Policy: **EC1** - Employment and Economic Development

Proposed approach: The policy will support economic development and new employment land subject to criteria being met.

Reasonable Alternatives: No alternative identified

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	++	++	++	+	+	The provision of new employment land is likely to have positive effects on job creation. However, to ensure these are accessible, wording could be added to the policy. It is not intended that specific sectors will be targeted within the Local Plan in order to maximise growth and enable flexibility. The policy is identified as having minor benefits on job creation at a transboundary level as Craven is a net importer of employees. The policy supports economic growth which is likely to help safeguard key employers.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	++	++	++	+	+	The policy is directly related to the provision of new economic development and employment land and therefore the policy is likely to present significant positive effects for supporting local business growth and inward investment. Rurally the policy is identified as having a minor positive effect as new employment is likely to be directed to urban locations. The policy is not related to the tourism or visitor economy, and it could be argued that the cumulative effects of employment land has potential for negative implications on this sector without careful consideration of matters including landscape and the historic environment.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	+	Supporting economic growth could help to reduce inequalities job creation and maintaining already low unemployment rates .
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	+	+	+	The policy is worded to ensure that where possible new employment land growth takes place in established areas or on allocated sites which will have been assessed for their accessibility. The policy may have benefits for town centres as business growth creates spending power and there may be opportunities for office development in town centres. On a transboundary level employment land growth within Craven could help to support access beyond the plan boundary and could help the vitality of villages and towns in close proximity of Craven.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	+	The provision of new employment land may be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of people through increased employment opportunities and wealth generation which can better enable healthy lifestyles. Economic growth can also help to reduce crime if employment rates increase, but this is recognised as not being a significant issue within Craven. Transboundary minor positive effects are identified as the policy could help to benefit the wellbeing of people living in adjacent authorities but working within Craven.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear 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	
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	0	+	+	+	0	Economic growth can help to maximise life opportunities for young people within Craven through employment and training. The policy could also improve the skills and qualifications of local people through training opportunities. Wording could be added to the policy to support this.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	0	+	+	+	0	Employment land development is steered to sustainable locations more accessible by public transport which supports sustainable travel. The policy itself however, could result in an increased need for travel overall if it results in greater employment levels. Access will be an important consideration and the policy makes reference to the ability for new development to be accommodated within the existing highway network. However, direct access is more of a site level consideration.
SO9) Reduce the risk and impacts of flooding on people, property and the environment including through the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage.	-	-	-	-	-	Increased development could have a negative impact on flood risk if it is not directed to areas at lower risk. Policy ENV6 concerns the management of flood risk and all new development will be required to have regard to this policy. As part of the assessment of employment allocations will consider flood risk.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	-	-	0	-	0	It is recognised that new development will require a loss of soil to built development. The loss of good quality agricultural land will depend on the location of new development coming forward.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	0	0	0	0	0	The allocation of specific sites together with development proposals coming forward will determine the policy's effect on remediation of contaminated land and the re-use of brownfield land. Policy EC2 seeks to protect existing employment areas which will be important in encouraging the re-use of brownfield land.
SO12) Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment including heritage assets and their settings and areas of identified and potential archaeological interest	0	0	0	0	0	The specific location of new development will determine impacts on the historic environment. Established industrial areas and allocated sites will be generally less sensitive. However, provisions are made within the policy which seek to ensure new developments accord with the historic environment policy.

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	Other policies within the plan including the biodiversity policy manage biodiversity impacts and seek to incorporate measures to enhance biodiversity through new development. The individual location of new development will influence impacts on biodiversity. However, in general established industrial areas are less sensitive. The allocations process excludes sites that are of designated biodiversity importance. There are opportunities for biodiversity to be integrated into schemes for new employment land and within established industrial areas and these opportunities should be sought wherever possible.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character.	0	+	0	+	0	The protection of landscape character will depend on the individual location and design of new developments. However, generally the policy seeks to direct development to those areas less sensitive. As part of individual schemes consideration should be given to any mitigation required to avoid adverse impacts. In terms of allocations this will be managed through development principles.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	++	++	+	0	The policy includes provisions to ensure that new development is of a good design that accords with the Good Design Policy ENV3. The design of individual schemes will generally be considered through the planning applications process unless development principles are necessary as part of land allocations for specific sites.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	-	-	-	-	0	The policy could have negative consequences for air quality, much of this will depend on the use proposed. For example uses that require high numbers of transport movements are more likely to have a greater impact. The policy makes reference to ensuing new development does not result in adverse amenity conditions this includes noise.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	-	-	-	-	-	New employment and economic development is likely to result in an increase in GHG's. The policy's likely impacts through an increase in jobs within Craven is likely to mean an increased need for travel. However, the policy seeks to direct new development to accessible locations. Renewable energy is considered under other policies.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	-	-	-	-	0	Employment uses could have a large requirement for water consumption. This is not covered in the policy however, it is subject to consideration under other policies within the Plan. Consumption and quality of water in future developments will be important to take into account and mitigate, as far as possible.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	-	-	0	0	This policy does not directly deal with waste recovery and recycling. However the use of the land whether for employment is likely to result in increases of waste and therefore waste recovery and recycling. Developments also have the opportunity to incorporate compost and reduce waste in the first instance, as mitigation to improve sustainability.

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**	New employment land development is generally directed towards urban locations, where the requirements for mineral workings are low to avoid impacts on communities. However, prior extraction should be implemented where possible in new proposals.

Policy: **EC2** - Safeguarding existing employment areas

Proposed approach: The policy seeks to prevent a loss of employment land within Craven through protecting sites that are in existing B class uses from a change of use to other non B use class development.

Reasonable Alternatives: Alternative Option 1 - to rely on the provisions of the NPPF and have no specific Local Plan policy.

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	++	++	++	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	Preferred Approach The policy seeks to protect existing employment land from redevelopment for other uses. It is therefore considered that the preferred approach would help to maximise job opportunities within Craven. Having a policy within the plan may help business expansion as encouragement is given to the protection of employment land for re-use or growth. Transboundary effects are identified as Craven operates in an economy wider than its own administrative boundaries. Alternative Approach The NPPF supports sustainable development including development of land for employment. However, there would be less protection for existing employment sites. If existing employment sites were lost within Craven, it may not be possible to find suitable alternative locations within Craven.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	++	++	++	+	0	0	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The policy seeks to protect existing employment locations with the intention that these are a focus for economic growth within Craven with good accessibility. The loss of these areas would be detrimental to the economy as alternative land is unlikely to be available to the same extent. Transboundary effects are identified as Craven operates in an economy wider than its own administrative boundaries. Alternative Approach The NPPF (paragraphs 18-22) seeks to encourage business growth), therefore it is considered that not having a policy would still provide encouragement for business growth. However, the NPPF provides little protection for existing sites, there are unlikely to be large scale opportunities for alternative provision within the main settlements, particularly Skipton. Therefore in the long term negative effects are likely.

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	
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach Retaining land in employment use could have indirect benefits for reducing inequalities and maintaining low levels of poverty as the purpose of the policy is to help retain jobs and prosperity within the area. Alternative Approach The provisions of the NPPF also support economic growth and therefore this may have minor positive effects on tackling inequalities including employment. However, if land was lost to other uses and alternative provision was unavailable this could result in a loss of jobs and prosperity and therefore increased poverty and inequalities.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	+	0	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The policy will help to retain land which is currently in employment use, these areas are generally accessible by public transport or within walking distance of settlements. The policy may help to reduce unequal access to telecommunications as it gives infrastructure providers more certainty over future demand. Alternative Option The NPPF supports economic growth. However, the NPPF makes little reference to the protection of existing sites and the potential loss of employment land. Accessibility is considered elsewhere. If employment land was lost to other uses, this could result in employment land being directed to less accessible locations.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The retention of employment land should help to contribute towards retaining jobs and potential growth. This presents positive effects on wellbeing of people. The policy may present positive effects on social isolation if it helps to retain currently high employment rates. Alternative Approach Whilst the NPPF would not specifically protect employment sites, it does present a positive framework for contributing towards economic growth which is good for the health and wellbeing of people and communities. However, if land was lost to other uses and alternative provision was not available this could result in negative consequences through a decline in jobs and prosperity within Craven.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear and direct link between the policy and the SA objective in question.

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	Preferred Approach Retaining land in employment use should help to retain businesses within Craven which may help to benefit people through skills and training. Alternative Approach Whilst the NPPF supports education and employment growth, not having a policy would provide little protection for existing employment land, this could result in a loss of businesses and therefore training and skills opportunities within Craven.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The policy seeks to ensure the protection of employment sites, this may help to direct new economic growth to these locations which are generally already well served by public transport infrastructure and good access to the highway network. However, the overall need for travel would be unlikely to decrease. Alternative Approach The NPPF seeks to ensure new economic development takes place in sustainable locations. However, a loss of employment land to other uses could require employment needs to be met further out from their existing locations, this could increase travel requirements and may not be easily accessible by public transport.
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	Preferred Approach Protecting employment land for employment uses, may help to reduce overall land take up. There are established industrial areas such as Snaygill Industrial Estate in Skipton which are in high flood risk zones. Therefore overall the draft policy scores neutral. Alternative Approach Not having a policy could result in greater land take up requirements, this could have negative consequences for flood risk.

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	
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	+	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The preferred approach would help to retain the best quality agricultural land within Craven as it seeks to ensure the reuse of existing employment sites and therefore helps direct new development to vacant locations within these sites rather than developing new greenfield land. This would also present positive effects on soil quality. Alternative Approach Not having a policy and relying on the NPPF may require greater land take up this presents negative consequences for protecting better quality agricultural land and soil.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	++	++	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The policy may have benefits on remediating contaminated land as it seeks to protect land which is currently in employment use and therefore encourages the re-use of land, some of which may be contaminated from previous employment use. The policy is likely to have a positive effect on encouraging the re-use of brownfield land as it supports the re-use of existing employment sites. However, the NPPF encourages the re-use of brownfield land. Alternative Approach Not having a policy within the plan may result in the loss of some existing employment sites. To relocate businesses or for new business growth within Craven, this would require additional land take up of which limited brownfield opportunities exist.
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	0	It is not considered that the protection of existing employment sites would have much effect on this objective.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The policy concerns existing employment sites and therefore it is unlikely that the policy would have significant effects on biodiversity but this would depend on the nature of uses coming forward in these locations.

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	
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The policy concerns existing employment sites and therefore it is unlikely that significantly effects would arise as these are generally in urban locations but this would depend on the nature of individual proposals. Other policies within the plan are more relevant to landscape, specifically ENV1.
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	The policy concerns the protection of existing employment sites therefore no significant impacts are expected.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	Preferred Approach The sustainable growth of the economy within Craven will be supported in general this could have negative consequences for pollution. However, the policy though the protection of existing sites, seeks to ensure employment opportunities can be accessed by public transport reducing impacts on air quality through emissions. Therefore whilst there are positive elements to the policy, the overall growth of the economy, which this policy supports would likely result in higher emissions. Alternative Approach Relying on the NPPF may result in a need for greater land take up elsewhere either within Craven or outside of its boundaries. If these sites are not accessible by public transport or further from where people live it would likely result in an increase in emissions from travel and therefore have negative consequences for air quality.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Preferred Approach The policy seeks to protect employment land. Retaining land in employment use will continue to further increase GHG's, the scale of this depends on the nature of businesses in these locations in the future. However, employment growth is a key priority for the council and other policies will help mitigate this. The policy alone has little effect on the production of renewable energy which instead is covered by other policies within the Plan. Alternative Approach Not having a policy and relying on the NPPF, may result in employment land being pushed further out of settlements or to other locations, this could result in increases in travel movements and therefore GHG's, impacting on climate change.

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	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach Safeguarding employment land will ultimately lead to the use of the land, whether for employment or not, thereby increasing water consumption. Water quality is controlled through other policies. Alternative approach The NPPF supports economic growth which in turn through development would result in increased water use.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The protection of employment sites does not directly affect waste production.
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	Preferred Approach The policy may help to safeguard mineral resources through protection of employment land and the effects this may have on steering new economic development to existing sites. Nevertheless, the policy does not prevent the development of new growth on other sites and therefore scores neutral. Alternative Approach Not having a policy may result in additional land take which could require land with mineral resources. It would be important that prior extraction takes place in this instance.

Policy: **EC3** - Rural Economy

Preferred Approach: The policy seeks to support the growth of the rural economy within Craven

Reasonable Alternatives: None identified

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	This aim of this policy is to support the rural economy so that it may grow and diversify in a sustainable way to provide long term economic, environmental and social benefits for local communities.. As such it is considered that the implementation of this policy will help to maximise employment opportunities within Craven.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	0	++	0	This policy sets out a specific approach for the rural economy. This together with other economy policies relating to the plan area's urban areas, together will help to achieve this specific objective by maximising opportunities for economic growth specifically within the rural area.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	++	++	0	++	+	By supporting the rural economy to grow and diversity by providing opportunities for employment opportunities in the rural area, this policy will help to achieve community cohesion and to reduce rural poverty
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	0	+	+	Providing and supporting employment uses in rural areas will allow the provision of essential employment facilities, allowing rural areas to grow in a sustainable way and provide long term economic, environmental and social benefits for local communities. It will not provide access to ALL for essential employment facilities/opportunities, however it will help some living in rural areas access employment opportunities. This policy approach is likely to have a transboundary impact as employment facilities/opportunities created and supported through this policy may be accessed by those living outside the plan area.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	0	+	+	The provision of new employment opportunities in rural areas may be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of people through employment and wealth generation which enables healthy lifestyles. This policy may also help to reduce social isolation through the growth and diversification of the rural economy in a sustainable way, both within and outside the plan area. Economic growth may help to reduce rural crime, but it will be important to ensure inequalities are minimised.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear 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	
SO7) Enable everyone to access a good standard of education and the ability to undertake relevant training and augment skill levels	+	+	0	+	+	Economic growth can help to maximise life opportunities for young people within Craven through employment and training opportunities in the rural parts of the plan area. The policy could also improve the skills and qualifications of local people (either from within or outside the plan area) through training opportunities, for example provided within the workplace.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	-	-	0	-	-	Rural locations can impose limitations such as the existing relatively poor public transport links that exist in some rural areas. Access to economic premises will be an important consideration. This policy will consider whether proposals would result in sustainable rural development. The policy specifically supports proposals for and protects existing live work units, providing opportunities for people to live and work in the same locality and reducing the need to travel. It is recognised, however that not all employment opportunities will be provided along side residential uses and that this policy is likely to increase travel overall from within and possibly from outside the rural plan area.
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	Other policies within the plan consider flood risk, all proposals for new development will be required to accord with the flood risk policy. Any proposal considered under this policy would therefore be considered in terms of flood risk.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	+	0	+	0	This policy recognises the important role farming has in the rural economy and supports proposals to use farmland and buildings in new and different ways and to diversity the rural economy. This could be achieved in a way that protects and maintains soil quality through farming practices. The building of new buildings in the countryside is may not protect and enhance agricultural conditions or maintain soil quality, however the extent of new building would depend on how far this objective is be achieved. The aim of this policy is to achieve sustainable rural economic growth.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	0	0	0	0	0	This policy supports opportunities to use farm and forestry land and buildings, however the definition of PDL excludes land that is or has been occupied by agricultural buildings. The policy also supports opportunities for other rural businesses, which could be brought forward on PDL. However on balance this policy's effect on the re-use of brownfield land is likely to be neutral. The location and nature of development proposals coming forward will determine the policy's effect on remediation of 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	0	0	0	The specific location of new development will determine impacts on the historic environment. Proposals will have to accord with ENV2: Heritage.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	0	+	0	Other policies within the plan including the biodiversity policy manage biodiversity impacts and seek to incorporate measures to enhance biodiversity through new development. Opportunities to use farmland and buildings in new and different ways to diversify the wider economy may help to protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity through forming practices.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	?	?	0	?	0	The protection of landscape character will depend on the individual design of new developments. Economic development in the rural part of the plan area may help to achieve this objective or not, depending on the nature of development proposed. The policy does require proposals to accord with all other relevant Local or Neighbourhood Plan policies so that plan led sustainable development is achieved. On balance therefore it is considered that the sustainability impacts of this policy EC3 for the rural area is uncertain.
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	0	0	0	0	0	The policy does require proposals to accord with all other relevant Local or Neighbourhood Plan policies so that plan led sustainable development is achieved. This would include the Good Design Policy ENV3.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	-	-	0	-	0	The policy could have negative consequences for air quality, much of this will depend on the use proposed. For example uses that require high numbers of transport movements are more likely to have a greater impact. Given that this policy provides opportunities for economic development within the rural plan area, it is likely that it would have negative consequences on areas valued for their intrinsically dark skies. The landscape policy (ENV1) helps to provide protection for dark skies within the AONB.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	-	-	0	-	0	New employment and economic development in the rural part of the plan area is likely to result in an increase in GHG's. New or diversification of existing rural businesses is likely to mean an increased need for travel. However, the policy seeks to achieve plan led sustainable development together with all other relevant local plan policies. Renewable energy is considered under other policies.

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	Employment uses could have a large requirement for water consumption. This is not covered in the policy however, it is subject to consideration under other policies within the Plan.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	Whilst the policy may result in an increase in waste, the policy does not concern the management of it which is covered by other policies within the plan
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	Impacts on mineral safeguarding will depend on the location of individual developments. To mitigate this prior extraction should be implemented in new proposals. The policy does not concern hazard risks.

Policy: **EC4** - Tourism

Preferred Approach: The policy seeks to support the sustainable growth of tourism within Craven and identifies key locations for tourism development.

Reasonable Alternatives: Alternative Option 1 - Do not identify key locations

SA Objective	Proposed Approach: Support sustainable growth in tourism and identify key locations					Alternative Option 1: Do not identify key locations					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	++	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	Tourism is a significant part of the local economy and provides employment opportunities. Both options would support tourism growth and may therefore have positive effects. The identification of key locations for tourism development, in the preferred approach, would provide additional positive support and encouragement, so the positive effects may be greater under that option.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	++	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	Both policy options would enable, help and support tourist destinations and businesses to succeed, innovate and grow, and may therefore have positive effects. However, the identification of key locations, in the preferred approach, would provide additional support and encouragement.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	In both options, the policy seeks to benefit local communities, to promote neighbourhood participation and to secure community use of tourist facilities, which may help towards achieving this objective. However, whilst effects may be positive, they may not be particularly strong or vary significantly between the two options.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	Both policy options seek to secure community use of private sports, leisure, recreational and cultural facilities, shops and open spaces provided as part of tourism developments. This may have some positive effect, particularly in rural areas, but the effect may not be strong or significantly different between options.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	Both policy options seek to secure community use of private sports, leisure, recreational and cultural facilities, shops and open spaces provided as part of tourism developments; and improvement of public transport, footpaths and cycle routes. This may have some positive effect, particularly in rural areas, but the effect may not be strong or significantly different between options.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Although both policy options may offer economic and social benefits, the effect on housing choice is unlikely to be direct or significant.

SA Objective	Proposed Approach: Support sustainable growth in tourism and identify key locations					Alternative Option 1: Do not identify key locations					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	Neither policy option is likely to have a direct or significant effect on education and training.
SO8) Improve connectivity, reduce the need for travel, and ensure proposed developments have safe access	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	Both policy options seek to ensure that tourism development provides easy access to public transport, footpaths and cycle routes, and provides improvements where possible, which may help to reduce the need for travel and to improve connectivity. However, the preferred option does go further by identifying key locations near railway stations and the canal.
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	The preferred option identifies key locations for tourism development, including areas in Skipton, Embsay and Ingleton that are close to areas of flood risk. The alternative option does not identify these locations, does not raise the same issues and would have a neutral effect, with flood risk being considered on a site-by-site basis under the separate flood risk policy.
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	The preferred option identifies key locations for tourism development, including Bolton Abbey, Gargrave and Bentham, which are in areas of grade 3 agricultural land. The alternative option does not identify these locations, does not raise the same issues and would have a neutral effect.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Both policy options would support brownfield development, but tourism growth is also likely to depend on greenfield development. There are parcels of contaminated land within the plan area, but not a great amount. Some key locations identified in the preferred option may offer opportunities for redevelopment of brownfield and contaminated land (e.g. built-up areas near railway stations). Overall, neither option may have a strong effect on the use of land resources.

SA Objective	Proposed Approach: Support sustainable growth in tourism and identify key locations					Alternative Option 1: Do not identify key locations					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	Both policy options would support and encourage cultural and heritage tourism, which may help to conserve and enhance heritage assets and improve access to and enjoyment of the historic environment. However, the preferred option may offer greater opportunities for positive effects, by identifying several key locations centred on heritage assets (including railways and the canal) and by promoting the archaeological interest of the committed tourism development opportunity site.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Bolton Abbey Station is identified, in the preferred option, as a key location, but is also in the vicinity of Hambleton Quarry SSSI, so potential impacts may need to be avoided or mitigated. The preferred option also provides positive support for the biodiversity value of the committed tourism development opportunity site at Hellifield. Otherwise, neither option is likely to have a significant effect on geodiversity or biodiversity.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	The preferred option provides positive support for the provision of green space within the committed tourism development opportunity site at Hellifield. Otherwise, neither option is likely to have a significant effect on countryside, landscape or green space issues, which are addressed by other policies.
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	Neither policy option is likely to have a significant direct effect on design issues, because good design is a general requirement and addressed by the good design policy.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Growth in tourism is likely to bring a degree of air, noise and light pollution, but effects may be minimised. In the preferred option, greater opportunities may arise for sustainable travel due to the identification of key locations at railway stations, which may help to minimise noise and emissions. Neither policy option addresses light pollution, which is addressed in the countryside and landscape and good design policies.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	In the preferred option, greater opportunities may arise for sustainable travel due to the identification of key locations at railway stations, which may help to minimise impacts on climate change. Otherwise, neither option is likely to have a significant effect.

SA Objective	Proposed Approach: Support sustainable growth in tourism and identify key locations					Alternative Option 1: Do not identify key locations					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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Neither policy option is likely to have a significant effect on issues of water quality or water resources, which are addressed by a separate specific policy.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Growth in general may threaten to increase the production of waste, so minimisation and mitigation may be necessary. Whilst growth in tourism may contribute to that general effect, neither policy option is likely to have a specific or significant additional effect on waste production or recycling.
SO20) Safeguard minerals resources and other natural material assets, and ensure the safe management of hazard risks of former mining activity where new development is proposed	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	The preferred option identifies key locations in areas with mineral resources (Gargrave, Hellifield, Bentham) and with coal mining legacies (Bentham, Ingleton), so tourism growth in those locations may pose a greater threat. Avoidance through the choice of sites and the implementation of mitigation measures may be needed.

Policy: **EC4a** - Tourism led development in Bolton Abbey						
Preferred Approach: The policy seeks to support tourism led business and development opportunities in Bolton Abbey.						
Reasonable Alternatives: None identified						
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	This aim of this policy is to support tourism led development in Bolton Abbey so that it may grow and diversify in a sustainable way to provide long term economic, environmental and social benefits for local communities. As such it is considered that the implementation of this policy will help to maximise employment opportunities in Bolton Abbey.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	++	++	++	0	This policy sets out a specific approach for the Bolton Abbey economy, which looks to maximise opportunities for employment and business growth within ecological and built heritage boundaries.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	++	+	++	+	By supporting the rural economy to grow and diversity by providing opportunities for employment opportunities in Bolton Abbey, this policy will help to achieve local community cohesion and to reduce rural poverty.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	0	+	0	There are minor benefits in a local context.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
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 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	There is no clear 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.	+	+	+	+	0	The continuing development at Bolton Abbey is intended to be compliant with tight natural and built heritage standards so it is in the interests of the policy to ensure that flood risk is reduced in so far as possible.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	The reduction of agricultural land is negligible in the context of Craven as a whole, given the local nature of the policy.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	+	0	Tourism led development is thought to be a prudent use of land resources in the local context of Bolton Abbey.
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 extra cash revenue generated by the tourism led development at Bolton Abbey can be used to conserve and enhance the historic environment of the local area.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	0	0	0	0	0	Tourism led development is thought to have a negligible effect on the protection of biodiversity throughout Craven.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	0	0	0	0	0	Tourism led development is thought to have a negligible effect on the protection of open countryside throughout Craven.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short term	Long term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	+	0	0	0	Innovative design will be fully expected in tourism led growth at Bolton Abbey, given its existing valuable historic environment.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear 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	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.

Policy: **EC4b** - Tourism Development Commitment at Hellifield

Preferred Approach: The policy seeks to support sustainable tourism led development of land at Hellifield identified by grey hatching on the Policies Map (Inset Map No. 13) and in Diagram EC4B.

Reasonable Alternatives: No alternative policy is reasonable to identify.

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	This aim of this policy is to support tourism led development at a specified location in Hellifield so that it may grow and diversify in a sustainable way to provide long term economic, environmental and social benefits for local communities. As such it is considered that the implementation of this policy will help to maximise employment opportunities in Hellifield.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	++	++	++	0	This policy sets out a specific approach for the Hellifield economy in terms of tourism promotion, which looks to maximise opportunities for employment and business growth within ecological and built heritage boundaries.
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	++	+	++	+	By supporting the rural economy to grow and diversity by providing opportunities for employment opportunities in Hellifield, this policy will help to achieve local community cohesion and to reduce rural poverty.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	0	+	0	There are minor benefits in a local context.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
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 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	There is no clear 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.	+	+	+	+	0	The continuing development at Hellifield is intended to be compliant with stated natural and built heritage standards so it is in the interests of the policy to ensure that flood risk is reduced in so far as possible.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	0	0	0	0	0	The reduction of agricultural land is negligible in the context of Craven as a whole, given the local nature of the policy.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	+	0	Tourism led development is thought to be a prudent use of land resources in the local context of Hellifield.
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 extra finanical revenue generated by the tourism led development at Hellifield can be used to conserve and enhance the historic environment of the local area.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	0	0	0	0	0	Tourism led development is thought to have a low to negligible effect on the protection of biodiversity throughout Craven. The policy text discusses the need for the conservation of biodiversity value in the area.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	0	0	0	0	0	Tourism led development is thought to have a low to negligible effect on the protection of open countryside throughout Craven. The policy text discusses the conservation of the landscape and of the setting and special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

SA Objective	Preferred Option					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short term	Long term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	+	0	0	0	Innovative design will be fully expected in tourism led growth at Hellifield, given its existing valuable historic environment.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO18) Conserve and enhance water quality and resources and improve the efficiency of water use.	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	0	0	0	0	0	There is no clear 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	0	0	0	There is no clear link between the policy and the SA objective.

Policy: **EC5** - Town, District and Local Centres

Preferred Approach: The policy seeks to provide a strategy for Craven's five main centres (Skipton, Settle, Cross Hills, Bentham and Ingleton), includes provision for retail needs within Craven across the plan period and sets a threshold for requirement for sequential tests for main town centre uses outside of centres.

Reasonable Alternatives: None identified

SA Objective	Preferred Approach					Commentary
	Timescale of Impact		Location of Impact			
	Short term	Long term	Urban	Rural	Transboundary Impact	
SO1) Maximise employment opportunities within Craven	+	+	+	-	0	This approach will underpin and enhance the vitality and viability of the identified retail centres in Craven creating employment opportunities and enhancing economic activity. The policy does not allow for town centre related activity in rural areas
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	-	0	By directing most retail growth to settlement centres, this approach will under pin and enhance opportunities for economic and business growth in Craven. The approach will allow for new development and extension thereby maximising opportunities for growth. The policy does not allow for town centre related activity in rural areas
SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	-	0	The policy directs retail, leisure and community uses to settlement centres. This generates activity and through the bringing forward of employment opportunities assist in combatting poverty. Community cohesion could be fostered by locating community facilities in settlement centres. The town centre focus for community uses means that little growth will be directed toward rural areas. The policy approach will bring people closer to the key services. This could reduce the reliance on the car as a primary mode to transport.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	++	++	++	-	0	The policy approach brings forward retail, commercial, leisure and community activity in settlement centres. These are the most accessible locations by virtue of public transport accessibility. For those resident in rural areas, access may not be enhanced as development will not be directed there.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	-	0	The policy approach, by directing community and leisure uses towards settlement centres will make provision for ensuring health and wellbeing through physical provision and social interaction.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	The policy applies to town centres and for retail, commercial, leisure and community uses. As such, it will have no direct effect on this objective.
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 policy applies to town centres and for retail, commercial, leisure and community uses. As such, it will have no direct effect on this objective.

SA Objective	Preferred Approach					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	Access to development schemes would be designed to a standard where safe access and egress would be achieved and it is anticipated that this would be to an adoptable standard. Development schemes would be designed so as to facilitate pedestrian and cyclist access and linking schemes with the wider settlement, thus reducing reliance on the car and encouraging sustainable travel patterns. By directing development to main centres, the need to travel to access services offered there would be reduced.
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	The policy approach of directing town centre activity to existing centres could be affected and limited by the presence of land at a higher risk of flooding in some areas. The use of Suds is not affected by the policy but design specifics at scheme level will determine the most appropriate drainage solution.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	0	0	0	+	0	The focus of the policy on town centres will reduce demand for using BMV for this purpose. The policy will have little direct effect on this objective other than to seek to safeguard BMV accordingly.
SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	+	0	The policy approach seeks to underpin existing town centres, where there is already a better supply of brownfield land. The potential ecological value of brownfield land will be assessed at the time of application and as such it is not possible to ascertain ecological value and associated contribution.
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 approach could, without mitigation, adversely affect the quality of the historic environment. This could lead to a short term adverse effect whilst mitigation and appropriate policies are put in place. The increases in local activity could also affect the quality of town centres arising from the policy approach could also have an adverse effect if not mitigated.

SA Objective	Preferred Approach					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	The policy applies to town centres and for retail, commercial, leisure and community uses. As such, it will have no direct effect on this objective.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	+	+	+	+	0	The impact of development is less wide spread as it is concentrated on settlement centres. By directing growth toward settlement centres, the character of the countryside will be safeguarded thereby contributing to local distinctiveness and safeguarding tranquil areas which typically are away from town and village centres
SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	+	+	+	0	By focussing the approach to town centres, schemes will be designed to take account of and reflect local distinctiveness and vernacular. High design standard will be assured through appropriate planning policy approaches thus reflecting the local vernacular. Sensitive rural locations will be unaffected as it is not anticipated that development will be directed there.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	-	-	-	+	0	There are no designated air quality management areas in Craven. However, without mitigation, new development may have a minor detrimental effect upon air quality in main settlements by virtue of increased activity, use of motorised transport etc. However as this policy directs development to the most accessible locations by public transport, the effect is unlikely to be significant however. Rural areas will not be adversely affected as these are out of centre locations in any event. By focussing on town centres, the potential conflict arising from noise generating and noise sensitive development will be mitigated through site selection and the development management process. By focussing on main settlements and areas of existing activity, areas noted for dark skies will be protected as most new development will be away from these areas
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	+	+	+	0	0	Without mitigation, the policy approach is likely to have a detrimental effect upon carbon emissions by virtue of increased activity, use of motorised transport during construction and operation. However by supporting settlement centres as hubs of activity and service centres, the need to travel to access services would be reduced, thus reducing reliance on the car as primary mode of transport or needing to travel. The policy approach of supporting and enhancing development in accessible locations would also encourage and support sustainable travel patterns.

SA Objective	Preferred Approach					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	The policy applies to town centres and for retail, commercial, leisure and community uses. As such, it will have no direct effect on this objective.
SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	-	-	-	0	0	Development in settlement centres will increase activity and this will increase waste generation as a consequence. An effect of increased retail provision in town centres will be an increase in recycling as consumers replace items in line with a broader commercial and retail offer.
SO20) Safeguard minerals resources and other natural material assets, and ensure the safe management of hazard risks of former mining activity where new development is proposed	+	+	+	+	0	Minerals resources are likely to be located away from settlement centres and development will not affect this. Minerals resources are unlikely to be sterilised as a result of the policy approach. Where proposals concern and area of minerals resource, the winning of the mineral in question can be secured as part of the development process should this be appropriate, although this is unlikely. With regard to former mine workings, the development process will identify and mitigate hazards associated with former mine workings particularly in the north of the plan area.

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

Policy: **EC5a** - Residential uses in town and village centres

Preferred Approach: To allow for residential uses in town and village centres to support vitality. In Skipton and Settle proposals for residential development will be supported where they would not result in the loss of retail, commercial, leisure accommodation or premises suitable for community uses, or equivalent compensatory provision is made. In Ingleton, Bentham and Cross Hills residential development at ground floor level would be permitted where the retail, commercial and leisure function of the settlement is not undermined.

Reasonable Alternatives: Not setting a policy approach and instead relying on the provisions of the General Permitted Development Order (2015) which makes provisions via prior notification for the conversion of A1 (retail) and A2 (financial and professional) uses to C3 (residential) subject to certain conditions.

SA Objective	Preferred Approach					Alternative Option: Not setting a policy (limited development allowed under General Permitted Development Order (2015)					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	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a context for allowing residential conversions in appropriate circumstances will make a positive contribution to maximising employment opportunities through undertaking conversion works, increasing vibrancy within the centre and enabling proprietors to live over the business. Alternative Approach Some residential development at first floor would generally be acceptable under Prior Notification which would still enable proprietors to live above the shop, but may mean that full opportunities for town centres to be places for living as well as more traditional functions would not be maximised. Effects therefore a are more neutral.
SO2) Maximise opportunities for economic and business growth	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a context for allowing residential conversions in appropriate circumstances will make a positive contribution to maximising opportunities for economic growth. Alternative Approach The General Permitted Development Order under prior notification would allow for some floorspace to be converted above shops. However, opportunities would be more limited which may not maximise the potential for living close to centres and resultant economic growth.

SO3) Promote equality and diversity, and foster community cohesion by reducing all forms of poverty	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres will promote equality, diversity and community cohesion. The policy would further strengthen opportunities for people to live close to centres which could be particularly beneficial for meeting the needs of an ageing population. Alternative Approach Having no policy approach could restrict the opportunities for people to live close to centres. However, it is recognised that Craven's towns are small and whilst people may not be able to live within the centres there are opportunities to live nearby, therefore effects are considered neutral.
SO4) Enhance access for all to essential facilities	+	++	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres will enhance access to essential facilities which will particularly add to the vitality and vibrancy of town centres across Craven. Alternative Approach Having no policy approach would allow for some residential conversions under prior notification but there may be underused space which would not maximise potential for contribution towards this objective.
SO5) Promote physical, mental and social health and wellbeing	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres will promote physical, mental and social wellbeing. Living within town centres can be beneficial for people wanting to lead a vibrant lifestyle and would also contribute towards people meeting their housing needs. Alternative Approach Having no policy approach would still enable some people to live within centres but opportunities would be more limited.
S06) Enable all residents to live in suitable and affordable housing	+	++	++	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	Preferred Approach The preferred approach maximises opportunities for housing needs to be met and within accessible locations. Younger people particularly may desire to live in town centres locations where opportunities for leisure exist. Alternative Approach Not having a policy approach would still allow for some living above the shop but would not encourage opportunities to the same level.

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	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres will improve connectivity, reduce the need to travel whilst also ensuring safe and effective access. Alternative Approach Having no policy approach may result in people living further out of centres. However, it is recognised that Craven's settlements are small and distances from the edge of settlements including Skipton to centre's is not significant.
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	0	Preferred Approach The preferred approach would present positive effects in seeking to meet residential needs above shops, this would reduce the amount of new build development required which could reduce pressure to build in zones of medium to high flood risk. Alternative Approach Whilst the option would allow for some development above shops via prior notification, it may be that greater land take is required to meet housing needs. However, the influencing factor would be the location of new housing elsewhere which is mitigated by the flood risk policy (ENV6) which steers development away from high flood risk areas. Therefore a neutral effect is considered likely.
SO10) Protect and enhance the natural and agricultural conditions to maintain soil quality and grow food within Craven	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Preferred Approach The preferred approach would present positive effects in seeking to meet residential needs above shops, this would reduce the amount of new build development required which could reduce pressure to build in areas of greater agricultural value and the loss of soils. Alternative Approach Whilst the option would allow for some development above shops via prior notification, it may be that greater land take is required to meet housing needs. However, there are other policies within the plan that would seek to steer new development away from areas of greater agricultural value (policy ENV7).

SO11) Ensure the prudent use of land resources	+	+	+	0	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres will ensure the prudent use of resources for example through conversion. There is also a greater level of brownfield land in and around town centres within Craven. Alternative Approach Not setting out a policy that seeks to provide housing within town centres in appropriate locations may result in a greater level of new build and could increase the overall area of land take up specifically on greenfield sites to meeting housing needs.
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	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres which can be in the historic environment, make a positive contribution to conserving the historic environment by keeping and bringing buildings back into beneficial use, particularly upper floors. Careful consideration would need to be given to ensure individual proposals would not lead to insensitive conversions. Policy ENV2 (Heritage) helps to mitigate this. Alternative Approach Having no policy approach may not result in opportunities being maximised for bringing upper floors into use. This may result in vacancies or void space at upper floor level which may result in the deterioration of historic buildings. It is noted that the rights set out by the GPDO exclude listed buildings.
SO13) Protect, and where possible enhance, Craven's biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly protected habitats and species	+	+	+	0	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres may result in less pressure to build in areas of greater biodiversity value. Alternative Approach The alternative option would allow for a level of development in town centres but not to the same extent which result in development pressure in areas of greater biodiversity value. Other policies within the plan however, would mitigate this specifically, policy ENV4.
SO14) Protect and enhance the open countryside and wider landscape character and provide for green space within new developments.	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres may result in less development pressure to build in the countryside as it would provide the greatest opportunity to meet housing needs in urban locations. . Alternative Approach Whilst not having a policy approach, through the provisions of the General Permitted Development Order would allow for some development in town centres, there may be a greater need for new build development in edge of settlement locations in order to meet housing needs. This could result in negative consequences on the countryside and landscape.

SO15) Promote innovative design which enhances the visual character of Craven's towns and villages	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres would maximise opportunities for innovative design proposals for town centre living. Alternative Approach Not providing a policy approach would have generally neutral effects as innovative design could still be achieved through other forms of development.
SO16) Minimise air, noise and light pollution, and where possible improve local air quality	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres would help to minimise air pollution through enabling people to live close to town centres therefore reducing the need for travel. However, a neutral score is given overall as development per se would likely result in increased pollution. Alternative Approach Not setting a policy approach, through the provisions of the General Permitted Development Order, would still allow for some living within the town centre but may result in an increase in new build development to meet housing needs, this may increase air pollution if it also results in an increase in travel movements.
SO17) Minimise impacts on climate change, including supporting energy production through renewable and low carbon sources.	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres will minimise and mitigate the effects of climate change through enabling people to live close to services and employment, The conversion of buildings may also offer opportunities for renewable energy. However, enabling development per se is likely to result in increased GHG's, therefore a neutral score is given. Alternative Approach Whilst not having a policy approach would allow for some residential development in town centres, opportunities would not be maximised and housing needs may need to be met further away from town centres in less accessible locations.
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	Impacts on water use and resources are not directly related to whether people live in the town centre or in other locations.

SO19) Minimise waste production and increase recycling rates in Craven.	+	+	+	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	Preferred Approach The proposed policy, by setting a positive context for residential uses in town centres nay help to reduce construction waste. However, domestic waste would depend on people's behaviours. Alternative Approach Not setting a policy approach may result in a greater level of new build in order to meet housing needs this would result in greater levels of construction waste. However, domestic waste and recycling depends more on people's behaviours.
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	Preferred Approach The preferred approach would maximise opportunities for housing needs to be met within town centres and particularly through conversion, this would reduce the requirements for new build development and consequently the loss of land of mineral resource value. Alternative Approach Not setting a policy approach, through the provisions of the General Permitted Development Order would still allow for residential development in town centres. However, inn order to meet housing needs a greater level of new build development may be required, which may include development on land of mineral resource value. However, prior extraction would help to ensure that a loss of minerals does not result.