SECTION A: SPATIAL STRATEGY OPTIONS

Key: (++) = Double Positive [colour: dark green], (+) = Positive [colour: light green], 0 = Neutral [colour: grey], (-) Negative [colour: pink], (--) Double Negative [colour: maroon].

Strategy Options: Option A - Growth focused on main settlements; Option B - Dispersed growth; Option C - Growth focused on Skipton; Option D - Growth focused on Skipton and the south-east; Option E (Preferred) - A balanced hierarchy of growth

SA Objective	Growth focused on main settlements						
	Option A						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	++	++	+	++	-	+	By directing most growth towards main settlements and matching this with the approach to employment development, employers will be able to create new employment opportunities that would be accessible to economically active residents in Craven. Housing growth has the potential to attract economically active residents and economic growth will assist in enabling existing residents move from lower paid to higher paid employment. The approach will favour urban locations within and around main settlements whilst rural areas will receive no growth. The approach will reflect the trans-boundary situation in terms of movements for work across boundaries. Most key employers and employment locations are based in main settlements and the direction of most new housing growth to these locations will enable the supply of labour to be enhanced and safeguarded thereby underpinning the viability of key employers in Craven.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	+	-	+	By directing most growth towards main settlements and matching this with the approach to employment development, business growth will be supported. Housing and employment growth will attract inward investment through providing a labour pool of the economically active along with serviced employment land. Like SO1, there will be no growth in rural area, so it will not be supported. New residents and the provision of services employment land will enhance both the labour supply and land available to support business growth, productivity and inward investment.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	-	0	The main towns and villages can provide for the housing needs arising from an aging population demographic due to the generally greater diversity of housing types that exist in these locations. Smaller homes suitable for families and older households will be built in more urban areas than village locations and these are necessary to accommodate new residents moving into Craven, whilst also enabling older residents to downsize and free up larger dwelling units. The more urban focus means that no growth is directed toward rural areas. By concentrating on the main settlements it is easier to build smaller market and affordable dwellings suitable for older households and younger families. By delivering new energy efficient homes, this will serve to offset fuel poverty by being cheap to run for residents. There is also a greater opportunity to build starter and affordable homes as part of larger development schemes. Focusing growth on the main settlements could bring people closer to the key services and employment. This could reduce the reliance on the car as a primary mode to transport. By attracting new residents to settlements, this will enable residents to engage in community life and to participate in improving their locality.

SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	++	++	++	++	-	+	By allocating a significant proportion of the housing in Skipton, Settle, Bentham and the main settlements, additional affordable housing could be secured as part of development proposals and these could support the community's needs, including access to high speed broadband. Focusing on the main settlements will bring people closer to the key services and employment so reducing the reliance on the car. However, focusing development towards the main settlements will not provide support to village services. The greatest strain on education provision is in Skipton and additional development could support the construction of an additional school. By directing development to main settlements, the potential effect on services such as education, could be seen as over-burdening existing facilities should the investment to offset the detrimental effects not come forward. Rural schools will be unsupported. Supporting comparison shopping can only be achieved by focusing on the main settlements, in particular Skipton. Retailing in rural areas would not be helped by this approach. The night time economy would benefit from directing development towards main settlements. By placing development in the main settlements people will be better connected to social and community networks but the lack of range of housing in villages may result in people having to move away from their friendship groups. However, by focusing development towards main centres, it is easier to fund significant infrastructure provision.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	+	+	By focusing on the main settlements the journeys are likely to be urban or intra urban, thus reducing the impact on rural roads that are potentially substandard. The GPs, dentists, and hospitals are predominantly in the main settlements and new development in these locations will assist with maintaining their viability, and serve a wider hinterland that could extend beyond Craven. New developments will allow better green infrastructure links to the country side and the ability to produce public open space. As current health services and future extra care facilities are in the larger settlements it is logical to locate dwellings particularly suiting those likely to make use of such facilities close by. By locating new developments near to employment opportunities and other services (including public transport provision) it will decrease costs to the most deprived and increase the economic and social opportunities. The greater the scale of development the easier it is to develop infrastructure that will have a wider community benefit. New development in the main settlements can set higher standards for the pedestrian route and could also provide alternative, more pleasant, routes for residents.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	++	++	++	-	0	Housing provision will be directed towards larger population centres where housing needs will be greatest. The focus on main settlements will enable larger sites to be identified with a lower potential level of constraint, and this will enable economies of scale to be achieved arising from the delivery of larger housing sites leading to securing affordable housing. No housing growth will be directed towards rural areas and housing needs in those locations will not be met.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	++	++	++	+	-	0	Most educational facilities are in the main settlements and residents of new developments would support provision of these services whilst making access to them easier. New residents including those of school age will provide support for schools and potentially act as a catalyst for improvement. Rural schools will not be supported this could threaten long term viability in these locations.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	++	++	++	+	+	Access to development schemes would be designed to a standard where safe access and egress would be achieved and it is anticipated that this would be to an adoptable standard. Development schemes would be designed so as to facilitate pedestrian and cyclist access and linking with the settlement, thus encouraging sustainable travel patterns By focussing development towards main settlements, the need to travel to access employment and services would be reduced, thus reducing reliance on the car as primary mode of transport. By focussing most growth to main settlements that are connected by public transport infrastructure, this would encourage and sustainable travel patterns to access services and employment. A spin off to this is that public transport provision will be supported that will also improve connectivity to rural locations.

SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage	0	-	-	-	0	0	The delivery of a greater focus on main settlements, in particular Cross Hills and Glusburn could be affected and limited by the presence of land at a higher risk of flooding in these areas. The directing of growth to areas at higher risk of flooding will, without mitigation, not prevent inappropriate development in flood plains. Site allocation assessments will determine the potential suitability of sites and will inform the allocation of sites going forward. However by focussing on main settlements the supply of potential site in rural locations will not be considered. The use of SuDS is not affected by the choice of spatial strategy but design specifics at site level instead including the size of sites which are allocated.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	+	+	+	+	0	There is generally a greater availability of brownfield land in the larger settlements and also it is possible that less best and most versatile agricultural land would be lost than a focus on the villages. However, there is not sufficient brownfield land available in the right places to deliver this approach and some greenfield locations are required to deliver this approach. As such, the loss of an element of BMV land is likely to arise as a result of the proposals, particularly around Settle, Glusburn, Hellifield, and Gargrave.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	+	+	0	By directing most development to the main settlements, there is generally a greater availability of brownfield land and this will be remediated as a result of redevelopment, delivering benefits overall. The ecological value of brownfield land will be assessed at the time of application and as such it is not possible to ascertain ecological value and associated contribution. However brownfield site that have ecological value will be known and their development potential assessed.
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	-	-	-	-	+	0	It is possible that historic areas in main settlements could be adversely affected by directing growth towards main settlements. Mitigation will be required. Historic areas in rural locations will not be adversely affected by focussing development in main settlements. The consideration of the historic environment in the main settlements will be a consideration in site assessment and selection. By focussing growth on main settlements, historic areas in those settlement could be adversely affected by development and increases in activity overall.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	+	+	+	0	A focus on main settlements is likely to reduce the impact on sites of ecological and geodiversity value thereby safeguarding protected species, farm land due to use of brownfield land, town centre sites and marginal edge of town sites. Rural locations will benefit from a lack of development pressure.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character	++	++	++	++	++	0	The impact of development is less wide spread as it is concentrated on main settlements. It will though be more intense and can be managed more effectively by focussing on specific areas. By focussing development to main settlements and not rural locations, the character of the countryside will be safeguarded thereby contributing to local distinctiveness and safeguarding tranquil areas which typically are away from more built up areas.

SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	++	++	++	++	0	0	By focussing development to main settlements, schemes will be designed to take account of and reflect local distinctiveness and vernacular. High design standard will be assured through appropriate planning policy approaches thus reflecting the local vernacular. Rural locations will be unaffected.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	+	+	+	++	0	There are no designated air quality management areas in Craven. However, without mitigation, new development may have a minor detrimental effect upon air quality in main settlements by virtue of increased activity, use of motorised transport etc. This is unlikely to be significant however and impacts will be minimised where it is possible to do so, by virtue of a reduced need to travel by car. Rural areas will not be affected as no growth is directed towards these locations. By focussing on main settlements, the potential conflict arising from noise generating and noise sensitive development will be mitigated through site selection. By focussing on main settlements areas noted for dark skies will be protected as most new development will be away from these areas.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources	-	+	+	+	-	0	Without mitigation, new development will have a detrimental effect upon carbon emissions by virtue of increased activity, use of motorised transport during construction and operation. However by focussing development towards main settlements, the need to travel to access employment and other services would be reduced, thus reducing reliance on the car as primary mode of transport or needing to travel. By focussing most growth to main settlements that are connected by public transport infrastructure, this would also encourage and sustainable travel patterns to access services and employment. Rural areas have no growth directed towards them so it will not be possible to mitigate climate change impacts in these locations.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	+	+	++	+	0	+	Directing growth towards main settlements will maximise the use of existing water related infrastructure and secure investments to enhance water infrastructure quality and efficiency of use. New development would be designed so as to conserve water resources and enhance efficiency of use. Through development, investments could be targeted to address known issues such as the Aire Valley Trunk Sewer although it is not known timings for upgrading. Rural locations would be unaffected as no growth would be directed towards these locations.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	+	+	+	0	0	Directing growth to main settlements will support the provision of recycling facilities in the main settlements and these will serve a wider hinterland including rural areas. Development in main settlements will increase waste production, but this could be offset by likely enhanced recycling activity in the longer term, subject to provision of facilities and changes in behaviour. In the medium to long term as waste and recycling facilities are brought forward, positive benefits overall have been identified.
SO20) Safeguard minerals resources and other natural material assets, and ensure the safe management of hazard risks of former mining activity where new development is proposed	+	+	+	+	+	0	Minerals resources are likely to be located away from main settlements and development will not affect this. Nonetheless the degree of change is such that the minerals resources are unlikely to be sterilised as a result of development. Where proposals concern and area of minerals resource, the winning of the mineral in question can be secured as part of the development process should this be appropriate. With regard to former mine workings, the development process will identify and mitigate hazards associated with former mine workings particularly in the north of the plan area.

Strategy Options: Option A - Growth focused on main settlements; Option B - Dispersed growth; Option C - Growth focused on Skipton; Option D - Growth focused on Skipton and the south-east; Option E (Preferred) - A balanced hierarchy of growth

SA Objective	Dispersed growth						
	Option B						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	-	-	-	--	+	-	By dispersing the growth through the towns and villages and matching this with the approach to employment development, some employment will not be focused where there are existing clusters of similar employment in the larger towns. But villages will receive an employment boost which would add to the vibrancy of some smaller settlements. Many villages would certainly experience an increase in their economic activity. The option allows for jobs to be located close to homes for those in smaller settlements, but the types of employment may be limited. Larger urban areas such as Skipton, Settle and Bentham would not increase their employment growth as may be expected for larger towns in the district, and therefore the overall productivity level for Craven as a whole may decrease. The larger levels of work force in the bigger towns would not have an employment increase that they would require to sustain the vibrancy of the larger towns. These people may be forced to commute to Leeds and Bradford for job opportunities.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	-	-	-	--	0	-	Skipton offers the greatest potential for inward investment at A59/A65/A629 cross roads and with good rail connections to West Yorkshire. This option would not fully utilise this existing favourable infrastructure to the maximum extent. Instead employment growth would be spread across the District, and be focused on smaller settlements that may not have the infrastructure to cope with the demands of new business providers. However, the increase in business growth in smaller settlements may offer some requirements to provide tourism infrastructure in the smaller towns, in terms of guesthouse and hotel provision for example. The tourism economy is not so dependent on where large amounts of the population live and indeed through dispersing the development equally throughout the District may not help to retain the character of small settlements within Craven which are attractive to visitors.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	0	0	-	+	0	Whilst Craven is generally characterised by an affluent demographic, pockets of rural deprivation exist, particularly in relation to barriers to services and fuel poverty. The option may result in increased equality throughout the district, as it may provide a balanced mix of housing and could result in a population structure which allows public services like healthcare, schools and public transport to stay vibrant in smaller settlements in the District. However, by not focusing on larger settlements to the same extent in terms of development, it would most likely be more difficult to build affordable dwellings and the diversity in dwellings needed for the diverse range of people and their different housing requirements.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	0	0	+	0	Skipton currently provides the majority of services within Craven and therefore not locating the majority of development here would not align with this current situation. The relatively large increase in population for the smaller settlements may mean that more people are located away from services. On the others side, there would not be the same degree of pressure on existing services in the likes of Skipton and Settle (e.g. school provision). Within other areas there is potential for some positive effects through the maintenance of the existing service provision such as bus services.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	-	-	0	+	0	The proposed focus would not provide as much growth to Skipton and larger towns which currently provide good access to health services, and community support in terms of services for the elderly. The hospitals, schools and other key services are predominately Such a lack of growth to the same extent in the larger towns would also not help to support and enhance existing community infrastructure. However, avoiding such a concentration within the larger towns would not place significant pressure on existing services.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	0	-	+	--	-	All approaches would seek to meet Craven's objectively assessed need. The dispersal of much of the housing growth outside Skipton would significantly contribute to meeting people's needs in other settlements. Indeed people may need to move from Skipton to other villages to meet their own housing requirements where they grew up or because houses may be less expensive. However, in general, housing provision would not be directed to larger population centres where housing requirements would be greatest. This in turn would not lead to economies of scale to be achieved arising from the delivery of larger housing sites leading to affordable housing being secured.

SA Objective	Dispersed growth						
	Option B						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	+	+	+	0	+	+	The proposed focus would not reflect the relatively good access to educational facilities in Skipton and Settle (including Giggleswick), and the proposed level of growth is not as likely to secure additional provision in the larger urban areas. The more well-known secondary schools in the likes of Skipton and Giggleswick may be able to attract students from outside the plan area, due to a possible reduction in the pressure for places. Outside of the main urban areas, increased levels of development growth may be sufficient to sustain some existing facilities, or even to secure improvements. Population increases in smaller settlements under this scenario would benefit the vibrancy of existing educational facilities.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	0	0	-	-	+	-	Opportunities to reduce the need for travel and to encourage sustainable travel patterns are likely to be greatest in Skipton, Settle and Cross Hills where services, facilities and public transport are most available. The proposed focus is therefore unlikely to be beneficial. However, further north and around the rural settlements, more growth may make it easier in the future for public transport services to remain viable. The option may have positive transboundary implications for public transport to areas to the west, northwest and southwest of Craven as these areas will have a larger allocation of development and population growth.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage	0	-	-	+	-	0	With a relatively low concentration in Skipton and other larger towns under this scenario, it will not be likely that land would be required within higher flood risk zones in and around these towns. However, in other settlements the need for development in areas that could be at a higher risk of flooding would be increased. There would be some mitigation in the short to medium term regarding the choice of sites, but this may prove more difficult in the longer term to locate development completely away from Flood Risk areas in the smaller settlements.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	-	-	-	-	-	0	Land surrounding Skipton is mainly Grade 4 or 5 agricultural land in comparison to other some other settlements including where more Grade 3 land exists. Therefore a focus on Skipton reduces potential requirements on Grade 3 land (Craven's best quality land). All development is likely to lead to a loss of soil. The smaller settlements are less likely to be well suited to higher densities which would increase the loss of soils as land take up required to meet housing needs would be more.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	-	--	--	-	--	--	Skipton and the larger towns such as Settle and Bentham, are much more likely to be well suited to higher densities which would reduce the overall level of land required. Having a dispersal of growth throughout the plan area would almost certainly require a greater overall land take than what is required under other scenarios. There would be also less pressure to develop any brownfield sites which are suitable in the larger towns. This would not be a prudent use of land resources.

SA Objective	Dispersed growth						
	Option B						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	0	-	-	+	-	0	Conservation heritage evidence (in draft form) has identified that significant areas of open space across many Conservation Areas within Craven make a strong contribution to their historic character. Having a low focus on Skipton can help to preserve the character of the historic market town leading to the maintenance of open spaces which contribute to its character as a Gateway to the Dales. Skipton and the other larger settlements have a wide range of listed buildings and their settings can be protected under this option. The opposite is true for heritage assets in and around smaller settlements which would receive larger levels of growth than under other scenarios.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	0	-	-	+	-	0	Avoiding a high level of development in Skipton, could avoid a negative impact on biodiversity surrounding the town and avoid negative impacts on the North and South Pennines SPA/SAC's. The North Pennines SAC/SPA lies within 5km of most of Skipton and impacts are likely to be greatest to the north of the town. However, in all other settlements, more development would increase pressure on other biodiversity sites across the plan area, including in sensitive areas, along the lines of the argument referred to SO14 in terms of increased land take.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character	-	-	--	0	--	-	The impact of development spread across the district would likely negatively impact on the open countryside as more villages would be built up. Generally, these villages would not be suitable to accommodate apartment and more high rise developments. So to accommodate the expected housing need across Craven, more land would be required across the Craven plan area. Therefore more open countryside area is likely to be lost, and this would have a negative impact on landscape character. In contrast, limiting development to areas beyond Skipton under other scenarios could help to preserve the overall tranquillity of Craven particularly within the north of the plan area near to the AONB.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	-	-	+	-	0	The spatial strategy in itself would not promote innovative design at an individual scheme level. It is possible that innovative design would enhance the visual character of the larger settlements as it would be carried out on a slower, smaller level than with other scenarios. However, it is possible that the higher level of growth directed towards the smaller settlements would negatively impact on the current character of the smaller settlements in visual terms over time.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	0	-	-	+	-	0	As further discussed under SO17, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions would generally decrease under this scenario due to an expected increase in private vehicle trips to access a greater level of services in larger urban areas. However, there may be potential for air pollution levels in the larger urban settlements to reduce - for example, Skipton would experience a much lower level of growth under this scenario than other scenarios. Noise pollution within Skipton would also decrease somewhat including from traffic, but generally increase elsewhere. In terms of light pollution, the option would generally not enable those areas valued most for dark skies within Craven to be kept dark, but would reduce light pollution around Skipton, potentially impacting positively on the southern extremities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

SA Objective	Dispersed growth						
	Option B						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources	-	-	-	-	--	-	Meeting the housing requirements overall would have a negative effect on climate change as people continue to use private vehicles, and often large people carriers, to a high regularity even where are good public transport options available. The dispersal of growth throughout the District would increase population numbers where public transport is limited, thus further increasing private vehicle trips. This would increase maximise greenhouse gas emissions as the option would not deliver the most benefits in reducing the need for travel, and not encouraging sustainable travel patterns such as walking, cycling and bus use. This option may also not enable a sufficient critical mass to develop a potential decentralised energy scheme within Skipton.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	0	0	-	+	-	0	Dispersal of development throughout the District may require upgrades of the water and wastewater treatment systems around the District. However, rather than concentrating high levels of development within Skipton and the larger towns, the capacity pressure would be alleviated in the larger towns. High levels of development within Skipton in particular may require upgrades of the wastewater treatment system, which may be avoided under this scenario due to the relatively low levels of growth that Skipton would experience.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	0	-	-	-	0	All options would lead to the generation of waste, and generally the management of waste depends on people's behaviours. However, this option comparatively may not offer the best opportunity to provide a critical mass approach to waste management including recycling. Also, there may not be the same access to statutory recycling centres such as for electrical goods, which are generally located in the larger towns.
SO20) Safeguard minerals resources and other natural material assets, and ensure the safe management of hazard risks of former mining activity where new development is proposed	-	-	--	-	-	0	The proposed focus would direct more growth overall than other settlements towards mid and northern areas, where mineral resources are more significant. Some more growth would be directed to Ingleton than in some other scenarios, which has a mining legacy. Development management could mitigate the negative effects to a large extent, so the negative effects may not be too significant, except perhaps in the longer term when there is likely to be a smaller choice in terms of land availability.

Strategy Options: Option A - Growth focused on main settlements; Option B - Dispersed growth; Option C - Growth focused on Skipton; Option D - Growth focused on Skipton and the south-east; Option E (Preferred) - A balanced hierarchy of growth

SA Objective	Growth focused on Skipton						
	Option C						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	+	+	-	+	The option presents mixed effects as Skipton is the main employment centre within Craven offering good connections to other centres in and outside Craven. Therefore the option allows for jobs to be located close to homes which in turn is likely to attract investment and result in further job creation as employers have a greater source of available labour. However, settlements further north including Settle and Bentham may be at risk from a decline in jobs as the labour market would likely shrink as a result of an ageing population and out migration as people seek to meet their housing needs. Transboundary effects are identified as people travel across administrative boundaries for work. Mitigation measures may be required to ensure people can travel by public transport from rural areas to access employment. Increase growth distributed to Settle and Bentham. The option may also require capacity improvements in and around Skipton.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	+	-	+	Skipton offers the greatest potential for inward investment at A59/A65/A629 cross roads and with good rail connections to West Yorkshire and the option would enable the creation of a critical mass of potential labour around Skipton to generate growth with links to areas outside of Craven. However, such a high level of housing could be to the detriment of investment in other parts of Craven, with a decline in people in economic activity. This may result in more challenging conditions for existing employers. The tourism economy is not so dependent on where large amounts of the population live and indeed through focusing most of the development within Skipton may help to retain the character of other settlements within Craven which are attractive to visitors. Mitigation measures to boost the rural economy and tourism may be required such as grants and public transport improvements to ensure people are able to access jobs.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	0	0	+	-	0	Whilst Craven is characterised by an affluent demographic, pockets of rural deprivation exist, particularly in relation to barriers to services and fuel poverty. Focusing much of the growth in Skipton would help to regenerate poorer communities within the wards of South and East Skipton. However, the option would most likely result in increased inequality further north, as it may not provide a balanced mix of housing and could reuslt ina top heavy population structure which places increased pressure on some services such as healthcare whilst leads to a loss of others such as public transport. Mitigation measures include boosting the rural economy and tourism may be required such as grants and public transport improvements to ensure people are able to access jobs.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	-	-	-	+	--	0	Skipton provides the majority of services within Craven and therefore locating the majority of development would align with this. The policy would also enable economies of scale to be provided for increased service provision within Skipton. However, a high focus of growth in Skipton would likely require infrastructure improvements for example in schools and highways. Within other areas there is potential for negative effects through a decline in service provision such as bus services which often struggle within rural areas and has recently been seen within Craven. Developing Skipton's infrastructure in line with requirements arising from growth would help to mitigate affects as would seeking to address rural service decline through more growth being distributed to other settlements, particularly Settle and Bentham which acts as key service centres.

SA Objective	Growth focused on Skipton						
	Option C						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	-	-	+	--	0	The proposed focus would direct growth to Skipton which currently provides good access to health services, green space and community support. Such growth would also help to support and enhance existing community infrastructure. However, such a concentration within Skipton would place significant pressure on existing services and would likely require mitigation through increased provision. Outside the target area opportunities to enhance community infrastructure and open space may be limited through low levels of development. Such a high concentration may also result in Skipton's character changing which could result in increased loneliness and isolation. Ensuring new development is serviced by suitable health facilities and open space would help to mitigate imapcts.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	0	-	+	--	-	All approaches would seek to meet Craven's objectively assessed need. However, the concentration of much of the housing growth within Skipton would not significantly contribute to meeting people's needs in other settlements. Indeed people may need to move to Skipton from other villages to meet their own housing requirements. Or alternatively particularly within the north of Craven may choose to move out of the district. However, it is important to note evidence from the 2015 SHMA which identified fewer second homes proportionately within Skipton and lower house prices which may mean that people are better able to afford to meet their requirements. Conversely a lack of supply within other settlements would most likely further drive up prices in these areas.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	+	-	-	+	--	-	The proposed focus would reflect the relatively good access to educational facilities in Skipton and the proposed level of growth is likely to secure additional provision. However, outside the target area, proposed levels of growth may be insufficient to sustain some existing facilities or to secure improvements, so benefits may not be maximised overall. Indeed further north there have been recent school closures, the option would lead to a further ageing population and may exacerbate this situation further. The option may increase pressure on schools outside of Craven for example Kirkby Lonsdale or Lancaster if there were further closures. Seeking to ensure housing provision particularly within Bentham and Settle is aimed at families would help to provide mitigation.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	+	++	--	-	Opportunities to reduce the need for travel and to encourage sustainable travel patterns are likely to be greatest in Skipton where services, facilities and public transport are most available. The proposed focus is therefore likely to be beneficial. However, further north limited growth may make it harder in the future for public transport services to remain viable. The option may have negative transboundary implications as the vulnerability of public transport to areas outside of Craven, particularly Lancaster may increase as profit margins are further reduced through a reduction in custom.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage	0	0	-	-	+	-	Such a high concentration in Skipton, may require land within higher flood risk zones in and around the town. However, in other settlements the need for development at higher risk of flooding would be reduced. Whilst Skipton offers more development potential in areas at lower risk of flooding in comparison to settlements including Cross Hills, there would be fewer greenfield areas for storage.

SA Objective	Growth focused on Skipton						
	Option C						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	+	+	+	+	0	Land surrounding Skipton is mainly Grade 4 or 5 agricultural land in comparison to other main settlements including Bentham, Settle and Cross Hills where more Grade 3 land exists. Therefore a focus on Skipton reduces potential requirements on Grade 3 land (Craven's best quality land). All development is likely to lead to a loss of soil. However, Skipton is likely to be well suited to higher densities which would reduce the loss of soils as land take up required to meet housing needs woukld be less.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	0	+	0	The target area contains the main brownfield sites, but most growth would still need to occur on greenfield sites. There is some contaminated land, but not a great amount - this is also true of the plan area generally. Skipton is likely to be well suited to higher densities which would reduce the overall level of land required. High densities particularly within Skipton should be sought.
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	0	-	-	-	+	0	Conservation evidence (draft) has identified that significant areas of open space across many Conservation Areas within Craven make a strong contribution to their historic character. Focusing high levels of growth in Skipton would reduce pressure on the hsitoric envrionment in other settlements. However, such a high focus on Skipton could alter the character of the historic market town leading to the loss of open spaces which contribute to its character as a Gateway to the Dales. Furthermore the option would most likely result in high traffic movements around the town impacting on the character of the town centre. In the longer term as less land becomes available negative impacts are likely to grow in magnitude.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	0	-	-	-	-	0	Such a high level of development in Skipton, could impact on biodiversity in and around the town and may present impacts on the North and South Pennines SPA/SAC's. The North Pennines SAC/SPA lies within 5km of most of Skipton and impacts are likely to be greatest to the north of the town. HRA work is being undertaken. However, in other areas less development would reduce pressure on other biodiversity sites. Larger sites in Skipton, may present the best opportunities for incorporating wildlife corridors and an increase in biodiversity.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character	0	+	+	-	+	0	The impact of development would be less widespread across the whole of the plan area. However, in and around Skipton the impacts could be significant. Parts of the town lie within close proximity of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and care would be required to ensure that new development would not harm the scenic qualities of the Park's southern extremities. Limiting development to areas beyond Skipton could help to preserve the overall tranquillity of Craven particularly within the north of the plan area near to the AONB. Mitigation could be provided through enxusing landscapinng is considered at a wider than scheme level.

SA Objective	Growth focused on Skipton						
	Option C						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	-	-	0	0	The spatial strategy in itself would not promote innovative design at an individual scheme level which would be for the Good Design policy. However, such a high level of development could erode the visual character of Skipton including green fingers which are inportant asset that help to integrate the town with the countryside. Greater opportunity to develop sites close to Skipton centre and along the canal. New development focused in Skipton can set higher standards for the pedestrian and also provide alternative, more pleasant, routes.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	0	-	-	--	+	-	Air pollution around Skipton would significantly increase under this option potentially harming the health of existing and future residents and local biodiversity. Noise pollution within Skipton would also increase including from traffic. In terms of light pollution, the option would enable those areas valued most for dark skies within Craven to be kept dark but would significantly increase light pollution around Skipton, potentially impacting on the southern extremities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Measures to support walking and cycling within Skipton may be required to ensure air quality is not adversely affected as a result of high levels of growth being distributed to the town. Traffic measures may be required to manage potential congestion.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources	+	+	+	+	0	+	Whilst meeting the housing requirements overall would have a negative effect on climate change, a high concentration on Skipton may help to minimise greenhouse gas emissions as the option would deliver the most benefits in reducing the need for travel, and encouraging sustainable travel patterns such as walking, cycling and bus use. This option may also enable a sufficient critical mass to develop a decentralised energy scheme within Skipton.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	0	-	-	--	+	0	Concentrating high levels of development within Skipton, could adversely affect water resources within the area including system capacity. High levels of development within Skipton may also require upgrades of the sewerage system. The option would have less impact than option D on the Airedale Trunk Sewer, which as capacity issues. Infrastructure upgrades may be required to ensure Skipton has sufficient capacity for water resources and sewage.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	0	0	+	0	0	All options would lead to the generation of waste. This option comparatively may offer the best opportunity to provide a critical mass approach to waste management including recycling. However, generally the volume of waste generation depends on people's behaviours.

SA Objective	Growth focused on Skipton						
	Option C						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO20) Safeguard minerals resources and other natural material assets, and ensure the safe management of hazard risks of former mining activity where new development is proposed	+	+	+	+	0	0	The proposed focus would direct less growth towards mid and northern areas, where mineral resources are more significant. Some growth would be directed to Ingleton, which has a mining legacy, but growth would not be at a high level. Ensure allocations take account of mineral resource. Planning applications for new development should ensure that prior extraction takes place.

Strategy Options: Option A - Growth focused on main settlements; Option B - Dispersed growth; Option C - Growth focused on Skipton; Option D - Growth focused on Skipton and the southeast; Option E (Preferred) - A balanced hierarchy of growth

SA Objective	Growth focused on Skipton and the southeast						
	Option D						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	0	-	+	-	++	Skipton and the south-east benefits from transport links and economic activity generated by the Leeds City Region, so a focus here may have strong employment benefits. In other parts of the plan area, opportunities may not be maximised to the same extent. Increasing growth allocated to Settle, Bentham and Ingleton may have a more positive effect, but land availability, strength of demand and viability may be more uncertain in those locations.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	0	-	+	-	++	Opportunities may be maximised in the area of focus, but low levels of growth in other areas may limit opportunities and temper benefits overall. Increasing growth allocated to Settle, Bentham and Ingleton may have a more positive effect, but land availability, strength of demand and viability may be more uncertain in those locations.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	0	-	+	-	0	Although there would be a focus on Skipton and the south-east, growth would be spread across the plan area and would provide opportunities to promote sustainable communities more widely. However, the low level of growth allocated to locations outside the area of focus may limit what can be achieved overall. Increasing growth in mid and northern areas, particularly Settle and Bentham, may have a more positive effect.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	0	-	+	-	0	Skipton and the south-east benefits from accessible essential services and the proposed focus would provide an opportunity to exploit, support and enhance this situation. Other areas with fewer and more marginal services may not benefit to the same degree from the relatively low levels of growth allocated to them. Increasing growth in other areas (particularly Settle and Bentham) may help to support essential services.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	0	-	+	--	0	The proposed focus would direct growth to locations with good access to health services, green space and community support. Such growth would also help to support and enhance existing community infrastructure. However, low levels of growth outside the area of focus may limit opportunities to support and enhance community infrastructure elsewhere and may not enable shortfalls in green space to be addressed (such as in the provision of a public park in Bentham). Increasing growth in other areas, particularly Settle and Bentham, may have a more positive effect, but greater certainty may be needed regarding the delivery package for a new public park in Bentham.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	0	-	+	-	+	The proposed distribution of growth across the plan area may spread and widen opportunities for people to meet their individual housing needs; and the proposed focus on Skipton and the south-east would reflect the scale of need in that part of the plan area. However, the actual level of growth allocated to places like Settle and Bentham may not be sufficient to secure the maximum benefit for people in those locations, so some increase may be helpful.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	+	+	+	+	-	0	The proposed focus would reflect the relatively good access to educational facilities in Skipton and the south-east and the proposed level of growth may secure additional provision. However, outside the target area, proposed levels of growth may be insufficient to sustain some existing facilities or to secure improvements, so benefits may not be maximised overall. Therefore, increased growth in mid and northern areas may increase positive effects.

SA Objective	Growth focused on Skipton and the southeast						
	Option D						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	+	+	-	+	Opportunities to reduce the need for travel and to encourage sustainable travel patterns may be greatest in the target area (where services, facilities and public transport are most available) so the proposed focus may have a positive effect. Whilst growth in villages to the north may have other benefits, the impact on travel is unlikely to be as positive.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage	0	0	0	0	0	0	Whilst flood risk affects settlements in the target area, this is true of settlements in all parts of the plan area. Avoiding flood risk is therefore largely to do with site selection rather than the spatial strategy.
SO10) Protect and enahnce the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	0	0	+	0	0	The proposed distribution of growth would avoid the best (grade 3) agricultural land to a large extent - for example, there is little in the vicinity of Skipton - but some growth would be directed towards settlements with grade 3 land on the periphery (e.g. Settle, Bentham). The choice of sites may help to avoid negative effects, but, over time, this may become more difficult and positive effects may diminish.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	+	+	0	The target area contains the main brownfield sites, but most growth would still need to occur on greenfield sites. There is some contaminated land, but not a great amount - this is also true of the plan area generally. Skipton may offer greater potential for above-average housing densities, which may reduce land requirements.

SA Objective	Growth focused on Skipton and the southeast						
	Option D						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	0	0	0	0	0	0	Heritage assets are present in all settlements and most have conservation areas. The proposed distribution of growth would bring heritage assets into play, but there is a reasonable likelihood that proposed levels of growth could be accommodated without adverse impacts. The choice of sites and good design are likely to help conserve the historic environment and to secure opportunities for enhancement.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	+	+	+	+	The southern plan area includes part of an international biodiversity site (a combined SAC and SPA) on uplands to the south of Cowling and Sutton. However, the bulk of growth would be directed to Skipton, which is further north. Opportunities to enhance biodiversity may be greatest on larger greenfield sites at the edge of Skipton. A southern focus would distribute most growth away from several sizable SSSIs in the mid and northern areas, although they are not close to settlements that would grow significantly. Overall, the proposed distribution of growth may have the potential to avoid significant harm to biodiversity and to create opportunities for the enhancement of biodiversity.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character	+	+	+	+	+	+	Most growth is likely to be accommodated on greenfield sites on the edge of settlements, which may have localised impacts on the countryside and landscape. However, the choice of sites and good design may help to minimise such impacts and a southern focus would direct less growth towards Bentham and Settle, which are closest to designated landscapes (AONB, national park). Overall, this may help to protect the open countryside and wider landscape from negative effects.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	0	0	0	0	Good design is a general requirement, so a southern focus is likely to have no particular impact.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	+	+	+	+	+	Growth is likely to bring a degree of air, noise and light pollution, but effects may be minimised. There are greater opportunities for reduced and sustainable travel in the target area, so the proposed focus may help to minimise noise and emissions. Mid and northern areas are less affected by urban lighting, so a focus away from those areas may help to promote dark skies. The choice of sites, infrastructure planning, provision for cycling and walking and good design are likely to help minimise negative effects.

SA Objective	Growth focused on Skipton and the southeast						
	Option D						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO17) Minimise impactson climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources	+	+	+	+	+	+	The proposded focus would direct growth towards settlements (e.g. Skipton) with more services, facilities and travel options, which would provide greater opportunities for reducing the need to travel and encouraging sustainable travel patterns. The choice of sites, infrastructure planning, provision for cycling and walking and good design are likely to help minimise negative effects.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	-	-	-	-	0	0	Glusburn, Cross Hills, Sutton, Cowling, Farnhill and Kildwick are served by the Aire valley trunk sewer, which runs across the plan area boundary to treatment facilities in Bradford district. The sewer requires significant improvement and plans to carry out the necessary works have yet to crystallise, so proposed growth in the sewer's catchment may pose a threat to the quality of water resources. Co-ordinating growth, in the locations referred to above, with necessary improvements to the Aire valley trunk sewer is likely to help minimise negative effects, but, at present, the timetable for carrying out those improvements is uncertain.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	0	0	0	0	0	Growth is likely to bring an increase in waste, but effects may be minimised. The proposed distribution would direct growth to locations with existing waste collection and recycling services, but is unlikely to have a significant impact on rates of waste production and recycling in those locations. Making provision for the convenient storage of recyclable waste, in the design of new developments, may help to encourage recycling.
SO20) Safeguard minerals resources and other natural material assets, and ensure the safe management of hazard risks of former mining activity where new development is proposed	+	+	0	0	0	0	The proposed focus would direct less growth towards mid and northern areas, where mineral resources are more significant. Some growth would be directed to Bentham, Ingleton and Burton-in-Lonsdale, which have a coal mining legacy, but growth would not be at a high level. Avoidance through the choice of sites and the implementation of mitigation measures may help to safeguard resources and avoid hazards, but, in the long term, the potential for negative cumulative effects may increase.

Strategy Options: Option A - Growth focused on main settlements; Option B - Dispersed growth; Option C - Growth focused on Skipton; Option D - Growth focused on Skipton and the south-east; Option E (Preferred) - A balanced hierarchy of growth.

SA Objective	Spatial strategy preferred option						
	Option E						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	+	+	+	+	By directing most growth towards main settlements, with a lower but proportionate level of growth directed towards villages and rural areas, employers will be able to create new employment opportunities that would be accessible to economically active residents in Craven and within a reasonable commuting distance. Employment opportunities would be maximised. Housing growth in particular has the potential to attract economically active residents whilst associated economic growth will assist in enabling existing residents move from lower paid to higher paid employment. The approach directs more growth to main settlements, whilst a lower level of growth is directed towards villages and rural areas. This will result in proportionate growth that supports vitality in villages and rural areas particularly where there is a functional reason to require a rural location to operate. The approach will reflect the trans-boundary situation in terms of movements for work across boundaries. Most key employers and employment locations are based in main settlements and service villages. The direction of a higher proportion of new housing growth to main settlements and service villages along with provision for employment uses will enable the supply of labour to be enhanced and safeguarded thereby underpinning the viability of key employers in Craven as a place to remain and or locate/expand.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	+	+	+	By directing most growth towards main settlements and matching this with the approach to employment development, business growth will be supported. Rural locations are not ignored and a proportionate level of growth is directed towards these locations to support business growth and vitality overall. Opportunities for business growth will be maximised. Housing and employment growth will attract inward investment through providing a labour pool of economically active residents along with serviced employment land which will enable economic growth. A proportionate level of growth is also directed towards rural locations and this will safeguard vitality, and offset any loss arising from an ageing population demographic and potential reductions in economically activity. New economically active residents and the provision of serviced employment land will enhance both the labour supply and land available to support business growth, expansion and productivity. It will also attract inward investment.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	+	0	The main towns and villages will provide for the housing needs arising from an aging population demographic. This is due primarily to the generally greater diversity of housing types that exist in main settlements and directing growth to these locations will enhance choice and availability. Whilst dwellings suitable for families and older households are more likely to be built in main settlements, proportionate growth is also directed towards villages and smaller settlements. The approach will accommodate new residents moving into Craven and enhance housing choice whilst. It will also enable older residents to downsize and free up larger dwelling units. The proportionate level of growth is directed towards villages and rural areas will support vitality and provide support for services there. It will be easier to build smaller market and affordable dwellings suitable for older households and younger families in and around main settlements. This is due to the availability of larger sites and being able to achieve economies of scale. By directing some growth towards villages and rural areas, this will allow residents to remain or new people to move in and reinvigorate community life and foster community cohesion. By delivering new energy efficient homes, this will serve to offset potential fuel poverty by being cheap to run and maintain. Focusing most growth on the main settlements and a proportionate level of growth in villages and rural areas would bring people closer to key services and employment, whilst also providing support for services particularly in villages. By attracting new economically active residents, this will provide opportunities to offset an aging population demographic, engage in community life and to participate in improving their locality.

SA Objective	Spatial strategy preferred option						
	Option E						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	++	++	++	++	++	0	By directing a significant proportion of growth towards Skipton, Settle, Bentham, the role of these settlements as service centres serving a wider hinterland will be supported and enhanced. Additional affordable housing could be secured as part of development proposals in these locations as larger sites are likely to be identified and this could provide the economies of scale required. Overall, growth will support meeting the community's needs, including creating demand for, and facilitating access to high speed broadband. By directing more growth towards main settlements, this will bring residents closer to the key services and employment thus reducing the reliance on the car. However, by directing a lower level of growth towards villages and rural areas, this will provide support for village services such as primary education and local shops. Previous consultations have suggested a need for an additional school in Skipton. Directing additional development to Skipton could support construction and create capacity. However, by directing a higher proportion of growth to main settlements such as Skipton, the potential effect on services such as education, could be seen as over-burdening existing facilities, should a required investment not come forward. By directing a greater proportion of growth to main settlements, the provision of comparison shopping in these locations will be supported. Additional comparison shopping will also serve to support tourism development. By directing a proportionate towards villages and rural areas, local convenience retailing would be supported through increased patronage and footfall. The same can also be said for the night time economy where demand would be enhanced. By directing proportionate levels of development in the main settlements and villages, people will be better connected to social and community networks. However a potential lack of a range of housing in villages may result in residents having to move away from their friendship groups. Directing a proportionate level of growth towards villages will offset this potential effect.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	+	+	By directing a higher proportion of growth towards the main settlements, GPs, dentists, and hospitals are predominantly in these locations, and growth will assist with maintaining their viability, and serve a wider hinterland that could extend beyond Craven. By directing some growth towards villages, proportionate growth here could serve to address issues such as highway safety where existing provision is substandard.Growth will allow for better green infrastructure links to the countryside and enhance the ability to produce public open space. As current health services and future extra care facilities are in the larger settlements (and these serve a sider hinterland), it is logical to locate dwellings that could suit those likely to make use of health and extra care facilities close by.By locating a higher proportion of growth near to employment opportunities and other services (including public transport provision) this will decrease costs whilst increasing conomic and social opportunities. Proportionate growth in villages will continue to support services and will also make it easier it is to develop infrastructure that will have a wider community benefit.By directing most new growth towards the main settlements and a proportionate growth towards villages, this can set higher standards for providing pedestrian routes and could also provide alternative, more pleasant, routes for residents.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	+	+	++	+	0	By focusing on the main settlements such as Skipton, Settle, Bentham and Glusburn & Cross Hills in terms of provision of growth, housing provision will be directed towards larger population centres where housing requirements will be greatest. This is because larger settlements have existing services which attracts people to live and work there. It is appropriate to direct the majority of growth towards these settlements in terms of providing suitable and affordable housing, as these towns have the greater capacity to accommodate a greater range of dwelling types to meet the demands of a changing society. Affordable housing units are more likely to come forward from larger sites in the bigger urban settlements. There will be also some provision to smaller settlements to ensure that housing needs are catered for locally.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	+	+	+	+	The proposed focus would reflect the relatively good access to educational facilities in Skipton and Settle (including Giggleswick), and the proposed level of growth is likely to secure additional provision in the larger urban areas. But there may be some pressure on existing educational services in the larger urban areas over the short and medium term where supply is a little behind demand. Outside of the main urban areas, increased levels of development growth may be sufficient to sustain some existing facilities, or even to secure improvements. Population increases in smaller settlements under this scenario would benefit the vibrancy of existing educational facilities. There may be some positive transboundary effects where schools in Craven attract students from outside the District.

SA Objective	Spatial strategy preferred option						
	Option E						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	0	+	++	+	+	+	Opportunities to reduce the need for travel and to encourage sustainable travel patterns are likely to be greatest in Skipton, Settle, Bentham and Glusburn & Cross Hills where services, facilities and public transport are most available. The proposed focus is therefore likely to be beneficial. However, around the rural settlements, more growth may make it easier in the future for public transport services to remain viable. The option may have positive transboundary implications for public transport to areas to the west, northwest and southwest of Craven as towns such as Bentham and Ingleton will have an allocation of development and population growth. Again, there may be a little time lag where public transport options have to be improved to meet the increased demand, both in urban and rural areas.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage	+	+	0	+	+	0	With the allocation of development growth in Skipton and other larger towns under this proposal, it may be likely that some land may be required within higher flood risk zones in and around these towns in the long-term. The influence of flood alleviation schemes should be important here in trying to reduce the flood risk in and around particular sites. It is a similar situation with the more rural locations, and this option will be dependent on further studies on the individual sites put forward to assess flood risk. There would be some mitigation in the short to medium term regarding the choice of sites, but this may prove more difficult in the longer term to locate development completely away from Flood Risk areas in the smaller settlements.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	+	0	0	+	0	Land surrounding Skipton is mainly Grade 4 or 5 agricultural land in comparison to other some other settlements including where more Grade 3 land exists. Therefore a focus on Skipton reduces potential requirements on Grade 3 land (Craven's best quality land). All development is likely to lead to a loss of soil. The smaller settlements are less likely to be well suited to higher densities which would increase the loss of soils as land take up required to meet housing needs would be more. Therefore focusing most of the growth on Skipton and the larger towns should reduce the amount of land taken overall. There generally is a greater availability of existing brownfield land in the larger settlements to meet housing requirements. There will be some greenfield land needed, but utilising as much brownfield land as possible can be achieved well under this option, especially in the short to medium term.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	0	+	+	0	The option seeks to distribute around half of new development to Skipton, with Settle and Bentham also seeing signficant distributions. These settlements are well suited to higher density schemes and therefore this enables a prudent use of land resources including being the main albeit still limited areas of opportunity for brownfield redevelopment within Craven. It is recognised that the majority of growth will be required on greenfield sites. There are few opportunities within Craven for remediating contaminated land.
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	0	+	+	+	0	0	Whilst seeking to distribute the majority of growth to Skipton, Settle and Bentham, the option does not seek to concentrate an overbearing amount on any individual settlement which may have negative consequences for the historic environment. It is recognised that the level of activity would increase, particualalrly within Skipton which may present impacts on congestion including pedestrian circulation on the high street. However, compared to option C, Skipton would see a lower amount of growth which places less overall pressure on the hsitoric envrionment and character of the town. It is also recognised that the hsitoric envrionment is not made special by no change taking place but rather managing change appropriately through respecting the signficance of assets. Therefore the individual design and location of schemes will be important. Conservation evidence prepared of the contributiuon of oepn sapces to the character of conservation areas across Craven will help to inform allocation choices.

SA Objective	Spatial strategy preferred option						
	Option E						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	0	+	+	+	+	0	The option seeks to distribute a lower amount of growth to Skipton, than option C and lower amounts of growth to the south of Craven than option D. This is likely to be beneficial to minimisiing impacts on the biodiversity value of the North Pennines SPA/SAC and South Pennines SAC/SPA. Bentham and Settle lay further away from European designated sites. Howeever, outcomes of the HRA will determine the overall impacts. The option allows for larger schemes to come forward in Skipton, Bentham and Settle which may provide opportunities for on site biodiversity enhancements and the creation of wildlife corridors.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character	+	+	0	+	0	0	The option seeks to distribute the highest levels of growth to Skipton, followed Settle and Bentham but with a level of growth also distributed to other settlements. Skipotn, Settle and Bentham have greater capacity for growth without resulting in signficant adverse effects on the countryside and wider landscape, with areas of relatively flat topography. However, careful consideration will need to be given to land allocations within Settle to minimise any potential imapcts on the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park which lies within very close proximity.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	+	+	+	+	0	The spatial strategy in itself would not promote innovative design at an individual scheme level. However, when considering the cumulative impacts of design quality, the option allows for planned neighbourhoods within Skipton, Bentham and Settle that would be able to integrate design measures to enhance the overall quality and wider settlement benefits. Dispersing a level of growth across villages also gives the opportunity for good quality deisgn scheems to come forward which raise the bar within these settlements.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	+	+	+	+	+	Growth is likely to bring a degree of air, noise and light pollution, but effects may be minimised. The greatest opportunities for reduced and sustainable travel are likely to be in Skipton, followed by Settle and Bentham, so proposed levels of growth in those locations may help to minimise noise and emissions overall. A strong focus on Skipton may help to maintain and promote darker skies in Settle, Bentham and villages, which are less affected by urban lighting at the moment. The choice of sites, infrastructure planning, provision for cycling and walking and good design are likely to help minimise negative effects.
SO17) Minimise impactson climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources	+	+	+	+	+	+	Skipton, followed by Settle and Bentham, has the most services, facilities and travel options, so the proposed focus of growth on those locations is likely to provide greater opportunities for reducing the need to travel and encouraging sustainable travel patterns. The choice of sites, infrastructure planning, provision for cycling and walking and good design are likely to help minimise negative effects.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	+	+	0	+	+	0	Glusburn, Cross Hills, Sutton, Cowling, Farnhill and Kildwick are served by the Aire valley trunk sewer, which runs across the plan area boundary to treatment facilities in Bradford district. The sewer requires significant improvement and plans to carry out the necessary works have yet to crystallise, so proposed growth in the sewer's catchment may pose a threat to the quality of water resources. Co-ordinating growth, in the locations referred to above, with necessary improvements to the Aire valley trunk sewer is likely to help minimise negative effects, but, at present, the timetable for carrying out those improvements is uncertain.

SA Objective	Spatial strategy preferred option						
	Option E						
	Short term (0-10 years)	Medium term (10-25 years)	Long term (> 25 years)	Urban	Rural	Transboundary	Commentary
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	0	0	0	0	0	Growth is likely to bring an increase in waste, but effects may be minimised. The proposed distribution would direct growth to locations with existing waste collection and recycling services, but is unlikely to have a significant impact on rates of waste production and recycling in those locations. Making provision for the convenient storage of recyclable waste, in the design of new developments, may help to encourage recycling.
SO20) Safeguard minerals resources and other natural material assets, and ensure the safe management of hazard risks of former mining activity where new development is proposed	+	0	-	0	-	0	The presence of mineral resources is a more significant issue in the mid and northern parts of the plan area, so proposed growth in Settle, Bentham and nearby villages may pose a greater safeguarding risk. Bentham, Ingleton and Burton-in-Lonsdale are affected by a coal mining legacy, so growth in those locations may pose a greater risk. Avoidance through the choice of sites and the implementation of mitigation measures may help in the short term, but, over time, the potential for negative cumulative effects is likely to increase.