

# Site Assessment Forms

Clifton



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## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>1</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP149
Site Name	Land on the East side of New Road Clifton
Site Address	Land on the East side of New Road Clifton
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:0.93ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.93ha Measured GIS Area:0.93ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	On the same land as NLP297

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 25
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 22

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>1</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>2</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	Site is relatively well related to the settlement and connect the settlement envelope in a sustainable way
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>3</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>4</sup> ?	G	There are no critical infrastructure requirements identified at this stage
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Under utilised agricultural land
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	A	Site is in multi ownership – Potential issues
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	A	There have been no legal issues identified to date but a number of land owners involved.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	G	There is no relevant planning history for the site. However, an application for residential

<sup>2</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>3</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>4</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

			development recently allowed on appeal for the land to the south of the site (ref: CB/15/02733).
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

This section records the findings of the Strategic Green Belt Review and also provides a preliminary screening of sites to determine whether they may be capable of demonstrating Exceptional Circumstances. Any site in the Green Belt that is determined as suitable based on the high level SHLAA assessment would still have to demonstrate Exceptional Circumstances to be considered for allocation in the Plan.

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	Not within the Greenbelt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	No	N/A
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	No	N/A
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>5</sup>	No	Site is not supported by a neighbourhood plan
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using detailed desktop assessment. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2A will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

#### Previously Developed Land

<sup>5</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>	R	Grassland/scrubland
<b>Community</b>			
17	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Not in a neighbourhood plan designation area
18	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No previous consultation identified
19	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact on employment/retail or community facility
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
20	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2006: 1,166 Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Percentage Growth: 10.63%
21	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Number of outstanding completions 2016: 66 Percentage Growth: 5.12%
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
22	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	No physical constraints identified
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
23	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	G	The site would form a complementary extension to the village however it should be mindful that a conservation area abuts a short length of the north eastern boundary
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
24	Would the development impact on high quality	R	The site is on Grade 2 agricultural

	agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>		land
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## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using comments from technical specialists. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2B will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

### Transport and Access to Services

<b>25</b>	<b>Facilities and services</b> Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.  Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately		
<b>25a</b>	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Clifton All Saints Academy lower School
<b>25b</b>	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Henlow Church of England Academy
<b>25c</b>	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Samuel Whitbread
<b>25d</b>	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	A	Shefford Health Centre
<b>26</b>	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Convenience Store
<b>27</b>	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	G	Under 400m to an hourly frequent bus service 71 and 72 Hitchin/Biggleswade
<b>28</b>	Distance to nearest train station:	R	Over 1200m to Arlesey Station

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>29</b>	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Yes – Fairground Way
<b>School Capacity</b>			
<b>30</b>	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	Lower school places are a real problem in this area, the existing lower school site is too small to accommodate expansion. Middle and upper school places are also very tight.
<b>31</b>	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Financial contributions could be required
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
<b>32</b>	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
<b>33</b>	<p>What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	A	Existing flood issue on New road to the west boundary – discharge to be restricted to greenfield run off or better. Anglian Water sewer crosses the site to connect to Fairground way, easements and right to build over should be established with AW.
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
<b>34</b>	<p><b>Contamination</b></p> <p>Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?</p>	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
<b>35</b>	<p><b>Adjoining uses</b></p> <p>Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)</p>	G	No immediate issues
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
<b>36</b>	<p><b>Landscape character</b></p> <p>What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural</p>	G	Development would need to safeguard existing boundary enclosure and trees with new planting to create sense of place.



	Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?		
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	A	Site has multi-period archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. This site lies within a landscape that is known to contain multi-period archaeological remains therefore it has archaeological potential. Archaeological potential does not prevent allocation or development providing that an appropriate mitigation strategy in line with para 141 of the NPPF was implemented. Any planning submission would need to be accompanied by the results of an intrusive archaeological field evaluation to satisfy para 128 of the NPPF. Should the site be allocated, a contingency for archaeological works must be included in any proposal to prevent issues with viability.
38	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Scrub / rough grass habitat, must retain & enhance habitat features
39	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A	Existing green area – parish GI plan aspiration to retain and enhance as allotments / nature reserve.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
<b>Planning History</b>			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		an application for residential development has been granted planning permission for residential development on the land to the south of the site (ref: CB/15/02733).
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**The site is located on the southern edge of Clifton, beyond but adjoining the defined settlement envelope of Clifton. The site appears to be accessed from New Road, Fairground Way and Jubilee Close, Clifton, subject to ownership. To the south of the site away from the settlement of Clifton is an area of land benefiting from planning permission for the construction of a residential development under CB/15/02733/OUT. When considering the presence of this approval it is considered that the site would be contained by development. Thereby it is considered that the development of this site would cause limited harm to the openness of the Countryside and the character of the area. It is considered subject to acceptable details and mitigation, development of this site are to be considered for further assessment.**

### STAGE 3 : ACHIEVABILITY

This section assesses whether the site is Achievable in line with NPPG Guidance:

A site is considered achievable for development where there is a reasonable prospect that the particular type of development will be developed on the site at a particular point in time. This is essentially a judgement about the economic viability of the site, and the capacity of the developer to complete and let or sell the development over a certain period.

Viability		
<b>43</b>	Referring to the Viability Assessment undertaken by consultants, is the probability of the site being viable high, medium or low? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value</li> <li>• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value</li> <li>• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value</li> </ul>	G  The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that residual value of development in this value area and at this scale would exceed both the upper and lower benchmark land values and as such the report indicates that such development would likely be viable.
Achievability		
<b>44</b>	Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?	The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential property figures between 2013 and 2016. The housing market within Central Bedfordshire has seen significant increases in residential property values in a relatively short period of time, whereby it is considered that the viability of developments within this report has been cautious. For example in 2016 Dunstable has benefited from a 17.9% housing price increase with an average annual house price increase in 2016 for housing within Central Bedfordshire of 10.74%.  This increase in property value has been a result of not only national trends in house prices and existing transport links to economically successful areas but also significant infrastructure projects within the pipeline including: East-West Rail; M1-A5 link road; A421 upgrades; Oxford to Cambridge Express Way; Luton and Dunstable Guided Busway; M1 improvements; and potential A1 improvements. It is considered that as such infrastructure projects progress that property prices within the Local Authority will likely continue to increase which has and will increase viability/deliverability of development not only in the higher value areas but also the lower

			value areas of the Authority.
<b>45</b>	When can the scheme realistically commence delivery? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>		0 to 5 years
<b>46</b>	What is the indicative build out time of the site?		The Case Study Sites outlined within the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017 indicates that after the site has received detailed planning permission a single housebuilder would likely take one year to first completion and would build out the site at a rate of 40 dwellings per annum there after.
Does the site pass this stage?			Yes

## SUMMARY

The sites that pass through this assessment process will not automatically be allocated for development in the Local Plan.

Sites will be selected with reference to a number of other factors including:

- The strategy, vision and objectives proposed in the draft plan
- Technical evidence studies
- The sustainability appraisal process
- The results of public consultation
- Flood Risk Sequential Approach
- Further transport modelling
- Consultation with neighbouring authorities

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>6</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP179
Site Name	Land south of Stockbridge Road
Site Address	Land south of Stockbridge Road
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:1.65ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.65ha Measured GIS Area:1.65ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  50
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  39

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>6</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>7</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	The site extends to the east of Clifton, and lies adjacent to the settlement envelope to the west and south.. There are no major physical constraints that separate the site from the main settlement
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	R	The site abuts Clifton village however, causes coalescence between the Clifton settlement boundary and Henlow settlement boundary and detracts from the openness and separation between the two settlements
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>7</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>8</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP190
Site Name	Land Off Hitchin Road Shefford
Site Address	Land Off Hitchin Road Shefford
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:3.83ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 3.83ha Measured GIS Area: 3.83ha
Proposed Use	Housing
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  100
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  68

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>8</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>9</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site does not relate well to the settlement and does not abut the settlement boundary. There is open space and a field separating the site and settlement.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>9</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>10</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP213
Site Name	Land south and west of Fairground Way
Site Address	Land south and west of Fairground Way
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:1.61ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.61ha Measured GIS Area:1.5757ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 50
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 38

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>10</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.



### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>11</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	Site relates well adjacent to the settlement envelope and is without physical constraints that separates it from Clifton
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>12</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>13</sup> ?	G	There are no critical infrastructure requirements identified at this stage
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Under utilised agricultural land
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	A	Site is in multi ownership – Potential issues
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	A	There have been no legal issues identified to date but a number of land owners involved.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	G	There is no relevant planning history for the site. However, an application for residential

<sup>11</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>12</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>13</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

			development recently allowed on appeal for the land to the south of the site (ref: CB/15/02733).
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

This section records the findings of the Strategic Green Belt Review and also provides a preliminary screening of sites to determine whether they may be capable of demonstrating Exceptional Circumstances. Any site in the Green Belt that is determined as suitable based on the high level SHLAA assessment would still have to demonstrate Exceptional Circumstances to be considered for allocation in the Plan.

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	Not within Greenbelt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>14</sup>	No	Site is not supported by a neighbourhood plan
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using detailed desktop assessment. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2A will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

#### Previously Developed Land

<sup>14</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>	R	Grassland/scrubland
<b>Community</b>			
17	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Not in a neighbourhood plan designation area
18	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No previous consultation identified
19	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact on employment/retail or community facility
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
20	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2006: 1,166 Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Percentage Growth: 10.63%
21	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Number of outstanding completions 2016: 66 Percentage Growth: 5.12%
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
22	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	No physical constraints identified
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
23	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	G	The site would form a complementary extension to the village however it should be mindful that a conservation area abuts a short length of the north eastern boundary
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
24	Would the development impact on high quality	R	The site is on Grade 2 agricultural

	agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>		land
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## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using comments from technical specialists. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2B will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

### Transport and Access to Services

<b>25</b>	<b>Facilities and services</b> Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.  Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately		
<b>25a</b>	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Clifton All Saints Academy lower School
<b>25b</b>	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Henlow Church of England Academy
<b>25c</b>	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Samuel Whitbread
<b>25d</b>	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	A	Shefford Health Centre
<b>26</b>	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Convenience Store
<b>27</b>	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	G	Under 400m to an hourly frequent bus service 71 and 72 Hitchin/Biggleswade
<b>28</b>	Distance to nearest train station:	R	Over 1200m to Arlesey Station

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>29</b>	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Yes – Fairground Way
<b>School Capacity</b>			
<b>30</b>	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	Lower school places are a real problem in this area, the existing lower school site is too small to accommodate expansion. Middle and upper school places are also very tight.
<b>31</b>	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Liaison with Education
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
<b>32</b>	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
<b>33</b>	<p>What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	A	Existing flood issue on New road to the west boundary – discharge to be restricted to greenfield run off or better. Anglian Water sewer crosses the site to connect to Fairground way, easements and right to build over should be established with AW.
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
<b>34</b>	<p><b>Contamination</b></p> <p>Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?</p>	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
<b>35</b>	<p><b>Adjoining uses</b></p> <p>Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)</p>	G	No immediate issues
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
<b>36</b>	<p><b>Landscape character</b></p> <p>What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural</p>	G	Development would need to safeguard existing boundary enclosure and trees with new planting to create sense of place.

	Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?		
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	A	Site has multi-period archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. This site lies within a landscape that is known to contain multi-period archaeological remains therefore it has archaeological potential. Archaeological potential does not prevent allocation or development providing that an appropriate mitigation strategy in line with para 141 of the NPPF was implemented. Any planning submission would need to be accompanied by the results of an intrusive archaeological field evaluation to satisfy para 128 of the NPPF. Should the site be allocated, a contingency for archaeological works must be included in any proposal to prevent issues with viability.
38	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Scrub / rough grass habitat, must retain & enhance habitat features
39	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A	Existing green area – parish GI plan aspiration to retain and enhance as allotments / nature reserve.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
<b>Planning History</b>			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		an application for residential development has been allowed on appeal planning permission for residential development on the land to the south of the site (ref: CB/15/02733).
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**The site is located on the southern edge of Clifton, beyond but adjoining the defined settlement envelope of Clifton. The site appears to be accessed from New Road, Fairground Way and Jubilee Close, Clifton, subject to ownership. To the south of the site away from the settlement of Clifton is an area of land benefiting from planning permission for the construction of a residential development under CB/15/02733/OUT. When considering the presence of this approval it is considered that the site would be contained by development. Thereby it is considered that the development of this site would cause limited harm to the openness of the Countryside and the character of the area. It is considered subject to acceptable details and mitigation, development of this site is to be considered for further assessment.**

### STAGE 3 : ACHIEVABILITY

This section assesses whether the site is Achievable in line with NPPG Guidance:

A site is considered achievable for development where there is a reasonable prospect that the particular type of development will be developed on the site at a particular point in time. This is essentially a judgement about the economic viability of the site, and the capacity of the developer to complete and let or sell the development over a certain period.

Viability			
43	Referring to the Viability Assessment undertaken by consultants, is the probability of the site being viable high, medium or low? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value</li> <li>• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value</li> <li>• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value</li> </ul>	G	The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that residual value of development in this value area and at this scale would exceed both the upper and lower benchmark land values and as such the report indicates that such development would likely be viable
Achievability			
44	Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?		<p>The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential property figures between 2013 and 2016. The housing market within Central Bedfordshire has seen significant increases in residential property values in a relatively short period of time, whereby it is considered that the viability of developments within this report has been cautious. For example in 2016 Dunstable has benefited from a 17.9% housing price increase with an average annual house price increase in 2016 for housing within Central Bedfordshire of 10.74%.</p> <p>This increase in property value has been a result of not only national trends in house prices and existing transport links to economically successful areas but also significant infrastructure projects within the pipeline including: East-West Rail; M1-A5 link road; A421 upgrades; Oxford to Cambridge Express Way; Luton and Dunstable Guided Busway; M1 improvements; and potential A1 improvements. It is considered that as such infrastructure projects progress that property prices within the Local Authority will likely continue to increase which has and will increase viability/deliverability of development not only in the higher</p>

			value areas but also the lower value areas of the Authority.
<b>45</b>	When can the scheme realistically commence delivery? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>		0 to 5 years
<b>46</b>	What is the indicative build out time of the site?		The Case Study Sites outlined within the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that after the site has received detailed planning permission a single housebuilder would likely take one year to build out this site.
Does the site pass this stage?			Yes

## SUMMARY

The sites that pass through this assessment process will not automatically be allocated for development in the Local Plan.

Sites will be selected with reference to a number of other factors including:

- The strategy, vision and objectives proposed in the draft plan
- Technical evidence studies
- The sustainability appraisal process
- The results of public consultation
- Flood Risk Sequential Approach
- Further transport modelling
- Consultation with neighbouring authorities



## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>15</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP236
Site Name	Land off Hitchin Lane
Site Address	Land between Hitchin Lane and New Road, Clifton
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:3.54ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 4.66ha Measured GIS Area:4.6ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 106
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  63

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>15</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>16</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site is not a logical extension to the existing settlement
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>16</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>17</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP262
Site Name	Land off Pedley Lane and Stanford Lane, Clifton
Site Address	
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:6.7ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 6.7ha Measured GIS Area:
Proposed Use	Housing
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 160-180
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  120

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within floodzone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not at risk from surface water flooding

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	No nationally significant designations on site
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>17</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>18</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	The site could be an extension to the existing settlement. Part of the main settlement is separated from Clifton.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	No coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>19</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>20</sup> ?	A	Further information required
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Agricultural land
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Land owners intent on developing the site
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	No legal or ownership issues
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	G	No planning permission

<sup>18</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>19</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>20</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

Does the site continue to next stage?	Yes
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### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

This section records the findings of the Strategic Green Belt Review and also provides a preliminary screening of sites to determine whether they may be capable of demonstrating Exceptional Circumstances. Any site in the Green Belt that is determined as suitable based on the high level SHLAA assessment would still have to demonstrate Exceptional Circumstances to be considered for allocation in the Plan.

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	Site not within the green belt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>21</sup>	No	Site is not supported by a neighbourhood plan
Does the site continue to next stage?		Yes	

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using detailed desktop assessment. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2A will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

#### Previously Developed Land

<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> </ul>	R	Greenfield
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<sup>21</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>Community</b>			
17	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	No neighbourhood plan.
18	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No known community consultation
19	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact on sustainability
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
20	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	There has been a 10.63% increase in housing growth.
21	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	With outstanding planning permissions there will be an increase of 5.12%.
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
22	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	No physical constraints
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
23	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	A	The site would result in development to the north of Clifton, extending beyond the settlement boundary.
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>	R	Grade 2

**STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT**

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using comments from technical specialists. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2B will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

**Transport and Access to Services**

<b>25</b>	<b>Facilities and services</b> Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.  Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately		
<b>25a</b>	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Within Clifton
<b>25b</b>	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Adjoining settlement
<b>25c</b>	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Adjoining settlement
<b>25d</b>	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	A	Adjoining settlement
<b>26</b>	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Post office
<b>27</b>	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	A	590m
<b>28</b>	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>	R	Arlesey
<b>29</b>	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Yes



<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	All phases of education are near to capacity and forecasts are indicating further growth.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Additional middle and upper school places are planned at Etonbury, but no lower school project has been identified.
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No assessment required (G)</li> <li>Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting Comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	G	No issues
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	R	Not suitable for development .Need to conserve open countryside to prevent coalescence and maintain farmed context.
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	A – A H - R	Site has archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. Impact on Clifton Manor, very sensitive setting of LB II and other LBs



<b>38</b>	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Potential habitat enhancements, must consider existing habitats & corridors grade 2 agric land traditional orchard adj.
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A/R	Parish GI plan identifies aspiration to retain area as farmland. No loss of open space and leisure.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		No planning history
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

#### **STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION**

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**Although the site would extend Clifton northwards, it is not considered an appropriate site for development. This is because of conflicts with landscape and heritage. The site has an impact on Clifton Manor and its very sensitive setting on this grade 2 listed building, it is considered that the benefits of development would not outweigh the harm.**

**The site is therefore not be considered further.**

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>22</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP263
Site Name	Land off Pedley Lane
Site Address	Land off Pedley Lane, Clifton
Settlement	Clifton (Shefford)
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.93 Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.93 Measured GIS Area: 1.93
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  40
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  43

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>22</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>23</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

<b>6</b>	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	The site is located to the east of Shefford, directly adjacent to the settlement envelope and an existing residential area. There are no major physical constraints that separate the site from the main settlement. The site is located opposite Samuel Whitbread Upper School but some distance from the main services and facilities in the centre of Shefford.
<b>7</b>	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	R	The site abuts Shefford however, causes coalescence between the Shefford settlement boundary and neighbouring Clifton settlement boundary and detracts from the openness and separation between the two settlements.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>23</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>24</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP303
Site Name	Land west of Hitchin Lane
Site Address	Land between Hitchin Lane and New Road, Clifton
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:5.3ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 5.3ha Measured GIS Area:5.3ha
Proposed Use	Housing
Any other information	See ALP236 and NLP110 and NLP307 CB/15/02733 – application allowed at appeal

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  160
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  95

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not at risk from surface water flooding

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	No nationally significant designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>24</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>25</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	Site is not a logical extension to Clifton. The site would result in greenfield land between the settlement envelope and the site.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	No coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>26</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>27</sup> ?	A	Further information required.
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Arable land
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Landowner intent on developing the site.
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	No legal or ownership problems.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	R	Refused planning application – allowed at appeal

<sup>25</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>26</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>27</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

Does the site continue to next stage?

No

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## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>28</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP360
Site Name	Harbrook Farm
Site Address	Harbrook Farm
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:0.70ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.80ha Measured GIS Area:0.80ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	CB/13/01208/FUL – 06/06/14 CB/16/04918 – not yet determined

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  25-30  Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  37
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#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
<b>3</b>	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>28</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>29</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	The site lies to the west of Clifton, on the edge of the settlement envelope. The site is to the rear of a number of dwellings and only has access to the main road via a dirt track. It can be possibly be seen as a logical extension.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>30</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>31</sup> ?	G	No access issues. Access via consented scheme 13/01208 via New Rd
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Under utilised agricultural land
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	The site is promoted by the land owners
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	None evident

<sup>29</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>30</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>31</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.



12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	R	Benefits from Development Management Committee motion for approval of planning permission under reference CB/16/04918/OUT. Decision not yet issued, due to awaiting S106 agreement.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>32</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP414
Site Name	Land between Hitchin Lane and New Road
Site Address	Land between Hitchin Lane and New Road, Clifton
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:4.2ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 4.2ha Measured GIS Area:4.2ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 100-150
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  75

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>32</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>33</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

<b>6</b>	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site falls to the south of Clifton, but is separated from the main settlement by vacant green space and a small number of detached dwellings along the frontage of New Road. The site is therefore not a logical extension to the existing settlement.
<b>7</b>	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>33</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>34</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP456
Site Name	Land to the west of New Road
Site Address	Land to the west of New Road
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:2.5ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.5ha Measured GIS Area:2.5ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  75-100
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 45

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>34</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>35</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site falls to the south of Clifton, and the northern boundary lies adjacent to an allocated site currently under construction and a small number of existing detached properties along the frontage of New Road. The site further extends the settlement south, away from the existing built form. Given the low density, more rural character of existing residential development opposite, a further extension to the south would not represent a logical extension to the existing settlement.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>35</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

### Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>36</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP472
Site Name	Brandy Knolls
Site Address	Shefford Road, Clifton
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:8ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 8ha Measured GIS Area:8ha
Proposed Use	Playing fields
Any other information	SITE NOT ASSESSED – PROPOSES LEISURE USES NOT HOUSING

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<sup>36</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>37</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP010
Site Name	Land at New Road, Clifton
Site Address	Land at New Road, Clifton
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:2.1ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.1ha Measured GIS Area: 2.1ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  30
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  37

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>37</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>38</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site lies adjacent to the A507 and is isolated from the main settlement, being separated by a large expanse of largely agricultural land and uses. The site does not relate well to the settlement and does not therefore represent a logical extension.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>38</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )



## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>39</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP057</b>
Site Name	The Paddock
Site Address	New Road, Clifton, SG17 5RQ
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.79ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.79ha Measured GIS Area: 0.79ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	CB/13/01208/FUL – 06/06/14 CB/16/04918 – not yet determined

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  20-25
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  19

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Not within the flood zone 2 or 3
<b>3</b>	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not within the flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	No designations found on site
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>39</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>40</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	The site lies to the west of Clifton, on the edge of the settlement envelope. The site is to the rear of a number of dwellings and only has access to the main road via a dirt track. It can be possibly be seen as a logical extension.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>41</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>42</sup> ?	G	No access issues. Access via consented scheme 13/01208 via New Rd
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	100% Greenfield
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Intent on developing the site
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	No issues

<sup>40</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>41</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>42</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	R	Benefits from Development Management Committee motion for approval of planning permission under reference CB/16/04918/OUT. Decision not yet issued, due to awaiting S106 agreement.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>43</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP110</b>
Site Name	Land off Hitchin Lane, Clifton
Site Address	Hitchin Lane, Clifton, Bedfordshire
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:3.36hA Submitted Whole Site Area: 4.74ha Measured GIS Area:4.74ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 100-150
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  97

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>43</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

## STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>44</sup>.

### Relationship to Settlement

<b>6</b>	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site falls to the south of Clifton, but is separated from the main settlement by vacant green space and a small number of detached dwellings along the frontage of New Road. The site is therefore not a logical extension to the existing settlement.
<b>7</b>	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>44</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>45</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP128</b>
Site Name	Land off Broad Street
Site Address	Land off Broad Street
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 4ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 4ha Measured GIS Area:3.8ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Fails on coalescence

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 120  Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 91
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#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
<b>3</b>	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>45</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>46</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

<b>6</b>	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	The site falls to the south east of Clifton, directly adjacent to the settlement envelope to the west and south. There are no major physical constraints that separate the site from the main settlement.
<b>7</b>	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	R	Site causes coalescence as it resides within the Countryside Gap that separates Clifton from Henlow.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>46</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>47</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP140</b>
Site Name	Land east of Hitchin Rd Shefford
Site Address	Land east of Hitchin Rd Shefford
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:2.3ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.93ha Measured GIS Area:
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	CB/15/01657/OUT

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  64
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 41

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>47</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.



### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>48</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	Site relates well within the settlement envelope and road network.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>49</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>50</sup> ?	G	There are no critical infrastructure requirements identified at this stage
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Playing field at Samuel Whitbread Academy
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	The site is being promoted by the developer on behalf of the landowner who owns the dwelling house who is intent on developing the site
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development?	G	None apparent

<sup>48</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>49</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>50</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

	If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?		
<b>12</b>	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	R	Benefits from Development Management Committee motion for approval of planning permission under reference CB/15/01657/OUT Decision not yet issued, due to awaiting S106 agreement.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>51</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP145</b>
Site Name	Land Off Hitchin Road Shefford
Site Address	Land Off Hitchin Road Shefford
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:3.83ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 3.83ha Measured GIS Area: 3.83ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 150
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 68

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>51</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>52</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site does not relate well to the settlement and does not abut the settlement boundary. There is open space and a field separating the site and settlement.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>52</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>53</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP146</b>
Site Name	Land to the rear of Knolls Way
Site Address	Land to the rear of Knolls Way
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:1.08 Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.08 Measured GIS Area: 1.09
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 30  Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 26
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#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
<b>3</b>	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>53</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>54</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	The site can be construed as an extension of an existing housing estate adjacent to the Clifton settlement envelope.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site abuts Clifton settlement envelope and would represent an infill development between residential areas.
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>55</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>56</sup> ?	A	The access to the site off Shefford Road would need to be of adequate width (5.5m minimum) to allow for 2 vehicular movements.
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	100% Greenfield – vacant grassland
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	The site is promoted on behalf of the sole land owner
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	None apparent
12	Does the site already have planning permission for	G	None apparent

<sup>54</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>55</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>56</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

	the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.		
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

This section records the findings of the Strategic Green Belt Review and also provides a preliminary screening of sites to determine whether they may be capable of demonstrating Exceptional Circumstances. Any site in the Green Belt that is determined as suitable based on the high level SHLAA assessment would still have to demonstrate Exceptional Circumstances to be considered for allocation in the Plan.

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	Not within Greenbelt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>57</sup>	No	Not supported by a Neighbourhood Plan
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using detailed desktop assessment. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2A will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

#### Previously Developed Land

<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance	R	The site is on greenfield land
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<sup>57</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

	with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>Community</b>			
17	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Not in a neighbourhood plan designation area
18	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No previous consultation identified
19	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact on employment/retail or community facility
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
20	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2006: 1,166 Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Percentage Growth: 10.63%
21	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Number of outstanding completions 2016: 66 Percentage Growth: 5.12%
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
22	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	No physical constraints identified
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
23	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	G	The site would form a complementary extension to the village however it should be mindful
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> </ul>	R	The site is on Grade 2 agricultural land



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>		
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## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using comments from technical specialists. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2B will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

### Transport and Access to Services

<b>25</b>	<b>Facilities and services</b> Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.  Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately		
<b>25a</b>	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Clifton All Saints Academy lower School
<b>25b</b>	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Henlow Church of England Academy
<b>25c</b>	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Samuel Whitbread
<b>25d</b>	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	A	Shefford Health Centre
<b>26</b>	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Convenience Store
<b>27</b>	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	G	71 & 72 services to Bedford/Biggleswade
<b>28</b>	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1200m to Arlesey station

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>		
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	A	Via a narrow access adj to CB/13/01208/FUL
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	Lower school places are a real problem in this area, the existing lower school site is too small to accommodate expansion. Middle and upper school places are also very tight.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Liaison with Education
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No assessment required (G)</li> <li>Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	A	Provisionally, no level 2 assessment required
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comment
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	G	No immediate issues
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	A	Development would require landscape framework to mitigate impact in views from south and east.
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting?	G	This site is considered to have low archaeological potential and therefore the Archaeology Team

	Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?		have no objection to its allocation.
<b>38</b>	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	G	HPI orchard adjacent, ensure enhancements
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A	Parish GI plan identifies aspiration to retain this area as farmland. Proximity to Samuel Whitbread Academy Football Pitches & Rugby Pitches
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		N/A – question not answered
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**Due to narrow dimensions of the access for the site from Shefford Road it is considered that the site access would not be of a sufficient width to serve two way vehicular and pedestrian/cycle access for a major development within the site. For highway safety reasons it is considered that the site is inappropriate for development. Furthermore; it is considered, due to the narrow strip of land which is insufficient for access, would also leave insufficient space for soft landscaping along the access road, development would result in a hard edge to the open countryside, which would not be considered acceptable in the context of the impact upon the character and appearance of the area, which includes the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside. For the reasons outlined above it is considered that the site is will not be considered further.**

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>58</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP147</b>
Site Name	Land to the west of New Road
Site Address	Land to the west of New Road
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:3.23ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 3.23ha Measured GIS Area:3.23ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  60-80  Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 58
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#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
<b>3</b>	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>58</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>59</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints(for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site falls to the south of Clifton, and the northern boundary lies adjacent to an allocated site currently under construction and a small number of existing detached properties along the frontage of New Road. The site further extends the settlement south, away from the existing built form. Given the low density, more rural character of existing residential development opposite, a further extension to the south would not represent a logical extension to the existing settlement.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>59</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>60</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP161</b>
Site Name	Harbrook Farm
Site Address	Harbrook Farm
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.80ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.80ha Measured GIS Area: 0.80ha
Proposed Use	residential
Any other information	Site adj to allocation HA16 granted consent – CB/13/01208/FUL – 06/06/14 CB/16//04918 – not yet determined

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  25-30
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  19

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Not in flood zone 2 or 3
<b>3</b>	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not in flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	No designations on site
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>60</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>61</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	The site lies to the west of Clifton, on the edge of the settlement envelope. The site is to the rear of a number of dwellings and only has access to the main road via a dirt track. It can be possibly be seen as a logical extension.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>62</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>63</sup> ?	G	No access issues. Access via consented scheme 13/01208 via New Rd
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Redundant open land
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Sole land owner
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	No issues

<sup>61</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>62</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>63</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	R	Benefits from Development Management Committee motion for approval of planning permission under reference CB/16/04918/OUT. Decision not yet issued, due to awaiting S106 agreement.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>64</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP201</b>
Site Name	Hollow Land
Site Address	Land at Stockbridge Road Clifton
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:1.1ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.1ha Measured GIS Area:1.1ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 20-35
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 26

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>64</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>65</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	The site extends to the east of Clifton, and lies adjacent to the settlement envelope to the west and south. There are no major physical constraints that separate the site from the main settlement
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	R	The site abuts Clifton village however, it causes coalescence between the Clifton settlement boundary and Henlow settlement boundary and detracts from the openness and separation between the two settlements
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>65</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>66</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP211</b>
Site Name	Harpers Field (Old PoW Site)
Site Address	Harpers Field (Old PoW Site)
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:3.4ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 3.4ha Measured GIS Area:3.4ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 60-80
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  61

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>66</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>67</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

<b>6</b>	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints(for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site is isolated from the main settlement, being separated by a large expanse of largely agricultural land and uses. The site does not relate well to the settlement and does not therefore represent a logical extension.
<b>7</b>	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>67</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>68</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP221</b>
Site Name	Land north of Stockbridge Road
Site Address	Land north of Stockbridge Road
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:3.3ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 3.3ha Measured GIS Area:3.3ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Fails on coalescence

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  70
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  59

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
<b>3</b>	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>68</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>69</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

<b>6</b>	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site is separated from the settlement by a small parcel of agricultural land to the west. There are no major physical constraints that separate the site from the main settlement.
<b>7</b>	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	R	The site abuts Clifton village but falls within the Countryside Gap which seeks to prevent coalescence between Clifton and Henlow. A site within this gap will detract from the openness and separation between the two settlements.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>69</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>70</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP222</b>
Site Name	Land south of Stockbridge Road
Site Address	Land south of Stockbridge Road
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:2.18ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.18ha Measured GIS Area:2.18ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  45
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  39

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>70</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>71</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

<b>6</b>	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	The site is directly adjacent to the Clifton settlement envelope and existing residential development. There are no major physical constraints that separate the site from the main settlement
<b>7</b>	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	R	The site abuts Clifton village but falls within the Countryside Gap which seeks to prevent coalescence between Clifton and Henlow. A site within this gap will detract from the openness and separation between the two settlements.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>71</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )



## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>72</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP297</b>
Site Name	Land south and west of Fairground Way
Site Address	Land south and west of Fairground Way
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.8 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.3ha Measured GIS Area: 2.2502ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	an application for residential development is currently awaiting decision for the land to the south of the site (ref: CB/15/02733).

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 50-60  Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 43
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#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
<b>3</b>	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>72</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>73</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	Site relates well adjacent to the settlement envelope and is without physical constraints that separates it from Clifton
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>74</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>75</sup> ?	G	There are no critical infrastructure requirements identified at this stage
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Under utilised agricultural land
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	A	Site is in multi ownership – Potential issues
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	A	There have been no legal issues identified to date but a number of land owners involved.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	G	There is no relevant planning history for the site. However, an application for residential

<sup>73</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>74</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>75</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

			development is currently awaiting decision for the land to the south of the site (ref: CB/15/02733).
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

This section records the findings of the Strategic Green Belt Review and also provides a preliminary screening of sites to determine whether they may be capable of demonstrating Exceptional Circumstances. Any site in the Green Belt that is determined as suitable based on the high level SHLAA assessment would still have to demonstrate Exceptional Circumstances to be considered for allocation in the Plan.

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	Yes or No	Not in the Greenbelt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>76</sup>	No	Site is not supported by a Neighbourhood Plan
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using detailed desktop assessment. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2A will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

<sup>76</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

<b>Previously Developed Land</b>			
<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>	R	Grassland/scrubland
<b>Community</b>			
<b>17</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Not in a neighbourhood plan designation area
<b>18</b>	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No previous consultation identified
<b>19</b>	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact on employment/retail or community facility
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
<b>20</b>	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2006: 1,166 Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Percentage Growth: 10.63%
<b>21</b>	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Number of outstanding completions 2016: 66 Percentage Growth: 5.12%
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
<b>22</b>	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	No physical constraints identified
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
<b>23</b>	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	G	The site would form a complementary extension to the village however it should be mindful that a conservation area abuts a short length of the north eastern boundary
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			

24	<p>Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>	R	The site is on Grade 2 agricultural land
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## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using comments from technical specialists. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2B will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

### Transport and Access to Services

25	<p><b>Facilities and services</b></p> <p>Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.</p> <p>Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately</p>		
25a	<p>Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Clifton All Saints Academy lower School
25b	<p>Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Henlow Church of England Academy
25c	<p>Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Samuel Whitbread
25d	<p>Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	A	Shefford Health Centre
26	<p>What retail provision does the settlement offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Convenience Store
27	<p>Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	G	Under 400m to an hourly frequent bus service 71 and 72 Hitchin/Biggleswade

28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1200m to Arlesey Station
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Yes – Fairground Way
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	Lower school places are a real problem in this area, the existing lower school site is too small to accommodate expansion. Middle and upper school places are also very tight.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Liaison with Education
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	G	Site is at limited risk from flooding, no assessment required
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting Comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	G	No immediate issues
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	G	Development would need to safeguard existing boundary enclosure and trees with new planting to create sense of place.
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b>	A	Site has multi-period

	What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?		archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. This site lies within a landscape that is known to contain multi-period archaeological remains therefore it has archaeological potential. Archaeological potential does not prevent allocation or development providing that an appropriate mitigation strategy in line with para 141 of the NPPF was implemented. Any planning submission would need to be accompanied by the results of an intrusive archaeological field evaluation to satisfy para 128 of the NPPF. Should the site be allocated, a contingency for archaeological works must be included in any proposal to prevent issues with viability.
38	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Scrub / rough grass habitat, must retain & enhance habitat features
39	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A	Existing green area – parish GI plan aspiration to retain and enhance as allotments / nature reserve.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
<b>Planning History</b>			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		an application for residential development has been granted planning permission for residential development on the land to the south of the site (ref: CB/15/02733).
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

The site is located on the southern edge of Clifton, beyond but adjoining the defined settlement envelope of Clifton. The site appears to be accessed from New Road, Fairground Way and Jubilee Close, Clifton, subject to ownership. To the south of the site away from the settlement of Clifton is an area of land benefiting from planning permission for the construction of a residential development under CB/15/02733/OUT. When considering the presence of this approval it is considered that the site would be contained by development. Thereby it is considered that the development of this site would cause limited harm to the openness of the Countryside and the character of the area. Site is to be considered for further assessment.



### STAGE 3 : ACHIEVABILITY

This section assesses whether the site is Achievable in line with NPPG Guidance:

A site is considered achievable for development where there is a reasonable prospect that the particular type of development will be developed on the site at a particular point in time. This is essentially a judgement about the economic viability of the site, and the capacity of the developer to complete and let or sell the development over a certain period.

Viability		
<b>43</b>	Referring to the Viability Assessment undertaken by consultants, is the probability of the site being viable high, medium or low? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value</li> <li>• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value</li> <li>• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value</li> </ul>	G The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that residual value of development in this value area and at this scale would exceed both the upper and lower benchmark land values and as such the report indicates that such development would likely be viable.
Achievability		
<b>44</b>	Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?	The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential property figures between 2013 and 2016. The housing market within Central Bedfordshire has seen significant increases in residential property values in a relatively short period of time, whereby it is considered that the viability of developments within this report has been cautious. For example in 2016 Dunstable has benefited from a 17.9% housing price increase with an average annual house price increase in 2016 for housing within Central Bedfordshire of 10.74%.  This increase in property value has been a result of not only national trends in house prices and existing transport links to economically successful areas but also significant infrastructure projects within the pipeline including: East-West Rail; M1-A5 link road; A421 upgrades; Oxford to Cambridge Express Way; Luton and Dunstable Guided Busway; M1 improvements; and potential A1 improvements. It is considered that as such infrastructure projects progress that property prices within the Local Authority will likely continue to increase which has and will increase viability/deliverability of development not only in the higher value areas but also the lower



			value areas of the Authority.
<b>45</b>	When can the scheme realistically commence delivery? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>		0 to 5 years
<b>46</b>	What is the indicative build out time of the site?		The Case Study Sites outlined within the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017 indicates that after the site has received detailed planning permission a single housebuilder would likely take one year to first completion and would build out the site at a rate of 40 dwellings per annum there after.
Does the site pass this stage?			Yes

## SUMMARY

The sites that pass through this assessment process will not automatically be allocated for development in the Local Plan.

Sites will be selected with reference to a number of other factors including:

- The strategy, vision and objectives proposed in the draft plan
- Technical evidence studies
- The sustainability appraisal process
- The results of public consultation
- Flood Risk Sequential Approach
- Further transport modelling
- Consultation with neighbouring authorities

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>77</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP307</b>
Site Name	Land off Hitchin Lane
Site Address	Land between Hitchin Lane and New Road, Clifton
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:4.54ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 5.3ha Measured GIS Area:5.3ha
Proposed Use	Housing
Any other information	See ALP303 and NLP110 and ALP236 CB/15/02733 – application allowed at appeal

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  100-150
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  85

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not at risk from surface water flooding

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	No nationally significant designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing

<sup>77</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>78</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	Site is not a logical extension to Clifton. The site would result in greenfield land between the settlement envelope and the site.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	No coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

#### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>79</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>80</sup> ?	A	Further information required.
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

#### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Arable land
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Landowner intent on developing the site.
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	No legal or ownership problems.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	R	Refused planning application – allowed at appeal
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>78</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>79</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>80</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>81</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP361</b>
Site Name	Land to the North of Shefford Road
Site Address	Land to the North of Shefford Road
Settlement	Clifton
Size	Submitted Developable Area:1.72ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.72ha Measured GIS Area:
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

### STAGE 1 : SUITABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (EXCLUSIONARY STAGE)

This section will exclude any sites which do not pass the exclusionary suitability criteria and they will not be assessed further.

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are too small or conflict with national policy designations.

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  40-50
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  41

#### Flood Risk (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)

2	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not within flood zone 2 or 3

#### Nationally significant designations (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Site not covered by a designation
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site not within an AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>81</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>82</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	Site relates well adjacent to the settlement envelope and is without physical constraints and forms a logical extension to Shefford
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	The site does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>83</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>84</sup> ?	A	Adequate access will need to be secured between existing residential properties
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not available. A site is considered available for development where there are no legal or ownership problems and the landowner has expressed an intention to develop the site.

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	A	Small amount of residential – under 10% and the rest greenfield
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	The site is promoted by the land owner
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	None apparent
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red	G	None apparent

<sup>82</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>83</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>84</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

	because it's not eligible for allocation.		
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

This section records the findings of the Strategic Green Belt Review and also provides a preliminary screening of sites to determine whether they may be capable of demonstrating Exceptional Circumstances. Any site in the Green Belt that is determined as suitable based on the high level SHLAA assessment would still have to demonstrate Exceptional Circumstances to be considered for allocation in the Plan.

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	Yes or No	Not in Greenbelt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> <p>Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*</p>	Yes or No	N/A
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>85</sup>	No	Site is not supported by a Neighbourhood Plan
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using detailed desktop assessment. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2A will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

#### Previously Developed Land

<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance	R	Under 25% is PDL
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<sup>85</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

	with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>Community</b>			
17	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Not in a neighbourhood plan designation area
18	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No previous consultation identified
19	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact on employment/retail or community facility
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
20	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2006: 1,166 Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Percentage Growth: 10.63%
21	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2016: 1,290 Number of outstanding completions 2016: 66 Percentage Growth: 5.12%
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
22	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	No physical constraints identified
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
23	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	G	The site would form a complementary extension to the village and could be considered an infill. There would be no material impact to either the built or natural environment
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?	A	The site is on Grade 3 agricultural land



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>		
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## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

This stage further assesses the site's suitability using comments from technical specialists. A red rating for any question does not mean that the site will be automatically excluded at this stage as the ratings across Stage 2B will be looked at as a whole using planning balance.

### Transport and Access to Services

<b>25</b>	<b>Facilities and services</b> Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.  Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately		
<b>25a</b>	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Clifton All Saints Academy lower School
<b>25b</b>	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Henlow Church of England Academy
<b>25c</b>	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Samuel Whitbread
<b>25d</b>	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	A	Shefford Health Centre
<b>26</b>	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Convenience Store
<b>27</b>	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	G	Under 400m to an hourly frequent bus service 71 and 72 Hitchin/Biggleswade
<b>28</b>	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1200m to Arlesey Station



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>		
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Yes – Clifton Road
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	Lower school places are a real problem in this area, the existing lower school site is too small to accommodate expansion. Middle and upper school places are also very tight.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Liaison with Education
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	R	Level 2 assessment required
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Telephone exchange noise
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	R	Not suitable for development- site integral to Ivel river corridor- - traditional pastures, riverside trees a priority for conservation. Very important to retain sufficient scale of riverside landscape – the Navigation is important visually, historically and for biodiversity.
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b>	A	Site has multi-period

	What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?		archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. This site lies within a landscape that is known to contain multi-period archaeological remains therefore it has archaeological potential. Archaeological potential does not prevent allocation or development providing that an appropriate mitigation strategy in line with para 141 of the NPPF was implemented. Any planning submission would need to be accompanied by the results of an intrusive archaeological field evaluation to satisfy para 128 of the NPPF. Should the site be allocated, a contingency for archaeological works must be included in any proposal to prevent issues with viability.
<b>38</b>	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Borders wet habitat, need to buffer & enhance
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A	Northern edge along course of old River Ivel would need to be enhanced as GI corridor. also impact on facilities in Shefford – sports pitch facilities in particular are under great pressure from current demand/team growth. Additional grass and artificial pitch provision would be required. Near to Bellcote Meadow/Millennium Green (& Play Area), Bellcote Meadows Amenity Space, Bellcote Playing Field, Stanford Road Inf Rec, Samuel Whitbread Academy Football Pitches & Rugby Pitches, Robert Lucas Drive Allotments and Memorial Recreation Ground (Bowling Green & Play Areas).
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		None
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

Site has no significant issues, it lies partially within Shefford's settlement envelope and represents a logical extension. Will need to provide opportunities for enhancement and mitigate impacts on the Ivel River corridor. Site to be considered further.

**STAGE 3 : ACHIEVABILITY**

This section assesses whether the site is Achievable in line with NPPG Guidance:

A site is considered achievable for development where there is a reasonable prospect that the particular type of development will be developed on the site at a particular point in time. This is essentially a judgement about the economic viability of the site, and the capacity of the developer to complete and let or sell the development over a certain period.

**Viability**

43	<p>Referring to the Viability Assessment undertaken by consultants, is the probability of the site being viable high, medium or low?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value</li> <li>• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value</li> <li>• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value</li> </ul>	G	<p>The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that residual value of development in this value area and at this scale would exceed both the upper and lower benchmark land values and as such the report indicates that such development would likely be viable</p>
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**Achievability**

44	<p>Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?</p>		<p>The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential property figures between 2013 and 2016. The housing market within Central Bedfordshire has seen significant increases in residential property values in a relatively short period of time, whereby it is considered that the viability of developments within this report has been cautious. For example in 2016 Dunstable has benefited from a 17.9% housing price increase with an average annual house price increase in 2016 for housing within Central Bedfordshire of 10.74%.</p> <p>This increase in property value has been a result of not only national trends in house prices and existing transport links to economically successful areas but also significant infrastructure projects within the pipeline including: East-West Rail; M1-A5 link road; A421 upgrades; Oxford to Cambridge Express Way; Luton and Dunstable Guided Busway; M1 improvements; and potential A1 improvements. It is considered that as such infrastructure projects progress that property prices within the Local Authority will likely continue to increase which has and will</p>
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			increase viability/deliverability of development not only in the higher value areas but also the lower value areas of the Authority.
45	When can the scheme realistically commence delivery? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>		0 to 5 years
46	What is the indicative build out time of the site?		The Case Study Sites outlined within the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017 indicates that after the site has received detailed planning permission a single housebuilder would likely take one year to first completion and would build out the site at a rate of 40 dwellings per annum there after.
Does the site pass this stage?			Yes

## SUMMARY

The sites that pass through this assessment process will not automatically be allocated for development in the Local Plan.

Sites will be selected with reference to a number of other factors including:

- The strategy, vision and objectives proposed in the draft plan
- Technical evidence studies
- The sustainability appraisal process
- The results of public consultation
- Flood Risk Sequential Approach
- Further transport modelling
- Consultation with neighbouring authorities



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