Policy: **ENV1** - Countryside and Landscape

Proposed approach: A positively worded policy which expresses that support will be given to sustainable development in the context of that as defined by the NPPF.

Reasonable Alternatives: No realistic alternative approach because of the provisions contained in the NPPF.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	0	+	0	The landscape policy has been prepared such that new development should respect local landscape character as well as giving great weight to the conservation of designated landscapes. The policy may have some positive effects on job creation as businesses are encouraged to locate within Craven due to its high quality landscape and countryside, which in turn would result in new employment opportunities.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	0	+	0	Craven's landscape and countryside has been recognised as an important asset for businesses wanting to be located within Craven, this was identified in the draft Employment Land Review (2015). Protection of the landscape may present beneficial impacts on the tourism economy, as the landscape of the area is a significant draw for people visiting the District, and therefore its continued protection is likely to have positive effects.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	0	0	0	0	0	There are no clear and direct links between this policy and the SA Objective.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	0	0	0	0	0	There are no clear and direct links between this policy and the SA Objective.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	++	+	0	The policy could result in improvements in access to green space, for example supporting the improvement of degraded landscapes may mean better quality open spaces. The policy is likely to present positive effects on health and wellbeing through protecting the countryside and enhancing landscapes wherever possible, including protection of the AONB. It has being shown by studies that the provision of attractive landscapes and countryside areas is an important contributor to people's physical and mental health, especially those people living in urban areas.
SO6) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	There are no clear and direct links between the policy and the SA objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	There are no clear and direct links between this policy and the SA objective.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	0	+	0	There can be some minor positive effects in terms of an attractive countryside and landscape encouraging people to walk and cycle for shorter trips instead of using a private vehicle.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage	+	+	++	+	+	The policy could present positive effects for flood risk and urban drainage. The Wildlife Trusts have advised the importance that landscape restoration can have on managing flood risk. In general, protection of the countryside from development provides a managed approach to keeping land open and thereby ensuring places exist for flood water to be held, thereby reducing the risk of damaging property.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	+	0	+	0	The policy seeks to employ a general approach to the protection of the countryside and restoration of the landscape which can help to improve soil quality and retain important agricultural land.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	++	++	+	++	+	The policy seeks to support the restoration of degraded landscapes, this is likely to have a positive effect on land resources particularly soil quality as development is primarily directed towards urban areas. Links to the re-use of brownfield land are weaker, but there is still potential for some positive benefits as areas of greater landscape value are protected from development.
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	There are close links between the landscape and countryside and the historic environment within Craven. The policy also seeks to promote the restoration of degraded landscapes in accordance with heritage objectives. The avoidance of major development within the AONB will help to retain its historic character. Protection of the landscape is also likely to have positive benefits in relation to heritage tourism. There are links here with the heritage of Yorkshire Dales National Park.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	++	++	+	++	++	There are likely to be indirect benefits for biodiversity and geodiversity through the protection of the landscape. Protection of the countryside and landscape is also likely to have benefits on improving habitat connectivity. The policy seeks to protect the AONB from inappropriate development, which will protect resident rare species and habitats.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character	++	++	0	++	++	Landscape has an important role in ensuring good design through maintaining and enhancing landscape character. There are wider impacts in maintaining landscape quality beyond administrative boundaries. There may be some indirect positive effects in terms of directing development to more urban locations which will reduce the distance travelled for services.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	++	0	+	+	There are some positive effects, as the attractive settings of the towns and villages would be maintained and improved by ensuring the conservation of Craven's countryside and landscape.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	++	0	++	+	Conservation of Craven's countryside and landscape can assist to minimise all of air, noise and light pollution, and certainly maintain and improve local air quality in rural areas. This policy would result in sensitive design of the built environment in rural areas which can protect against the otherwise negative effects of noise and light pollution in tranquil rural areas.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources	+	++	++	++	+	If Craven's countryside and landscape is conserved sufficiently, that means there are more carbon sinks available to absorb emissions from dwellings, traffic and industry. These carbon sinks come in the form of trees and plants which can take in carbon dioxide emissions. Conservation of the countryside in Craven has a vital role to play in reducing emissions, and also in adapting to climate change impacts within the District.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	+	+	0	+	0	Protection of the countryside and landscape will not directly influence water efficiency, but can certainly help to ensure watercourses are protected and their quality of water is preserved. Protection of land and water quality should be policies which interact together to ensure their best effectiveness.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	0	0	0	0	There are no clear and direct links between this policy and the SA Objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
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	There are some positive effects in that some minerals resources and other natural material assets can be safeguarded with the conservation of Craven's countryside and landscape.

Policy: **ENV2** - Heritage

Proposed Approach: A positively worded policy which expresses that support will be given to sustainable development in the context of that as defined by the NPPF.

Reasonable Alternatives: No realistic alternative approach because of the provisions contained in the NPPF.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	+	+	0	The protection of heritage assets helps create and retain jobs in Craven. This particularly applies to employment in the tourism sector but may also apply to other work areas such as building maintenance.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	+	0	There is a clear link between heritage assets and the tourist and visitor economy in Craven. Settlements with well maintained historic buildings can help attract inward investment not just in related businesses such as tourism, but also in businesses where the attraction and retention of skilled employees is important. This may support local business growth.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	0	0	There is continued interest in local heritage and the conservation and interpretation of heritage assets can help foster this. The restoration and enhancement of heritage assets by local people makes a major contribution to the improvement of historic settlements. The historic environment does less to reduce poverty and inequality except through the creation and retention of employment as noted above. The positive influence is most probably greater in urban areas compared to rural.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	+	0	0	Craven's town centres are valued for their rich historic environment. The protection of this environment helps in retaining their vitality. The positive influence is most probably greater in urban areas compared to rural. Heritage assets are less relevant to access to services, employment and telecommunication services.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	+	Attractive historic environments contribute to a sense of well being, on a personal and community level. There are transboundary positive effects for the wellbeing of people visiting from outside the district. There are many existing examples within Craven where the historic environment including re-use has an important role in providing places for the community to meet, helping to reduce social isolation
SO6) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	+	+	0	+	Heritage structures including unlisted buildings make an important contribution to meeting housing needs through the conversion of buildings originally intended for other uses such as mills and barns and the continued occupation and maintenance of purpose built dwellings. They also serve to broaden the choice of housing available which makes Craven an attractive location in which to find a home. This has an impact beyond its boundaries as people commute from their homes in Craven to work elsewhere. The positive influence is most probably greater in urban areas compared to rural.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	+	+	0	The historic environment in Craven tends to be characterised by quite high density settlements whether in the main towns of Skipton, Settle and Bentham or smaller villages across the district. This clustering of such buildings makes the provision of services easier and helps reduce the need to travel and encourage the use of sustainable travel patterns.
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	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	0	0	The conservation of the historic environment which may, for example, involve the conversion of buildings of historic interest can help to achieve an efficient use of previously developed land. Conservation is of less obvious benefit in remediation of contaminated land although conversion of structures to other uses may allow the removal of contaminants such as asbestos.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	++	++	++	++	+	Draft policy ENV2 is the main policy concerned with achieving this objective in the short and long term, and in all areas of Craven. There are transboundary impacts from visitors from other areas enjoying the historic environment of Craven.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character.	+	+	+	+	0	Conserving and enhancing the heritage assets makes a major contribution to the distinctiveness of Craven's countryside, although they do not play a direct role in the conservation of tranquil areas.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	+	+	+	0	As noted above Craven's heritage assets contribute to the District's distinctiveness. They inspire innovative design both in new structures and in the conversion of existing buildings which contribute to the character of Craven.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	0	+	+	0	0	The historic settlement pattern of high density towns and villages in Craven encourages the use of sustainable travel patterns, and hence minimsation of air pollution from traffic. Light and noise pollution are more difficult to examine, but historical buildings tend to have less intrusive lighting that some more modern designed buildings.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources	+	0	+	0	+	As noted above, the historic settlement pattern of high density towns and villages in Craven encourages the use of sustainable travel patterns. This has an impact beyond the boundaries of the District. Generally they do not however contribute to renewable energy production.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
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	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.

Policy: **ENV3** - Good Design

Policy description: Positively worded policy which seeks to ensure high quality design in all new development

Reasonable Alternative: No realistic alternative approach because of the provisions contained in the NPPF.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	+	0	0	The policy itself is unlikely to increase the number of employment opportunities within Craven. However, good design can be important in ensuring new developments are sustainable in the long term through durability, quality and flexibility which in turn will assist in helping to retain employers within Craven. .
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	0	0	Good design can help to promote the right conditions for economic growth through the provision of a high quality built environment. This is also a driver for attracting inward investment. Good design will also help to maintain a strong visitor economy within Craven and attract visitors from other areas offering transboundary benefits, linked with the historic environment of Craven.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	0	Good design quality ensures places meet the needs of different people including older people and children and is particularly important in enabling people to remain in their homes through adaptations. Good design can ensure properties are energy efficient including through layout and orientation which will have benefits in reducing fuel poverty. There is a less clear link between design and poverty and inequality.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	0	0	0	0	0	Good design is not relevant compared to policies relating to the location of development in terms of achieving access to facilities.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	0	0	Good design can promote a range of health and well being benefits including reducing crime and perception of crime, improving highway safety through making streets more usable for those on foot and bicycle, improving access to green spaces including incorporating these on sites, and indirectly enhancing access to health facilities. There would be likely to be more a positive influence on urban rather than rural areas.
SO6) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	+	++	+	0	Design has an obvious impact on the quality of housing and innovative design can help broaden the range of housing. Although the allocation and availability of sites is key to the provision of housing to meet future needs, innovative design may contribute to the rapid development of affordable housing..

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	Any direct effects between good design and standards of education are negligible.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	+	+	0	Good design can ensure safe access to new developments and support sustainable travel patterns.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage	+	+	+	0	0	It is possible, through careful design to reduce the risk to life and the impact of flooding. Incorporation of sustainable urban drainage systems into developments also requires innovative design if it is to be a successful and attractive feature of new development. The likely positive impact is likely to be greater in urban rather than rural areas. However there is still a need to appropriately locate development to minimise the risk from flooding which cannot be addressed by the design of individual developments. This is addressed in draft policy ENV6.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	Achieving suitable densities through innovative design will indirectly help to minimise land take up from new development and thus protect some agricultural land. Any positive effect is thought to be somewhat weak.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	0	0	+	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	++	++	++	++	+	Innovative and high quality design makes a major contribution to the achievement of this objective particularly the conservation and enhancement of historic assets but also contributing to increasing access and enjoyment of the historic environment. In turn this promotes heritage based tourism. This can have a transboundary impact to the benefit of the greater North Yorkshire area.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character	+	+	+	+	0	Good design can contribute to the local distinctiveness of Craven's countryside but does not have a direct role in the protection of tranquil areas.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	++	++	++	++	+	Design of development should through this policy contribute to the distinct character of Craven. This can have a transboundary impact to the benefit of the greater North Yorkshire area.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	+	+	+	0	Good design can mitigate the impact of development on levels of noise air and light pollution as well as protect new development from pollution. However draft policies ENV7 and ENV8 are more fundamental to achieving this objective.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources	+	+	+	+	0	Innovative and careful design can contribute to the reduction of green house gas emissions through conservation of energy and the use of renewable forms of energy production in developments, for example the incorporation of solar panels. It has a less obvious role in reducing the need for travel and the use of sustainable travel patterns which is normally determined by the location of development (although the provision of facilities such as cycle storage may assist in this objective). The minimisation of impact on climate change has an impact outside of Craven DC.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	+	+	+	+	0	It is not considered the policy will have any significant effects on water quality but innovative design can contribute to achieving water efficiency in line with national standards.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	0	0	0	0	The policy explicitly expects areas for the storage of recycled waste to promote recycling. However, ultimately it will be for the individual to undertake responsibility for recycling.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
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**	**0**	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.

Policy: **ENV4** - Biodiversity

Policy description: Positively worded policy which seeks to conserve and enhance biodiversity within Craven.

Reasonable Alternative: No realistic alternative approach because of the provisions contained in the NPPF.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	++	+	+	+	Biodiversity conservation and enhancement is likely to result in maintaining and increasing tourism in the District, in terms of tourists experiencing the natural environment that is of national importance in and around Craven. This includes the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB. Therefore tourism jobs can be promoted and increased. Also, employment firms are often more likely to locate in areas which display functioning and vibrant natural environments.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	++	+	+	+	There is potential for some positive effects on the protection of biodiversity networks and encouraging sustainable nature related tourism. Similarly to SO1, business entrepreneurs are often more likely to locate where a suitable natural environment exists, particularly for predominately rurally based business products.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	++	++	+	+	++	Biodiversity can help to foster community cohesion through pride in the local environment. Craven has a strong natural environment that residents enjoy and get benefits from. It is a distinctive environment in national terms, and this can encourage community cohesion in looking after natural resources.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	++	++	++	++	+	Protection of biodiversity is very important for all people regardless of demographic background, given its key importance in supporting people's daily lives. There are also established close links between biodiversity and human health and wellbeing, and therefore this policy will have noticeable positive effects.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	+	0	+	0	Suitable and affordable housing should generally be concentrated in and around existing settlements, so the effect of this policy in potentially removing land from any housing allocations is minor. Fundamentally, the lives of people living in these future dwellings are dependent on a functioning natural environment.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage	++	++	++	++	++	It has been repeatedly demonstrated that the preservation of trees and other vegetation helps to prevent or slow down flooding episodes, or help prevent them arising to the same degree in the first place. Preserving the countryside in rural areas and improving green infrastructure within towns is essential with regards to having a positive impact on flood risks.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	++	++	0	++	++	The policy seeks to protect biodiversity and geodiversity which can encompass soil quality. At a landscape scale, a variety of soil environments are needed to support a variety of plants, animals and microorganisms. All organisms need low levels of toxic compounds, and also filtering of water and air. The protection of biodiversity then infers a protection of the soil quality conditions that they require.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	++	++	++	++	++	The protection and where possible the enhancement of biodiversity can always be seen as a prudent use of land resources because of biodiversity's elemental importance to our way of life. Through the protection of the natural environment this may have positive effects on directing development to improve contaminated sites. The policy may indirectly work towards the re-use of brownfield land, although other policies within the plan more specifically relate to this.
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	+	+	+	+	0	Protection of biodiversity can often protect heritage assets and particularly their settings in rural areas. There are many public walking trails set up in Craven and throughout England which combine heritage and biodiversity attractions within the walks.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	++	++	++	++	++	The policy is aimed directly at meeting this SA objective and therefore raises major positive benefits.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character	++	++	0	++	++	Biodiversity has a role in promoting distinctiveness and character of landscapes. Landscape projects are closely intertwined with biodiversity conservation enhancement, such as in for example, the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's Living Landscapes programme. The development of landscape character assessment, which is based on an analysis of geology, soils, topography, hydrology, cultural pattern - many of the same elements that influence species distribution - has provided one means of speculating on the biodiversity potential of different areas of the countryside.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	+	+	+	0	There are some positive effects in terms of integrating biodiversity and green infrastructure into towns and villages. This supports the visual character of towns and villages, although appropriate building design would also play an important role.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	++	++	+	+	+	Biodiversity and our natural environment are important in improving air quality. Natural environments are our carbon sinks and should be protected, maintained and enhanced for these assets to be able to function in this way, along with their conventional function for wildlife and diversity in our places.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources	++	++	++	++	+	The policy has benefits for the protection of air quality through maintaining the natural environment. Biodiversity, through the ecosystem services it supports, makes an important contribution to both climate change mitigation and adaptation. Consequently, conserving and sustainably managing biodiversity is critical to addressing climate change.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	+	++	+	++	+	Protection of biodiversity is likely to have positive benefits on water quality through good maintenance of the natural environment. Biodiversity improves water quality and helps ecosystems to withstand pressures from pollution. Much research has shown that ecosystems with more species are more efficient at removing nutrients from soil and water than are ecosystems with fewer species.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between this policy and the sustainability objective.
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 conservation and possible enhancement of biodiversity in the policy can help to identify and safeguard minerals resources and other natural material assets.

Policy: **ENV5** - Green Infrastructure

Policy description: The policy seeks to achieve growth in green infrastructure and create an improved and expanded green infrastructure network.

Reasonable Alternative: No realistic alternative approach because of the provisions contained in the NPPF.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	+	0	+	The aim of green infrastructure is to create a pleasant environment for people to live, this can have an indirect positive effect on business owners and employers choosing to remain in the area. Green infrastructure is generally more related to urban environments, and ensuring that urban dwellers have ready access to green space, and providing space for biodiversity networks in urban environments. Although through the connection of villages, towns and cities that green infrastructure can provide, there are some minor benefits for rural environments between the urban areas.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	0	+	Green infrastructure enables a pleasant environment which in turn attracts businesses and inward investment. This role can be transboundary in effect with other authorities in the Leeds City Region, with Craven adding to the overall offer. The Leeds City Region Green Infrastructure Strategy notes the links between the economy and the natural environment. The tourism economy benefits from green infrastructure networks, for example around Skipton and links with the Yorkshire Dales National Park.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	+	The provision of green infrastructure is important in community identity, and in addressing inequality by ensuring everyone has access to open space of good quality. This is important for all sections of the community including older people and children.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	+	0	+	The provision of green infrastructure is important in providing links for people to access facilities without using a private vehicle, either by cycling or walking. Research and thought would be given to the best locations in which green infrastructure assets would best connect people with facilities and places.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	++	++	++	+	+	The provision of green infrastructure goes hand in hand with access to green space, and location of networks will be important. Green infrastructure can also reduce inequalities through ensuring all people have good access which will in turn promote healthy lifestyles, either informally or through formal activities. Insocial behaviour can also be reduced if green infrastructure networks are designed appropriately.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	+	+	0	+	Green infrastructure can have a minor role to play in improving the quality and location of housing through the creation of pleasant environments in which housing developments will be set in and also used to connect them with other destinations, for example key facilities and services, employment and retail locations. Cumulative impacts are likely to improve this outcome as more developments get better green infrastructure provision.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	There is no direct relationship between this policy and the objective.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	++	++	++	+	+	Green infrastructure can provide pleasant and accessible routes from housing developments to education facilities or employment, enabling people to walk or cycle rather than use their private vehicle. In Craven, green infrastructure can provide access routes along the Leeds-Liverpool canal where possible. This policy can have great benefits in terms of reducing the level of private vehicles around morning and evening peak times which increase air pollution and traffic congestion in urban areas.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage	++	++	++	+	++	Green infrastructure can play a fundamental role in reducing the impacts of flooding by offering a mechanism to reduce the spread and speed of floods in times of flood events, and often reducing the potential for flooding events to occur in the first place. Green infrastructure networks can be used to reduce surface water run-off and store flood water. By developing and restoring green infrastructure with a presumption in favour of open water courses through channel restoration and de-culverting, a more natural and slower response to heavy rainfall can be achieved.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	++	++	+	++	0	The provision of green infrastructure can play an important role in the provision of allotments in urban areas which can provide 'home-grown' produce for urban inhabitants. In this respect, green infrastructure offers a smart, innovative way of managing our natural capital through providing independence from international food networks and often providing a higher quality local food product.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	++	++	++	+	+	Investing in green infrastructure makes sound economic sense - a single area of land can offer multiple benefits, provided its ecosystems are in a healthy condition. Such healthy ecosystems, which are powered by the diversity of life within them, provide society with a stream of valuable, economically important goods and services such as clean water and air, carbon storage, pollination etc. Positive benefits may also arise from the remediation of brownfield land for green infrastructure purposes.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	+	+	+	0	+	There are relationships between the historic environment and green infrastructure particularly with the importance of the nearby Yorkshire Dales as an area for recreation and links with the plan area. Green infrastructure can help protect and improve the settings of the historic environment elements, especially in urban areas.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	++	++	++	+	+	The provision of green infrastructure is likely to be highly beneficial for habitats and species. New plantations should be of native species to ensure that local and national habitats and species are well supported and assist in appropriate links between green infrastructure and designated protected sites. Green infrastructure can act as the link for species and habitats to migrate and this should be encouraged and supported. Cumulative impacts could assist in improving this outcome. If done inappropriately, biodiversity could be adversely impacted, for example through non-native species taking over more important native species and habitats, even increasing invasive species, if appropriate selection of plants are not made. Native species use is vital in the design of green infrastructure. This policy is viewed through positive green infrastructure implementation.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character.	+	+	+	+	+	Green infrastructure provision can assist in protecting the open countryside by providing linkages between the urban areas. The positive effects would not be very significant, given that the main concentration of green infrastructure is in urban and semi-urban environments.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	+	+	0	0	The provision of green infrastructure can help to ensure schemes are designed well in landscape terms, integrating the built and natural environment and fostering a sense of place. Green infrastructure can also help to provide good landscapes, albeit it will be important to ensure that places are not over managed.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	++	++	++	+	+	Green infrastructure can have positive benefits on air quality through operating as carbon sinks. Cumulatively this could be maintained and improved as more green infrastructure is incorporated into design schemes. Green infrastructure is also likely to encourage walking and cycling, reducing the use of the private car and enabling more sustainable modes of travel, thereby improving air quality. Green infrastructure can also act as a buffer to reduce noise impacts between different uses, for example through tree planting.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	+	+	+	+	+	Green infrastructure provides a range of climate change services that can make a substantial contribution towards adapting to climate change, and a limited yet important contribution towards mitigating climate change. For example, green infrastructure can reduce the need for travel by car by offering attractive walking and cycling routes, enabling sustainable modes of travel. Whilst it is expected that within Craven the car will continue to be an important mode of travel, within Skipton and other larger urban areas, car use can potentially be reduced.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use	+	++	++	+	+	Green infrastructure can help to improve the quality of water resources. The quality of water flowing through an urban catchment can be severely impacted due to high speed runoff, pollutants and detritus collected from urban surfaces and reduced infiltration of precipitation. The use of trees in urban and semi-urban areas can provide significant water quality benefits. Floodplain and riparian woodland can reduce diffuse pollution, primarily by enhancing siltation and sediment retention, nutrient (phosphate and nitrate) removal and fixing heavy metal concentrations. There are minor positive links between the efficiency of water use and green infrastructure.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and this SA objective.
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	There are minor positive effects of appropriately designing green infrastructure networks to ensure the safe management of hazard risks where new development areas are proposed.

Policy: **ENV6** - Flood Risk

Policy description: The policy seeks to avoid and alleviate flood risk within Craven

Reasonable Alternative: No realistic alternative approach because of the provisions contained in the NPPF.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	+	+	0	Through reducing flood risk in key employment locations, this should help to attract new businesses through providing them with more certainty against flood risk. It can therefore provide a mechanism to potentially increase the jobs within the Craven area.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	+	0	Within Craven, some of the planning area's employment sites lie within areas of flood risk. The Skipton Flood Alleviation scheme will help to bring forward business growth within the area by reducing flood risk in key employment locations. This will have benefits for both the local and wider economy. Business confidence can continue to improve with a much reduced future exposure to flooding episodes.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	0	+	+	0	0	There are some minor positive links in terms of directing future development away from flood risk areas, thereby reducing the potential costs associated with flood damage to property of residents.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	++	+	+	Similarly to SO3, the proposed approach to flooding and flood risk is likely to have a positive effect on this SA objective, as it should reduce the instances of homes and other property being damaged in flood events, which can otherwise have a negative effect on people's physical and mental health and wellbeing.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	++	++	+	+	In terms of suitability of housing, avoidance of flood risk is of key concern and this policy can assist in ensuring that people do not have to be unduly concerned about flooding and accompanying health and financial issues.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage.	++	++	++	++	++	The policy and SA objective go hand in hand in aiming to reduce flood risk. The policy will help to reduce the impact of flooding on people and property by providing a robust policy approach to flood risk management. The policy also requires the incorporation of SUDS where possible.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	+	0	++	+	Reducing flood risk will help to maintain soil quality, by preventing events that damage crops and lead to saturation episodes across fields and agricultural areas. Flooding events can often place land out of action for agriculture for months at a time.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	+	+	+	+	0	The policy may have a beneficial effect on protecting the historic environment through measures to reduce flood risk overall.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	+	++	+	Managing flood risk is likely to have a positive effect on biodiversity through preventing short term and long term damage to natural habitats, and resultant loss of species. The implementation of SUDs mechanisms can also help to create gains in biodiversity.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character.	+	+	+	+	0	Similarly to SO13, managing flood risk is likely to have a positive effect on open countryside through preventing short term and long term damage to open countryside features and the character features of the landscapes in Craven.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	+	+	+	+	There are indirect positive impacts here. A proper response to reducing exposure to flood risk should concentrate on protecting and enhancing natural environment features, which in turn can alleviate air pollution. Noise and light pollution effects are minimal.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	+	+	+	+	+	Similarly to SO16, there can be indirect positive impacts here. A proper response to reducing exposure to flood risk should concentrate on protecting and enhancing natural environment features, which in turn can alleviate air pollution and minimise impacts on climate change through mitigation measures.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	++	++	++	++	+	The potential effects caused by flood episodes can be minimised on water infrastructure, including damage to water supply systems, damage to wastewater disposal systems, temporary insufficient supply of drinking water, and insufficient supply of water for washing.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
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	There are some minor positive links in terms of avoiding repeated flood episodes, which otherwise have the potential to inhibit future access to minerals resources and other natural material assets.

Policy: **ENV7** - Land and air quality

Policy description: The policy seeks to ensure land and air quality within Craven is safeguarded and improved.

Reasonable Alternative: No realistic alternative approach because of the provisions contained in the NPPF.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	+	+	0	The land and air quality policy has been prepared such that new development should respect local landscape quality as well as giving great weight to the conservation of designated landscapes. The policy may have some positive effects on job creation as businesses are encouraged to locate within Craven due to its high quality landscape and countryside, which in turn would result in new employment opportunities.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	+	0	Much of the employment growth expected within Craven will occur within and around the main settlements of Skipton, Bentham and Settle. It is not expected that development in these locations is likely to be significantly restrained by landscape constraints. Craven's landscape and countryside has also been recognised as an important asset for businesses wanting to be located within Craven, this was identified in the draft Employment Land Review (2015). Protection of the landscape and air quality may present beneficial impacts on the tourism economy, as the landscape of the area is a significant draw for people visiting the District, and therefore its continued protection is likely to have positive effects.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and this SA objective.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	+	+	0	The policy is likely to have an effect on directing development to settlements including brownfield sites. This will have positive effects on reducing car reliance, and supporting the vitality of town centres through directing development to brownfield locations which are often located within or close to urban centres. Also limits on traffic congestion from air quality measures could restrict development particularly at points where there is existing congestion, including Skipton town centre, which would improve overall access.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	+	The policy will result in positive effects on the health and wellbeing of people, through maintaining good quality agricultural land, managing traffic congestion, maximising opportunities for sustainable travel and managing emissions. The policy is also likely to have positive effects on highway safety through a managed approach to traffic. Transboundary effects include improving the health and wellbeing of visitors to the area including strategic greenways and waterways - for example the Leeds-Liverpool Canal.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	+	+	0	+	The policy through encouraging the re-use of brownfield land and supporting the remediation of contaminated land is likely to have positive effects on addressing housing need. Whilst this is more likely to apply to opportunities in existing settlements, there may also be rural opportunities which comply with other policies in the plan. The policy is likely to have positive effects on the location of housing through avoiding areas of good quality agricultural land, maximising opportunities for sustainable travel. Cumulative impacts are also likely to be sustained, as unchecked pollution could adversely harm both human health and the natural environment.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	Through a managed approach to traffic and encouraging sustainable transport modes, the policy is likely to have positive effects on people being able to access education and training, in terms of access in a transportation sense. Otherwise this policy has little influence on people obtaining suitable education and training opportunities.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	+	0	0	The policy may result in minor benefits in reducing social isolation through ensuring the creation of places which encourage walking and interacting through limits in traffic congestion.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage.	+	++	+	+	+	There are clear links here in terms of maintaining land of good quality. The maintenance and planting of vegetation such as trees assists in preventing the worst impacts of flood episodes. It has been shown that natural habitats and vegetation slow down surface water runoff, and are much more effective in this than hard, man-made surfaces.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	++	+	++	+	There are strong links between the policy and the SA objective, in retaining the best quality agricultural land in Craven and also through measures which seek to re-use brownfield land and address contamination. Minimising impacts on air quality is also likely to have positive effects on soil quality. Transboundary effects are identified, in terms of helping to protect soil quality in neighbouring authorities.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	++	++	++	++	+	There are again clear and direct links between the policy and the SA objective, as the policy seeks to improve land quality including re-using brownfield and remediating contaminated land

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
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	The policy presents overall positive effects on the historic environment. Whilst the remediation of contaminated land and the re-use of brownfield land could help to maintain the quality of the historic environment including buildings which have become redundant, careful consideration will need to be given to the design of individual schemes. Managing traffic congestion could present benefits for the historic environment, for example in and around Skipton town centre, including better access through sustainable transport modes.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	0	+	0	The policy is likely to present direct benefits on biodiversity through protecting land and air quality, although not necessarily enhancing habitats and species. However, these measures can generally assist wildlife corridors in combination with an effective policy on biodiversity protection. It is important that brownfield land of high biodiversity value is afforded protection.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character.	+	+	+	+	+	The policy is likely to present some positive outcomes in enhancing landscape quality through remediating contaminated land. The policy could have indirect effects on keeping remote areas tranquil through directing development to brownfield locations where possible and managing traffic demands appropriately.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	0	+	0	There are some minor positive in terms of providing an appropriate setting for more rural towns and villages, but effects in terms of innovative design are negligible.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	++	++	+	+	The policy would have strong positive effects on maintaining air quality as this is partly the purpose of the policy. The policy may have more indirect effects on protecting areas valued for dark skies, as it promotes development on brownfield sites. Noise impacts can be mitigated against by promoting green infrastructure networks between developments.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	+	++	++	+	+	The policy deals with air pollution and as such it is seeking to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption. The policy does this through seeking to minimise impacts from traffic congestion, encouraging sustainable transport modes and reducing emissions from land uses. Overall this policy should have have some major positive outcomes.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	+	++	++	++	++	Maintaining air quality and improving the condition of land is likely to have some positive benefits for water quality. These should be certainly also transboundary effects as a result of the influence and reach of river catchments throughout the wider region.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	+	+	+	0	+	The policy through supporting the re-use of brownfield land and the remediation of contaminated land so that it can be redeveloped, presenting benefits on minimising waste in a wider sense in terms of landscapes. This is also considered a transboundary effect.
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 policy presents some benefits on safeguarding natural resources through encouraging the redevelopment of brownfield land. Also hazard risk areas can be restored to favourable conditions, for example to natural habitats for biodiversity.

Policy: **ENV8** - Water resources, water quality and ground water

Policy description: The policy seeks to ensure water quality within Craven is safeguarded and improved

Reasonable Alternative: No realistic alternative approach because of the provisions contained in the NPPF.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	++	+	+	0	Any employment development will need to be served by adequate wastewater treatment infrastructure which matches the type, scale, location and phasing of a development. Employment opportunities also depend on an adequate supply of good quality water.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	++	+	+	0	Employment land may be encouraged to locate to areas already serviced by adequate water and wastewater treatment plants. Any employment development will need to be served by adequate wastewater treatment infrastructure which matches the type, scale, location and phasing of a development. Business growth also depends on an adequate supply of good quality water.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	++	++	++	++	+	The policy is likely to have positive benefits on health and wellbeing through protecting water quality, which is essential for human health and wellbeing. The policy will also ensure that new developments are serviced by adequate infrastructure. Over time cumulative benefits can be gained.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	+	+	+	0	The policy seeks to ensure that new development is serviced by adequate water and wastewater treatment infrastructure to ensure suitable dwellings for habitation, and encourages the incorporation of water conservation measures within homes.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage.	+	++	++	+	+	The correct future location of additional water and wastewater infrastructure can minimise the potential effects caused by flood episodes on water infrastructure, including damage to water supply systems, damage to wastewater disposal systems, temporary insufficient supply of drinking water, and insufficient supply of water for washing.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	++	++	++	++	++	The quality of water can have an important impact on soil quality. It is also important to ensure that wastewater is managed appropriately to prevent harmful effects such as contamination of soils.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and this SA objective.
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	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and this SA objective.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	++	++	++	++	++	The protection of water quality and resources is likely to be very beneficial to biodiversity, particularly wetland habitats. Similarly, the safe treatment of wastewater will help to protect biodiversity interests.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character.	+	++	0	++	+	The protection of water quality helps to ensure effective functioning ecosystems which can in turn protect and enhance the open countryside and the wider character of the landscape.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and this SA objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and this SA objective.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	0	+	+	+	+	Climate change has potentially negative effects on water quality, in terms of the underlying factors and processes controlling nutrient transport and storage in river catchments. Any influence on protecting water quality is welcome to try to avoid or reduce this negative aspect of climate change.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	++	++	++	++	++	The policy presents significant benefits on maintaining and improving water quality and ensuring efficient water use. This pollution policy seeks to ensure that future developments do not adversely impact on ground or surface water quality. Groundwater Source Protection Zones are addressed, safeguarding these sensitive areas, particularly from possible leakages of wastewater systems. Overall a major positive outcome. Cumulatively this outcome is likely to improve as more developments incorporate the latest water protection measures and reduce risks for the future with up to date technology installed.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	There are no direct impacts associated with this policy on waste minimisation.
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 policy seeks to conserve groundwater resources and therefore has some minor positive effects on safeguarding natural resources overall.

Policy: **ENV9** - Renewable and low carbon energy

Policy description: The policy sets general criteria for consideration for renewable and low carbon energy projects within Craven, no specific targets or areas of search are identified.

Reasonable Alternative: Identify areas of search for renewable energy.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	The preferred approach is likely to have some benefits on the economy, particularly within the renewables sector as the policy provides support for renewable energy projects in Craven subject to them meeting the criteria within the policy. The alternative approach could stimulate further growth in the renewables sector, as it increases developer certainty. However, opportunities for renewable projects within Craven are limited by resource and landscape sensitivity issues. Therefore any gain is likely to be small. There are uncertainties in both approaches on the tourism economy as it would depend on the location of proposals and the amount of development coming forward. Innovative renewable projects can also stimulate tourism in some instances through education and information dispersal.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	Both approaches may result in positive benefits for job creation. Whilst it would be possible to be more specific under the alternative approach, employees for such projects often live outside of the area and limited resources would mean any increase in jobs is unlikely to be significant.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	Both approaches offer the opportunity for neighbourhood schemes at a local level to come forward to generate energy within communities. This could help to reduce fuel poverty. It is considered that the policy could be strengthened to make greater reference to neighbourhood schemes.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	The effects of an uptake in renewable schemes at a community and regional level would certainly be positive, but on an individual level, renewable energy projects promoting physical, mental and social health benefits can be said to be weakly positive. The benefits may increase over time however as climate change issues become even more critical.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	The policy enables well conceived renewable energy projects which may include new housing developments which incorporating low carbon energy schemes into their build which in turn will assist in improving the quality of housing. Cumulatively as more developments incorporate renewable energy schemes into their proposals, the more energy efficient buildings will become. It is unlikely that the alternative approach would result in any significant further gain in comparison.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
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	+	Positive effects may become more evident in the longer term as renewable energy projects in Craven, combined with an uptake in renewable energy projects elsewhere, should slightly reduce the risks of climate change influenced effects such as an increased frequency of heavy rain events. This would in turn slightly reduce the risk of flooding episodes.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	++	++	+	+	0	++	++	+	+	0	Renewable energy projects can be seen as a prudent use of land resources, due to their move away from fossil fuel dependent, and the resultant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
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	The preferred approach to the policy states that proposals for renewable energy projects should result in no significant adverse effects on the historic environment. The alternative approach could provide greater protection of the historic environment as it may identify areas that are unsuitable as a result of conservation impacts.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	Whilst the preferred approach does not seek to enhance the biodiversity of Craven, it does seek to protect it. The alternative approach may result in greater protection as a result of areas of search ruling out unsuitable locations. However, the preferred approach does make reference to designated sites.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	The preferred approach seeks to ensure that local landscapes are protected from development that would have adverse effects. The preferred approach seeks to ensure that areas recognised for their tranquillity are protected including the Forest of Bowland AONB and the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The alternative approach may provide better clarity in ruling out areas that are unsuitable for different types of renewable energy, but would not seek to actually enhance the landscape.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Renewable energy projects can be often located in a sensitive manner related to the existing built environment, but renewable energy projects are generally not known or suited for innovative design. This is something seen as having a low impact on this objective.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	++	++	+	+	0	++	++	+	+	0	Both approaches would seek to provide general support for renewable projects provided they met criteria. This would have positive benefits on air quality. The alternative approach results in some uncertainty, depending on set targets. Evidence shows that renewable energy resource within Craven is relatively low. Both approaches would also ensure development is situated in compatible locations. However, the alternative approach, through identifying areas of search, could result in greater clarity where developments are unsuitable as a result of amenity considerations. This may principally apply to larger commercial scale schemes.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	++	++	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	++	Both approaches would provide general support for renewable energy, this would also have beneficial impacts on reducing GHG. Setting targets may result in greater benefits but it is recognised that evidence shows general resource and landscape capacity is limited within Craven.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	It is intended that both approaches would seek to ensure that any redundant equipment is removed from site and that satisfactory site restoration can be achieved. Any construction project including those for renewable energy is likely to generate some waste, but the type of waste is generally lower in quantity and less hazardous than fossil fuel energies.
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	0	0	0	0	0	0	Both approaches would help to secure minor benefits in protecting mineral resources, but such positive effects would be negligible.

Policy: **ENV10** - Local Green Space

Policy description: The policy sets out the criteria that a site is required to meet to be designated as Local Green Space in either the Local Plan or Neighbourhood Plans and will seek to protect local green space designations.

Reasonable Alternative: Do not identify areas of Local Green Space and instead leave this for Neighbourhood Plans.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Protection of Local Green Space does not play a direct role in maximising employment opportunities in Craven, regardless of whether the preferred or alternative option is employed to identify them
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	+	0	-	+	+	+	0	Designation and protection of Local Green Space will help support the tourist and visitor economy in Craven in both urban and rural areas. The use of neighbourhood plans to identify local green spaces may achieve this in the longer term but the lack of comprehensive coverage of neighbourhood plans would prevent this in the short term.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	0	-	+	+	+	0	Designation and portection of Local Green Space will not directly address poverty but can cater for the changing needs of ageing population and can help support diverse and engaged communities in urban and rural areas. The use of neighbourhood plans to identify Local Green Spaces may achieve this in the longer term but the lack of comprehensive coverage of neighbourhood plans would prevent this in the short term.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Designation and portection of Local Green Space will not directly enhance access to facilities such as health centres, schools colleges, and telecommunications although they can provide a similar benefit. Other policies in the draft plan seek to achieve this objective.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	0	-	+	+	+	0	Designation and protection of Local Green Space enhances the provision of green space and makes it more accessible. By doing this it can have a positive impact on health and well being in all areas. The use of neighbourhood plans to identify local green spaces may achieve this in the longer term but the lack of comprehensive coverage of neighbourhood plans would prevent this in the short term.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Local Green Space does not directly contribute to meeting Craven's housing requirements or improving the quality of housing on offer. Other policies in the draft plan seek to achieve this objective. The existence of nearby Local Green Space may make areas more attractive to house occupiers.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Local Green Space does not directly contribute to the achievement of a good standard of education for Craven's population. Other policies in the draft plan seek to achieve this objective.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	+	+	0	-	+	+	+	0	The designation and protection of Local Green Space may reduce the need for travel by providing space for recreation and other activities close to peoples homes. Local provision may also encourage the use of sustainable travel patterns. This will be achievable in the short term by the Local Plan policy seeking to protect greenspace whereas leaving this to neighbourhood plan will only achieve a comprehensive provision of Local Green Space across Craven if and when all parishes have a neighbourhood plan.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage.	+	+	+	+	0	-	+	+	+	0	Some Local Green Spaces can contribute to reducing the risk of flooding by providing space for drainage and improvements to the natural environment such as tree planting which can limit run-off. They can also provide an alternative to inappropriate development in flood plains. The use of neighbourhood plans to identify Local Green Space may achieve this in the longer term but the lack of comprehensive coverage of neighbourhood plans would prevent this in the short term.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The designation of Local Green Space is not directly linked to the quality of the land for agriculture and food growing purposes although it may include agricultural or grazing land.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	Local Green Space will not usually contribute to the remediation of contaminated land or the re-use of brownfield land although it may include brownfield sites. Overall, local green space can mean a prudent use of land resources in an urban context for the reasons previously outlined.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
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	+	0	0	Provision of local greenspace will not usually contribute to this objective, although in individual cases it may enhance the setting of a heritage asset, particularly in an urban context.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	++	++	+	0	-	++	++	+	0	Designation and protection of Local Green Space through draft policy ENV10 provides the opportunity for the enhancement and creation of habitats and thus achieving a net gain the Districts biodiversity. They may also contribute to habitat connectivity. Lack of comprehensive coverage of Neighbourhood Plans will hinder achieving these aims across the District in the short term.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	+	++	++	++	0	-	++	++	++	0	Designation and protection of Local Green Space on sites that meet the criteria in part 1 of the policy will contribute to local distinctiveness and character as well as providing tranquil areas close to habitations. Lack of comprehensive coverage of Neighbourhood Plans will hinder achieving these aims across the District in the short term.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Provision of local greenspace will not usually contribute to this objective, although, in individual cases, innovative building design may respond to green space nearby.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	+	+	+	0	-	+	+	+	0	By remaining undeveloped, local greenspace can contribute to the maintenance of dark skies, particularly in rural areas. They may also in individual cases assist in the reduction of noise pollution by providing a buffer between noise sources and habitation. In a similar way they may help ameliorate air pollution.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	By providing recreation and relaxation opportunities in locations accessible to the local community, local green space can contribute to a reduction in energy consumption from transport and reduce the need for travel. They are less likely to contribute to production of renewable energy. The positive impact of achieving this objective will have a benefit beyond Craven.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	0	If a Local Green Space includes an area of water it is likely to contribute towards conserving and enhancing that water quality. Lack of comprehensive coverage of Neighbourhood Plans will hinder achieving this aim across the District in the short term. It is considered however that Local Green Space will not directly contribute to encouraging water efficiency.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Local Green Space will not directly contribute to the quality of water resources or encouraging water efficiency.
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	By protecting land from development unless within specific circumstances, draft policy ENV10 can serve to protect mineral and other natural resources from development that would prevent their exploitation. Under the terms of the policy their extraction would usually require provision of a replacement provision.

Policy: **ENV11** - Leeds & Liverpool Canal

Policy description: Development adjacent to the canal will be expected to be of high quality and further integrate the waterway into the public realm.

Reasonable Alternative: No reasonable alternative is seen to be available.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	**+**	**+**	**+**	**+**	**0**	Protection of the canal will help support the tourist and visitor economy in Craven in both urban and rural areas.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	+	0	Protection of the canal will help support the tourist and visitor economy in Craven in both urban and rural areas.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	0	Integration of the canal will not directly address poverty but can cater for the changing needs of ageing population and can help support diverse and engaged communities in urban and rural areas.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	0	0	0	0	0	The Leeds-Liverpool canal can act as a sustainable route and access to facilities within Craven.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	0	Integration and protection of the Leeds-Liverpool canal enhances the provision of green and recreational space and makes it more accessible. By doing this it can have a positive impact on health and well being in all areas.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	The Leeds-Liverpool canal does not directly contribute to meeting Craven District's housing requirements or improving the quality of housing on offer. Other policies in the draft plan seek to achieve this objective. The existence of nearby Local Green Space may make areas more attractive to house occupiers.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	The Leeds-Liverpool does not directly contribute the achievement of a good standard of education for Craven's population. Other policies in the draft plan seek to achieve this objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	(++)	(++)	(++)	+	0	The integration and protection of the Leeds-Liverpool may reduce the need for travel by providing space for recreation and other activities close to people's homes.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage.	(++)	(++)	(++)	+	0	The Leeds-Liverpool can contribute to reducing the risk of flooding by being a controlled waterway in itself, and providing space for drainage and improvements to the natural environment such as tree planting which can limit run-off.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	The integration of the Leeds-Liverpool canal is not directly linked to the quality of the land for agriculture and food growing purposes although it may include agricultural or grazing land.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	+	0	The Leeds-Liverpool canal can act as a sustainable route and access to facilities within Craven, and it is seen as a prudent use of land resources.
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	+	+	+	+	0	The Leeds-Liverpool canal can enhance the conservation of the historic environment in Craven including heritage assets.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	+	+	+	Integration of the canal will protect and provide habitat for biodiversity in some locations along the way.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	+	+	+	+	0	Integration of the canal will protect and open countryside along the way of the canal.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	+	(++)	+	0	Provision of innovative design is one of the key tenets of the policy along the way of the canal.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	**+**	**+**	**+**	**+**	**0**	The integration and maintenance of the canal has the capability of minimising air, noise, and light pollution.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	**+**	**+**	**+**	**+**	**+**	By providing recreation and relaxation opportunities in locations accessible to the local community, the Leeds-Liverpool canal can contribute to a reduction in energy consumption from transport and reduce the need for travel. It is less likely to contribute to production of renewable energy. The positive impact of achieving this objective will have a benefit beyond Craven.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	+	+	+	0	0	Integration and maintenance of the canal can help to conserve and enhance water. It is considered however that the canal will not directly contribute to encouraging water efficiency.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	The Leeds-Liverpool will not directly contribute to the minimisation of waste production and increasing recycling rates in Craven.
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	0	The Leeds-Liverpool will not directly contribute to the safeguarding of minerals resources and other natural material assets.

Policy: **ENV12** - Footpaths, Bridleways, Byways and Cycle Routes

Policy description: This policy looks at enhancing Public Rights of Way and creating new ones where required.

Reasonable Alternative: There is no reasonable alternative suggested.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	There is no direct link between the objective and the policy.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	0	0	0	0	0	There is no direct link between the objective and the policy.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	0	0	0	0	0	There is no direct link between the objective and the policy.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	+	0	0	Public rights of way give increased opportunities to access essential facilities.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	0	The provision of Public Rights of Way increases recreation opportunities for the populace of Craven.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	There is no direct link between the objective and the policy.
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	There is no direct link between the objective and the policy.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	+	+	+	The maintenance and provision of Public Rights of Way is a key mechanism in ensuring connectivity and reduce the need for non-sustainable travel.
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	There is no direct link between the objective and the policy.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	There is no direct link between the objective and the policy.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	+	0	The provision of Public Rights of Way increases recreation and sustainable connection opportunities for the populace of Craven, and it is a prudent use of land resources in this regard.
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	There is no direct link between the objective and the policy.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	+	0	0	There can be an indirect link between the objective and the policy, as more and well maintained Public Rights of Way exposes more people to natural habitats and species, and in turn can encourage more people to care and protect their natural environment.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	+	+	0	+	0	There can be an indirect link between the objective and the policy, as more and well maintained Public Rights of Way exposes more people to natural habitats and species, and in turn can encourage more people to care and protect their natural environment.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	0	0	0	There is no direct link between the objective and the policy.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	+	+	+	0	A minor benefit as more people should be encouraged to walk and cycle to recreational opportunities rather than use vehicle travel.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	+	+	+	+	+	A minor benefit as more people should be encouraged to walk and cycle to recreational opportunities rather than use vehicle travel, which would reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	0	0	0	0	0	Public Rights of Way provision will not directly contribute to the quality of water resources or encouraging water efficiency.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	Public Rights of Way provision will not directly contribute to the minimisation waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.
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	0	Public Rights of Way provision will not directly contribute to the minimisation waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.

Policy: **ENV13 -** Green Wedges

Policy description: The policy sets out the criteria to maintain the three designated Green Wedges in the District, namely between Farnhill & Kildwick and Glusburn & Crosshills, Glusburn & Crosshills & Sutton, and between High & Low Bentham.

Reasonable Alternative: Do not maintain the three designated Green Wedges and allow development applications in these areas to be assessed free of any Green Wedge designations.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Protection or not of Green Wedges does not play a direct role in maximising employment opportunities in Craven, regardless of whether the preferred or alternative option is employed to identify them.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Designation and protection of Green Wedges will help support the tourist and visitor economy in Craven in both urban and rural areas, albeit in a relatively minor way. With these three Green Wedge designations, there is visual distinction and separation maintained between some scenic villages, and there is some space maintained for recreational use. Non-designation of Green Wedges may not have a significant negative effect.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	Designation and protection of Green Wedges will not directly address poverty but can help to promote community cohesion by acting as a barrier against urban sprawl between the aforementioned villages.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	Designation and protection of Green Wedge space will not directly enhance access to facilities such as health centres, schools colleges, and telecommunications although there is a benefit of additional recreational space in some areas. Other policies in the draft plan seek to achieve this objective.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	0	+	+	+	0	0	-	-	-	0	Designation and protection of Green Wedge enhances the provision of green space and some recreational space. Keeping separation between villages and communities can enhance mental wellbeing of local residents in these villages.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	Green Wedge designations do not directly contribute to meeting Craven District's housing requirements or improving the quality of housing on offer. Other policies in the draft plan seek to achieve this objective. The existence of nearby Green Wedges may make areas more attractive to house occupiers in urban areas.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Green Wedges do not directly contribute to the achievement of a good standard of education for Craven's population. Other policies in the draft plan seek to achieve this objective.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	0	+	+	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	The maintenance of Green Wedges may somewhat reduce the need for travel by providing space for recreation close to people's homes. Local provision of recreational space may also encourage the use of sustainable travel patterns.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage.	+	+	++	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	Some Green Wedges can contribute to reducing the risk of flooding by providing space for drainage and improvements to the natural environment such as tree planting which can limit run-off. They can also provide an alternative to inappropriate development in flood plains. The use of neighbourhood plans to identify Local Green Space may achieve this in the longer term but the lack of comprehensive coverage of neighbourhood plans would prevent this in the short term.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	-	0	The designation of green wedges is not directly linked to the quality of the land for agriculture and food growing purposes although in these cases in Craven the three designations do include include agricultural land.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	++	+	0	-	-	(--)	-	0	Green wedges can be seen as the prudent use of land resources in so far as meeting its objectives of continued separation of villages and providing some recreational space.
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	0	0	0	It is not the direct intention of the maintenance of green wedges to directly contribute to this objective, although in individual cases it may conserve the setting of a heritage asset. The linkage between the policy and this objective is nonetheless quite weak, and it cannot be stated that the alternative policy of not maintaining the green wedges would not enhance the historic environment relating to individual heritage assets.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	++	+	++	+	-	-	0	-	0	Designation and protection of green wedges provides the opportunity for the enhancement and creation of habitats. They may also contribute to habitat connectivity.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	++	++	+	++	+	-		-	-	-	Continued designation and protection of green wedges will contribute to local distinctiveness and character as well as providing tranquil countryside areas close to habitations. The alternative policy would likely to erode the open countryside through housing development.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Provision of green wedges will not usually contribute to this objective, although, in individual cases, innovative building design may respond to green space nearby.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	+	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	By remaining undeveloped, green wedges can contribute to the maintenance of dark skies, particularly in rural areas. They may also in individual cases assist in the reduction of noise pollution by providing a buffer between noise sources and habitation. In a similar way they may help ameliorate air pollution.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	By providing some recreation and relaxation opportunities in locations accessible to the local community, green wedges can contribute to a reduction in energy consumption from transport and reduce the need for travel. Although possible, they are less likely to contribute to production of renewable energy as there is not a direct relation between the policy and this objective. The positive impact of achieving this objective will have a small transboundary benefit.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	0	0	-	Green wedges can contribute to conserving and enhancing water quality where streams, rivers and/or lakes are partly or wholly within the green wedge itself or in the vicinity. There is no relationship between the policy and the improvement of water efficiency as this relies fundamentally on people's empathy with the natural environment.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Green wedges will not directly contribute to the minimsation of waste production and the increase of recycling rates in the district as there is no relationship between the policy and this objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Alternative Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	Short Term	Long Term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
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	By protecting land from development unless within specific circumstances, the policy can serve to protect some mineral and other natural resources from development that would later prevent their exploitation.