to demonstrate effectively the sustainable development principles outlined in the National Planning Policy Framework, over its intended time period.

6.3 Subsequent Steps

The previous version of this document (in September 2022) was presented to the statutory bodies of the Environment Agency, Historic England, and Natural England for their consideration and review, alongside the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan. From the responses of these three statutory bodies (see Appendix VIII), the three statutory bodies are each of the view that no Strategic Environment Assessment is required.

The document has been intended to support the neighbourhood plan during its examination process. The Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to Craven District Council at the time, as part of the preparation for the neighbourhood plan's examination. The Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan was open to representations from the public and statutory bodies at consultation stage following submission of the plan

to Craven District Council at the time. The Bradleys Both NDP was adopted in November 2023. The made and adopted Bradley NDP forms part of the statutory development plan for the Bradley designated neighbourhood area, together with the adopted Craven Local Plan (2012-2032).

Following the approval of the Neighbourhood Plan in November 2023, the Parish Council have stated that it became apparent to them that a Local Green Space (LGS), at the location of Sweet Croft, needed to be included in the list of LGSs in the NDP. There has been a revision of the Neighbourhood Development Plan to reflect the inclusion of that LGS. The Chairman of Bradleys Both Parish Council placed a note within the document, reflecting this revision, which was dated October 2024. Bradleys Both Parish Council sent the revised NDP to the author in April 2025 and requested that the author update the existing SEA to include this LGS inclusion. This updated document is the response to this request. The inclusion of this Local Green Space has been analysed within the document, and it does not alter the conclusions of this report.

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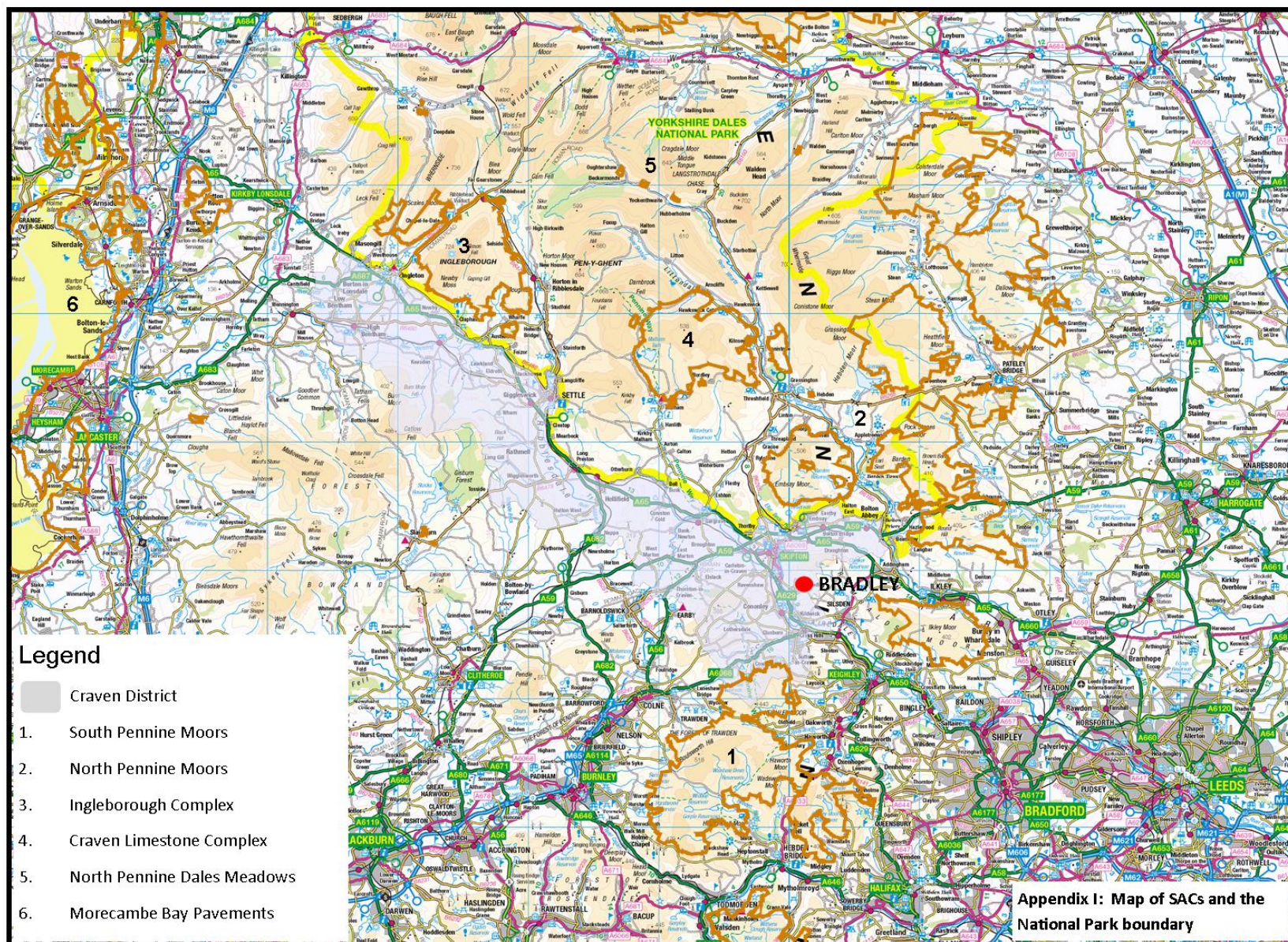
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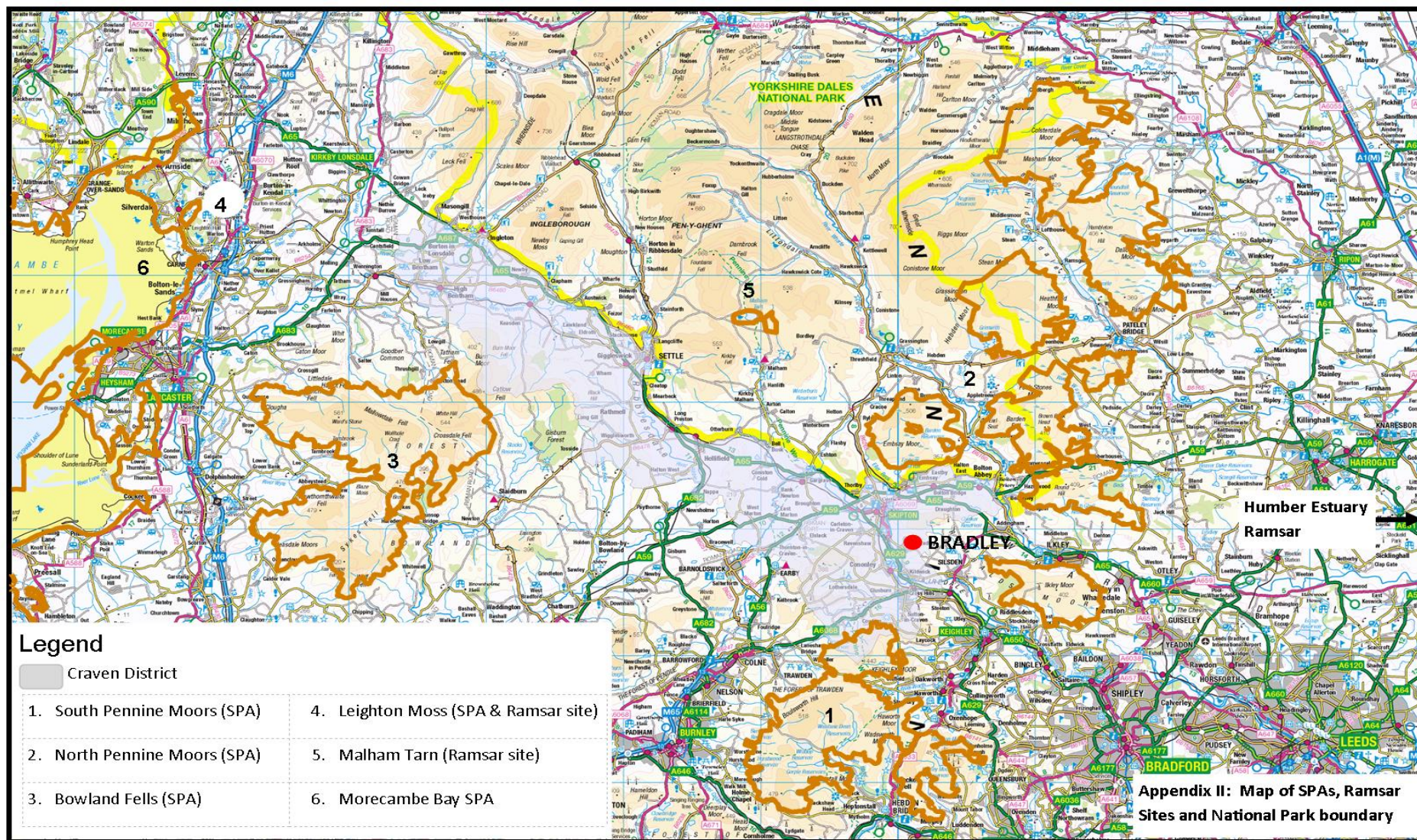
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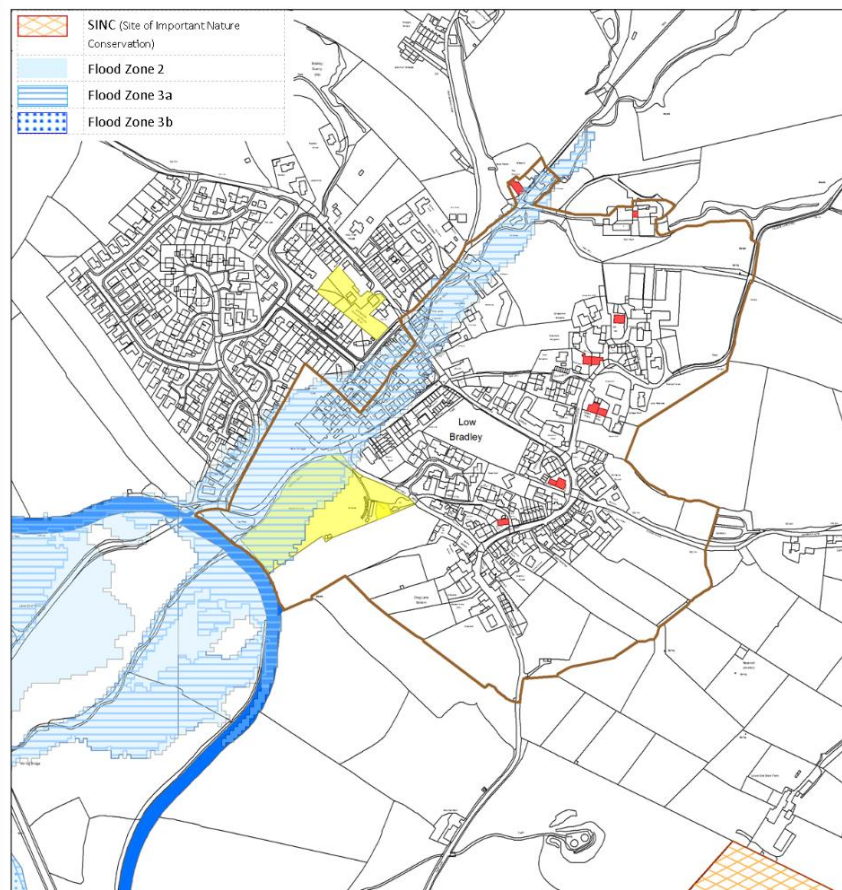
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**Appendix III: Opportunities
and Constraints Map for
Bradley**



Opportunities and Constraints Map for
Bradley



Scale: 1:15000 @ A4
Based on Ordnance Survey Mapping
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Ordnance Survey 100024694

(Key continued)	
	Conservation Area
	Listed Building
	Open Space, Civic Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities
	Leeds-Liverpool Canal

**Appendix IV: Site
Allocation in the Bradleys
Both Neighbourhood Plan**



Appendix V: Review of Plan Policies and Potential Effects on SEA Objectives

Reference of policy option	Policy Summary	Relation to potential impact(s) on SEA objectives	Likelihood and Severity of Effects	Are mitigation measures required?
ENV1 – Local Green Spaces (NP: page 16)	Proposals for any development on the land designated as a Local Green Space will be resisted other than in very special circumstances. The locations designated as Local Green Spaces are set out in Appendix 4 of the neighbourhood plan.	Designating land for local green space benefits the local population of the village in terms of increasing recreational opportunities, and hence has positive health and well-being impacts. It has also safeguards local biodiversity interests and promotes green infrastructure linkages.	Over the designated time period of the neighbourhood plan, there are positive impacts on both socio-economic and environmental elements. It may be beneficial to investigate how the designations of the number and location of these local green spaces will influence what potential development sites can come forward beyond this neighbourhood plan's time period. It is expected that the allocated site in the plan is to come forward, but if for unforeseen circumstances that it does not, there may be potential difficulties in locating alternative site(s) during the lifetime of the plan.	There are no mitigation measures required during the lifetime of the neighbourhood plan. But the number and location of local green spaces may inhibit development opportunities beyond the timespan of this neighbourhood plan. It is advisable that further consideration is given in this regard.

ENV2 – Green Infrastructure links (NP: page 17)	A defined, continuous green infrastructure link will be maintained to serve to protect and enhance the areas of tranquillity which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise whilst providing good opportunities for wildlife, recreational and amenity purposes. It is also the intention to provide a multi-functional green corridor that will be maintained so that Bradley does not merge with Skipton and is able to maintain its integrity as a rural community.	Recreational opportunities for the local populace and tourists are increased with effective green infrastructure planning. The maintenance and provision of green infrastructure can act in a positive manner in terms of wildlife corridors, and also to reduce recreational pressure on the nearby SPAs and SACs.	Over the designated time period of the neighbourhood plan, there are positive impacts on both socio-economic and environmental elements through effective and appropriately planned green infrastructure linkages.	There are no mitigation measures required.
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ENV3 – Conserving the Landscape (NP: page 18)	Within the neighbourhood plan area, development will not be permitted if it adversely affects the visual character of the landscape, including views and vistas. The scale, siting, design and materials of development in the area should be sympathetic to its character.	This policy focuses on maintaining the distinctive built form of the village in providing for new development. It promotes the value of the historic built environment in Bradley. This policy does not directly influence the natural environment.	This policy has a positive impact in terms of the cultural heritage of the village of Bradley. It values and promotes the visual character of the village, and encourages new development to conform and be sympathetic to the scale, sitting, design and materials of local buildings.	There are no mitigation measures required.
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ENV4 – Nature Conservation (NP: page 18)	Development proposals that would result in either the loss of or damage to an existing area of natural habitat will not be permitted unless (1.) proposed mitigation measures would result in an effective solution to ensure the integrity of the habitat continues after the implementation of the development; or in exceptional circumstances, the development concerned identifies appropriate measures for the relocation of the existing habitat to an appropriate site within the neighbourhood area.	This policy focuses on maintaining and improving the existing natural environment within the neighbourhood plan area. It compliments Policy ENV2 in trying to maintain an effective local green network and linkages.	This policy should have a strongly positive impact on the natural environment and biodiversity. The policy promotes the conservation of the local natural interests whilst trying to accommodate any new residential development which arises over time.	There are no mitigation measures required.
ENV5 – Wind turbines (NP: page 19)	Proposals for new wind turbines will only be supported if the number, size, position and/or location does not: (1.) damage or compromise the open views across the countryside, (2.) restrict access to the countryside, and (3.) damage biodiversity and natural habitats.	There is provision here to support renewable energy efforts, whilst maintaining open views, good access, and biodiversity interests.	This is a positive policy in terms of the environment because it recognises the importance of providing for green and renewable energy, but also the requirement that existing views, access links and biodiversity interests are safeguarded.	There are no mitigation measures required.

ENV6 – Control of solar farms (NP: page 20)	In all cases, ground-mounted solar photovoltaic farms will only be supported where they meet a number of criteria associated with valuable agricultural land, landscapes and visual impact.	This is a similar policy to the content of Policy ENV5. There is provision here to support renewable energy efforts, whilst maintaining open views, good access, and valuable agricultural land.	This is a positive policy in terms of the environment because it recognises the importance of providing for green and renewable energy, but also the requirement that existing views, access links and agricultural land are safeguarded.	There are no mitigation measures required.
ENV7 – Infill Development (NP: page 20)	Proposals for new dwellings on private residential gardens or back land within the plan will not be supported where this would result in: (1.) an unacceptable reduction of the green space created by the garden or back land itself or in combination with surrounding gardens; (2.) an unacceptable impact on the landscape and environmental value of the site; (3.) restricted access to the highway or additional inconsiderate on-street parking.	The possibility for infill development is recognised where it is deemed appropriate. This can result in new homes being accommodated within the village's built up area, rather than requiring greenfield land elsewhere. The policy does not encourage infill development where there is a detrimental effect on the living space of surrounding residents.	There is a minor positive impact on the surrounding natural environment as infill development is considered as a viable option. There are positive impacts on the well-being of existing residents, as the policy aims to prevent a detrimental impact on surrounding properties.	No mitigation measures are likely to be required.
ENV8 – Protecting Conservation and Heritage Sites (NP: page 21)	New development must conserve and enhance the parish by numerous methods, including protecting natural assets, and enhancing the natural environment and biodiversity.	Some elements of this policy are referenced in previous ENV policies above. Policy ENV8 is more specifically focused, in terms of for example, the protection of individual trees, the improvement of street kerbing, and the avoidance of construction litter associated with individual developments.	The policy has some relevance to more localised natural environment issues, and acts primarily to conserve the good local living standards of the surrounding village environment for residents.	No mitigation measures are likely to be required.

HOU1 – Identification of land for housing in Bradley from 2012 to 2032 (NP: page 23)	Land for 18 new homes will be allocated on the following housing site: Land at Skipton Road (BB03). The site brief at Appendix 5 of the neighbourhood plan is intended to inform the future development of this site.	This policy is focused on the proposed development site in the neighbourhood plan. The accompanying Appendix 5 lists the merits of the site, in terms of available access, low flood risk, and the favourable walking distance from the site to the village centre.	The proposed development site is deemed to be the most favourable site available from the list of potential residential sites put forward. This site is also favoured by the Craven Local Plan. The provision of 24 dwellings on this site is deemed to have the least negative impact on social and environmental elements, and this can enhance the social sustainability of the village, in terms of providing homes for those of working age.	There are standard development principles in the Craven Local Plan for this site.
HOU2 – New housing development design policy (NP: page 25)	Planning applications for new development in the village should have regard to, and be determined in accordance with, a number of stated design parameters.	Policy HOU2 primarily deals with maintaining and respecting the traditional built environment of the village. Some of the elements of this policy are previously referenced in Policy ENV3, and this policy also refers to specific building design features.	The policy is intended to have positive impacts for the traditional built environment of the village. There is no direct influence on the surrounding natural environment.	No mitigation measures are likely to be required.
HOU3 – Housing Type, Mix and Density (NP: page 28)	New housing development within Bradley should be brought forward in accordance with the listed guidelines in the policy, unless otherwise robustly justified.	Policy HOU3 focuses on providing homes within new development that provide for a diverse range of community requirements, and providing affordable homes for new residents. Housing designed specifically to meet the requirements of elderly residents within the village will be supported where there is an identified need.	There are positive impacts on social sustainability from this policy as housing is intended to meet a wider range of community requirements. Large houses which take up an increased allocation of available land are intended to be minimised, which has positive impacts on the natural environment. There is agreement with the neighbourhood plan and the Craven Local Plan on recommended housing density.	There are no mitigation measures likely to be required.

HT1 – Approach road difficulties and village road safety and congestion (NP: page 30)	New residential or commercial development proposals must demonstrate vehicular access to and from the major primary routes (A629 and A6131) without the need for traffic to pass through the village centre wherever possible. The policy is directed at containing the flow of traffic through the village centre; reducing congestion and improving pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle safety both within the village and on the approaches.	Policy HT1 looks to minimise traffic congestion in the village and hence reduce local air pollution.	There are intended to be positive impacts on local environmental conditions in terms of minimising traffic congestion and minimising negative impacts on air quality arising from new development.	There are no mitigation measures likely to be required.
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HT2 – New Development Infrastructure (NP: page 32)	Developments that extend and/or improve the footpaths and highways within the village to improve pedestrian safety will be supported. The priorities are: to provide a safe crossing for pedestrians and improved vehicular access at the dangerous junction of the A629 and Ings Lane, and to improve the sight line and provide a footpath on Skipton Road (over 'The Heath').	Policy HT2 focuses on safeguarding and improving pedestrian safety in the village in terms of interactions with vehicular traffic at pedestrian crossings and busy junctions.	The policy is intended to have a positive impact on the health and well-being of residents in terms of trying to reduce accidents between pedestrians and vehicles in the village. There are no direct impacts on the natural environment.	No mitigation measures are required.
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CFS1 – Bradley’s Community Facilities (NP: page 33)	Development that would result in either the loss or significant harm to the value of a specified community facility or service will be resisted, unless it can be clearly demonstrated that the operation of the facility or service is no longer financially viable. Development that would enhance the community value or viability of a facility or services will be supported.	This policy is aimed at preserving and protecting community facilities and services in Bradley. There is a recognition that development can result in the loss of such services or facilities where such services are no longer financially viable.	This policy is intended to protect the valuable community facilities in the village in order to support social sustainability. There are positive socio-economic impacts envisaged here, and there is no direct impact on the natural environment.	There are no mitigation measures required.
CFS2 – Creation of new and the extension of existing sporting and recreation facilities (NP: page 34)	Proposals for developments linked to the creation of new/extension of existing recreation facilities will be supported where: the facility is for the benefit of the residents of Bradley Parish, and the agreement for the provision of the land for sporting/recreation facilities is considered prior to commencement of development.	There are positive intentions for cultural heritage in the village. There is the intention of providing for new recreation facilities and the extension of existing recreation facilities where it is appropriate.	There are positive impacts envisaged in terms of improving the health and well-being of existing and future residents of the village. The improvement of existing cultural heritage and recreational facilities has a positive impact on the natural environment in terms of reducing recreational impact on designated protected areas elsewhere.	There are no mitigation measures required.

ELB1 – Retaining productive farmland (NP: page 36)	In areas of variable pasture quality it is essential that the land which provides good quality agricultural land e.g. grade 3 or better, should be protected from non-agricultural development unless it can be demonstrated that the development outweighs the agricultural land loss.	The policy recognises the value of retaining productive farmland. The intention is to protect valuable agricultural land where possible from new development. The policy states that it is essential to retain the most productive of farmland, and that speculative and non-agricultural developments should make primary use of brownfield sites or other areas set aside for identified purposes.	The policy has positive impacts on aiming to protecting viable agricultural land and hence trying to ensure the maximum productivity of agricultural land whilst also accommodating development interests. There are positive rural economic impacts associated with this policy.	No mitigation measures are envisaged.
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ELB2 – Airedale Business Centre & Acorn Business Park (NP: page 38)	Proposals to upgrade or redevelop existing buildings and surrounding environment in the Airedale Business Centre & Acorn Business Park will be supported provided they meet a number of listed criteria.	Policy ELB2 focuses on the Airedale Business Centre and Acorn Business Park, which is a key source of local employment for residents of the village. The policy aims to maintain employment standards and conditions to favour existing business and any future similar enterprises.	The policy aims to preserve favourable economic conditions for existing employment in the Airedale Business Centre and the Acorn Business Park. There is a positive impact for local business.	No mitigation measures envisaged.
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ELB3 – Proposals for change of use (NP: page 38)	Proposals for change of use of existing business premises away from employment activity will be resisted unless it can be demonstrated that the existing use is no longer viable: i.e. that the site has been marketed for one year at a reasonable price and is not suitable for its present purpose.	The policy aims to resist the change from existing employment usage to other uses. Policy ELB3 recognises that an existing employment use can become no longer viable, but otherwise the policy tries to provide the best conditions for local employment opportunities to continue.	There is a positive impact for socio-economic elements in the village and for its residents dependent on local employment. The policy aims to support rural business.	No mitigation measures are envisaged.
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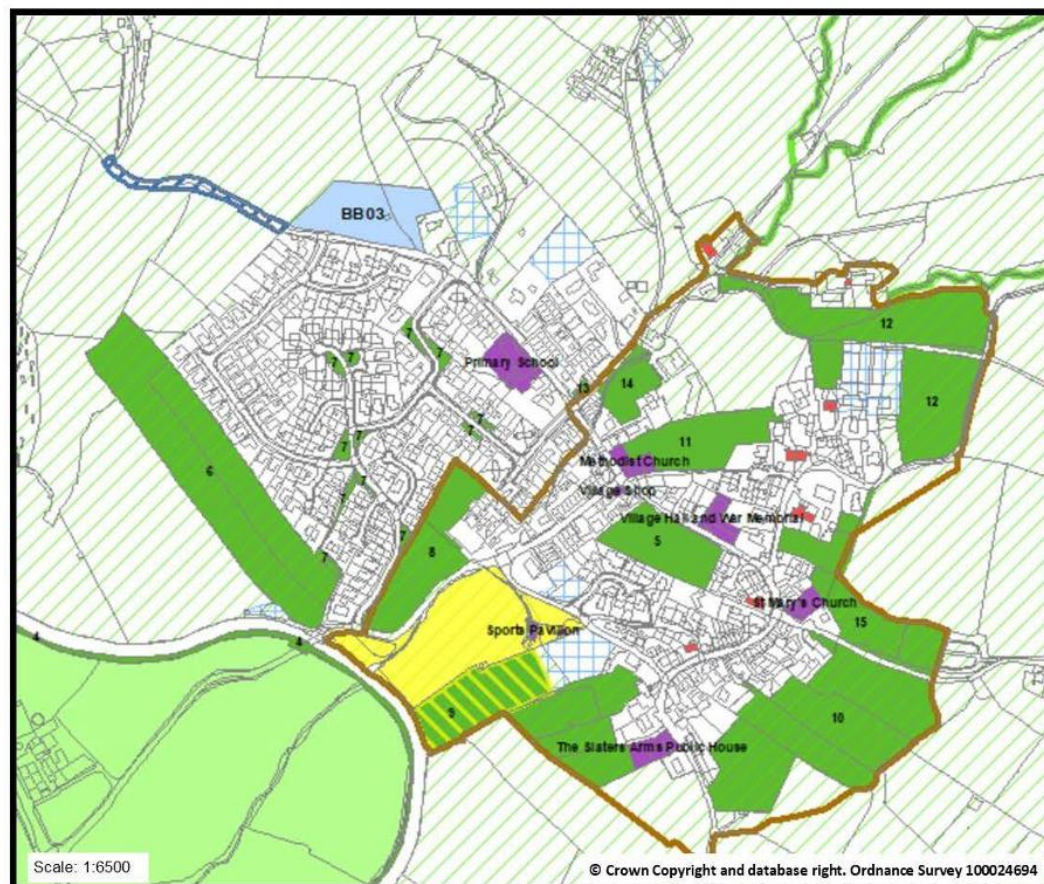
ELB4 – Supporting Rural Business (NP: page 39)	Appropriate small scale business/tourism related developments will be supported that are appropriate to the village setting in terms of function, design and materials, include the redevelopment or re-use of existing buildings or previously used sites, does not impede traffic flow, and provide unrestricted site access and the provision of adequate car parking facilities.	Policy ELB4 aims to support rural business, and encourages small scale business and tourism related developments, subject to such businesses meeting built heritage, and local traffic minimisation schemes.	There is recognition that small scale, local businesses should be encouraged to ensure social and economic sustainability over the lifetime of the neighbourhood plan. There are positive socio-economic impacts resulting from this policy.	No mitigation measures envisaged.
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Appendix VI: Review of Proposed Residential Sites and Potential Effects on SEA Objectives

Site Reference Number and Location	Net Developable Area (hectares) and Expected Yield	Site Description	Any environmental, social or economic objectives potentially affected, and likelihood and severity of effects	Description of mitigation measures if required
BB03; Land to west of Gilders, Langholme, Skipton Road, Low Bradley	0.743 hectares (0.8 hectares in the Craven Local Plan) and 24 dwellings	Appendix 5, entitled 'Site Briefs', of the neighbourhood plan describes this site. It details that access to the site is adjacent to Skipton Road, and the site is relatively close to the A629 road. The site is located in Flood Zone 1. The site is gently sloping, with the higher ground being on the northern edge of the site, and is grade 3 agricultural land.	There are no significant adverse ecological effects envisaged from this site being developed of the village. As a site adjoining the existing built form of the village, it is important to ensure compatibility of built form and building materials to neighbouring dwellings to ensure the integrity of the conservation area. Hence the siting and design of development on the site to conserve the significance of the conservation area setting. Policy HOU2 of the neighbourhood plan sufficiently details how new development should conform with recommended design parameters. There are considerable socio-economic benefits associated with this relatively small-scale housing development.	There are standard development principles for the development of this site in the adopted version of the Craven Local Plan (2012 – 2032). As the site is in a prominent location, development proposals should be carefully and sensitively designed to minimise visual impact on the character and appearance of the area, and include measures to minimise impacts on air quality. Ground work assessment will be required as part of the on-site works to investigate areas thought to be of archaeological significance. Development proposals for this site must accord with Local Plan policies H2, INF3 and INF6 (which set out requirements for contributions towards affordable housing, education provision and sport, open space and recreation facilities) and all other relevant Local Plan policies. The neighbourhood plan encourages dwellings that will be built to use appropriate materials which reflect the distinctive local character of Bradley village centre. Development of this site should protect the privacy of neighbouring occupiers, and buildings should not exceed two storeys in height.

**Appendix VII: Map of
Local Green Spaces
and sporting and
recreational facilities**

KEY	
	ENV1: Local Green Space
	CFS2: Creation of new and the extension of existing Sporting and Recreation Facilities—Existing Sporting and Recreation Facility
	CFS2: Creation of new and the extension of existing Sporting and Recreation Facilities—Extension to existing Sporting and Recreation Facility



Appendix VIII: Response from Statutory Bodies

Bradley Parish Council received the following responses from the Environment Agency, Natural England, and Historic England during the months of August and September 2022. In each case, the text related to the SEA Screening Report for this neighbourhood plan is shown below.

Environment Agency

Strategic Environmental Assessment

We note that the City Council has a responsibility to advise the Parish Council if there is a need for formal Strategic Environmental Assessment of the draft Neighbourhood Plan. You are seeking our views in order to inform the Council's decision on this matter.

We have considered the draft plan and its policies against those environmental characteristics of the area that fall within our remit and area of interest.

Having considered the nature of the policies in the Plan, we consider that it is unlikely that significant negative impacts on environmental characteristics that fall within our remit and interest will result through the implementation of the plan. Therefore we do not see it necessary for an Strategic Environmental Assessment.

We have no further comments to make in this instance.

Regards
Claire Dennison
Sustainable Places Planning Advisor

Natural England

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment

It is our advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that, in so far as our strategic environmental interests (including but not limited to statutory designated sites, landscapes and protected species, geology and soils) are concerned, that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed plan.

Neighbourhood Plan

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in light of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended), is contained within the National Planning Practice Guidance. The guidance highlights three triggers that may require the production of an SEA, for instance where:

- A neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development;
- The neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan;
- The neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

We have checked our records and based on the information provided, we can confirm that in our view the proposals contained within the plan will not have significant effects on sensitive sites that Natural England has a statutory duty to protect.

We are not aware of significant populations of protected species which are likely to be affected by the policies / proposals within the plan. it remains the case, however, that the reasonable authority should provide information supporting this screening decision, sufficient to assess whether protected species are likely to be affected.

Notwithstanding this advice, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all potential environmental assets. As a result the responsible authority should raise environmental issues that we have not identified on local or national biodiversity action plan species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites or local landscape character, with its own ecological and/or landscape advisers, local record centre, recording

society or wildlife body on the local landscape and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by this plan, before determining whether an SA / SEA is necessary.

Please note that Natural England reserves the right to provide further comments on the environmental assessment of the plan beyond this SEA / SA screening stage, should the responsible authority seek our views on the scoping or environmental report stages. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make.

For any consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation, please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Sally Wintle

Consultations Team

Historic England

For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine its advice to the question (Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?" in respect to our area of concern, cultural heritage. Our comments are based on the information supplied within the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Development Plan 2021 – 2037.

The Draft Neighbourhood Plan indicates that within the plan area there is a wide range and number of designated cultural heritage assets. There are also likely to be other features of local historic, architectural or archaeological value, and consideration should also be given to the wider historic landscape.

On the basis of the information supplied, and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], Historic England has concluded that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required for the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan.

The views of the other two statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for an SEA is made. We should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information available in the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Plan.

To avoid any doubt, this does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on later stages of the SEA process and, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan/guidance) where we consider that, despite the SEA, these would have an adverse effect upon the environment.

We would be pleased if you send a copy of the determination as required by REG 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of the Craven District Council and the North Yorkshire Archaeology Service are closely involved throughout the preparation of the plan and its assessment. They are best placed to advise on local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the HER (formerly SMR), how the policy or proposal can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment, the nature and design of any required mitigation measures, and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of historic assets.

We look forward to receiving notification of the outcome of the Examination of and Referendum upon the Bradleys Both Neighbourhood Development in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Craig Broadwith

Historic Places Adviser

