

Site Assessment Forms

Henlow



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Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP001
Site Name	Land adjacent to 1 Clifton Road
Site Address	Land adjacent to 1 Clifton Road, SG16 6BH
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.65ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.65 ha Measured GIS Area: 1.69 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: 50-75 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 40 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	
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

¹ 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 more².

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 immediately south of the settlement envelope boundary. To the west there is a gap between the site and the settlement envelope but this parcel of land has also been submitted and the roadside portion actually already has planning permission. The northern part of the site is well related to Henlow and there is existing residential development on the opposite side of the road. The southern portion of the site is likely to be less well related however.
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 needs³.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁴ ?	A	This question was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
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	Field
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Sole land owner intent on developing the site
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could	G	

² 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)

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

	delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?		
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	
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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) 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.*	N/A	
15b	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. ⁵	N/A	
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

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

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

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% - 100% (G) • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 	R	Field.
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Community

17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	N/A	No information provided, this was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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	Site is currently in arable use.

Cumulative Impact

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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1592 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%

Physical Constraints

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	
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Relationship to Settlement

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 northern portion of the site is well related; however development of the southern portion would sharply and significantly change the form of the existing settlement.
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Agricultural Land Quality			
24	<p>Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	R	In 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

25	<p>Facilities and services</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"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	<p>Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	G	Yes
25c	<p>Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	<p>Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	A	In an adjoining settlement (Lower Stondon)
26	<p>What retail provision does the settlement offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	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"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as 	A	

	part of the development (G)		
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Access from Clifton Road
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	New lower school site likely to be required for any significant development here, also an area of existing need for middle and upper school places.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	R	No commitments made
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No assessment required (G) • Consider Further Assessment (A) • Further Assessment Required (R) 	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Traffic Noise
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Scope for development – important to retain and enhance hedgerow boundaries and create screen to south.

37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	Her: G Arch: A	Site has archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. No Heritage comment.
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	G	Arable land, retain & buffer boundary features, potential impact for farmland species but good opportunity for ecological enhancements.
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets 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?	G/A	Existing hedgerows and habitats across site should be retained / enhanced / buffered. No loss of Leisure Strategy open space. Potential cumulative impact – existing formal sport space/facilities are under pressure. Should all developments proceed, planning requirement should require land and facilities to be delivered as a collective whole, not piece meal individually.
Minerals and Waste			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
Planning History			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

The site is within Grade 2 Agricultural Land and is well related to the settlement, particularly when considered alongside the land to the west which has planning permission. Issues with school capacity have been identified as an issue in this area. Environmental Health have identified potential issues with noise from the road, mitigation would be required to address this. The site has been identified as having multi-period archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation, rather mitigation would be required.

It is considered that only a portion of this site would be worthy of further consideration for development at this time. The site is only related to the existing settlement by the planning permission between the site and the settlement and this permission does not extend as far as the submitted site. In addition the full site extends sharply away from the existing line of the settlement. Taking forward only a portion could also help to address potential traffic noise issues to the south of the site.

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	G	The Council's Residential
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	<p>consultants, is the probability of the site being viable high, medium or low?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value • Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value • Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value 		<p>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>
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%. 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</p>
45	<p>When can the scheme realistically commence delivery?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 to 5 years (deliverable) • 6 to 10 years • 11 to 15 years • 15 to 20 years • Outside Plan Period 		<p>0 to 5 years</p>
46	<p>What is the indicative build out time of the site?</p>		<p>The Case Study Sites outlined within the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb</p>

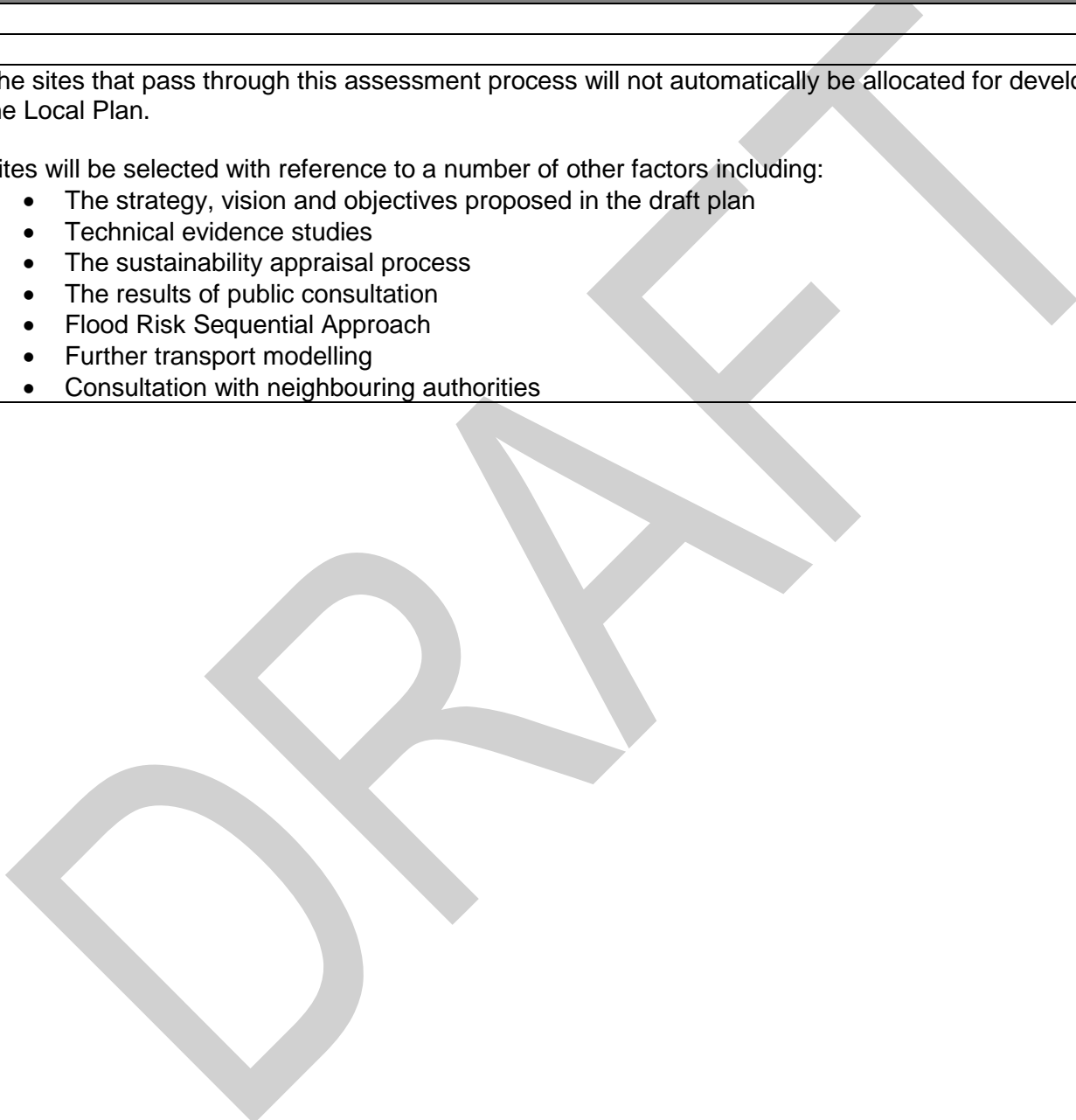
			2017 indicates that after the site has received detailed planning permission a single housebuilder would likely take one year to first completion and would build out the site at a rate of 40 dwellings per annum there after.
Does the site pass this stage?			Yes

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 HOUSING⁶

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP028
Site Name	Henlow End
Site Address	Henlow End, Middlefield Lane
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.591ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.591ha Measured GIS Area: 0.58 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Same as NLP311

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: 15 to 20 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 14 dwellings

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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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	
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

⁶ 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 more⁷.

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 separated from Henlow by the A507. The site lies some distance from Henlow and is isolated from existing settlements, surrounded by farmland.
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

⁷ 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)

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁸

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP030
Site Name	
Site Address	Site Address 3, Hitchin Road Entrance, Henlow End Far, Henlow, Beds, SG16 6BA
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 5.226 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 5.226 ha Measured GIS Area: 5.19 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: 156-195 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 93 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No part of site covered by 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

⁸ 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 more⁹.

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	This is a small site, set back from Hitchin Road and located within agricultural land, with no relationship to existing settlements. It does not represent a logical extension to either Henlow or Henlow Camp.
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 issues.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

⁹ 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)

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹⁰

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP041
Site Name	38 Hilltop House
Site Address	38 Hilltop House
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.7 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.7 ha Measured GIS Area: 1.8 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 17 dwellings

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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	
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

¹⁰ 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 more¹¹.

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 borders the settlement envelope boundary on two sides. The site includes within its boundary a dwelling which is within the settlement envelope boundary. The site is well related to the existing settlement with no barriers.
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.	A	Development of this site would bring Henlow closer to Clifton in what is currently a small gap. However this site will be considered further to understand whether a small portion of this site may be acceptable.
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 needs¹².

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ¹³ ?	A	This question was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
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	Garden land and a warehouse
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Site submitted by 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	
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	
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

¹¹ 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)

¹² 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.

¹³ 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.

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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	<p>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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) <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>		
15b	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. ¹⁴	N/A	
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

16	<p>Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% - 100% (G) • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 	R	Whilst the site includes a house, swimming pool and warehouse, less than 25% of it is able to be considered PDL.
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¹⁴ Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

Community			
17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	N/A	No information provided, this was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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	Loss of a warehouse but it is proposed that this be relocated.
Cumulative Impact			
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1592 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%
Physical Constraints			
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	
Relationship to Settlement			
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?	R	Development of this site would reduce what is currently an important gap between Clifton and Henlow. This gap is very narrow and therefore needs to be protected in order to maintain the identity of these two settlements.
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	A	The site lies within Grade 3 agricultural land. The most recent data from Natural England does not sub-classify Grades 3a and 3b. Therefore site must be rated

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	Facilities and services 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		
25a	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	G	Yes
25c	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	A	In an adjoining settlement (Lower Stondon)
26	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	A	Convenience store
27	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G) 	G	Details
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	

29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Access from New town
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	New lower school site likely to be required for any significant development here, also an area of existing need for middle and upper school places.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	R	No commitment made
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assessment required (G) Consider Further Assessment (A) Further Assessment Required (R) 	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Odour / Noise from Farm
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Scope for development – important to retain tree features and strengthen boundary features; create strong screen to north.
37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	Her: G Arch: A	Site has archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. No comment from Heritage

38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	G	Retain existing habitat corridors and enhance
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets 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?	G/A	Existing hedgerows around site should be retained / enhanced / buffered. Parish GI plan aspiration to create Public Footpath along brook to link Stockbridge Rd to Baulk Wood - this runs along the western edge of the site and should be delivered by the development. No loss of Leisure Strategy open space. Potential cumulative impact – existing formal sport space/facilities are under pressure. Should all developments proceed, planning requirement should require land and facilities to be delivered as a collective whole, not piece meal individually.
Minerals and Waste			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	A	Within MSA
Planning History			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

Development of this site would reduce what is currently a very important gap between Henlow and Clifton. Whilst a smaller portion might have a reduced impact, it would not be well related to the settlement and would constitute back-land development. It is important to retain this gap between Clifton and Henlow in order to prevent the two settlements merging and losing their historic character.

This site is therefore not appropriate for development. In addition to this, capacity issues in terms of education have been identified within this area and Environmental Health have identified the potential for noise/odour issues from the farm. The site has been identified as having multi-period archaeological potential, but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation being undertaken. The site is also within a Minerals Safeguarding Area. This site will not be considered any further as part of this process.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹⁵

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP073
Site Name	Land South Clifton Road
Site Address	Land South Clifton Road, SG16 6BD
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.8ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.89 ha Measured GIS Area: 1.89 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Same as NLP219

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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:
			35 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:
			43 dwellings

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?	Yes	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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	

Does the site continue to next stage?			No
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¹⁵ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹⁶

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP173
Site Name	The Japanese Koi Company
Site Address	Hitchin Road SG16 6BB
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.03ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.03 ha Measured GIS Area: 1.04 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 to 50 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:
			25 dwellings

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?	Yes	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	Yes	

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	
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

¹⁶ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹⁷

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP178
Site Name	Land at Arlesey Road
Site Address	Land at Arlesey Road
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.2 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.37ha Measured GIS Area: 1.62ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Has NLP183 and NLP220 within its site boundary.

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 29 dwellings

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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	
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

¹⁷ 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 more¹⁸.

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 on the edge of the settlement. It lies between the settlement envelope boundary and the A507.
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 needs¹⁹.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ²⁰ ?	A	This question was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
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	Field
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Sole land owner 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	
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	
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

¹⁸ 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)

¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ 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.

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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) <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>	N/A	
15b	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. ²¹	N/A	
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

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% - 100% (G) • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 	R	Field.
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Community

17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in	No	Although Henlow is a parish which
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²¹ Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

	designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?		has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	N/A	No information provided, this was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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	Site is currently in arable use.
Cumulative Impact			
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1592 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%
Physical Constraints			
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	
Relationship to Settlement			
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	
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	R	In 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

25 Facilities and services

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

25a	<p>Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	<p>Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	G	Yes
25c	<p>Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	<p>Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	A	In an adjoining settlement (Lower Stondon)
26	<p>What retail provision does the settlement offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	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"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G) 	G	
28	<p>Distance to nearest train station:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Access from Arlesey Road
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	New lower school site likely to be required for any significant development here, also an area of

			existing need for middle and upper school places.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	R	No commitment made.
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assessment required (G) Consider Further Assessment (A) Further Assessment Required (R) 	R	Level 2 assessment required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Road Traffic Noise / Public House Noise
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Scope for development – important to retain and enhance hedgerow boundaries and reinforce A507 landscape corridor.
37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	Her: G Arch: A	Site has archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. No comment from Heritage
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Cow paddock, rough grassland, grazed, retain & enhance hedgerows.
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets	G/A	Existing habitats at eastern corner

	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?		should be retained / enhanced / buffered. No loss of Leisure Strategy open space. Potential cumulative impact – existing formal sport space/facilities are under pressure. Should all developments proceed, planning requirement should require land and facilities to be delivered as a collective whole, not piece meal individually.
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Minerals and Waste

40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
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Planning History

41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		
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Does the site continue to next stage?		Yes
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STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?
The site is within Grade 2 Agricultural Land. Potential capacity issues have been identified in education provision and potential flood issues mean that the site would need a Level 2 Flood Risk Assessment. Environmental Health have identified potential noise issues from the road and the public house. The site has multi-period archaeological potential, but this would not prevent allocation providing that mitigation was undertaken. Any development should retain the hedgerow boundaries and reinforce the landscape corridor to the A507.
Due to the proximity of the site to the A507, and the need to retain the landscape corridor to the A507, only a portion of this site will be considered further for residential development.

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"> High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value 	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.
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Achievability

44	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
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		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.
45	When can the scheme realistically commence delivery? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 to 5 years (deliverable) • 6 to 10 years • 11 to 15 years • 15 to 20 years • Outside Plan Period 	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 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

DRAFT

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING²²

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP232
Site Name	Land to the rear of 102 to 126, High Street, Henlow
Site Address	Land off Langford Road
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2.4 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 4.96 ha Measured GIS Area: 4.81 ha
Proposed Use	Residential development with landscaping and infrastructure
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: Up to 72 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 43 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No part of site covered by 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

²² 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 more²³.

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 proposed development is adjacent to the settlement envelope, representing a logical extension to the existing housing within 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.	G	No coalescence issues.
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 needs²⁴.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ²⁵ ?	A	This question was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
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	Site is currently arable fields with a pair of semi-detached properties. These properties would be demolished but no relocation would be required.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Site submitted by developer but submission states that all landowners are 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	Form states that there are no legal or ownership issues.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red	G	Proposals for residential development on the site were

²³ 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)

²⁴ 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.

²⁵ 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.		recently dismissed at appeal.
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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) <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>	N/A	
15b	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. ²⁶	N/A	
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

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition?	R	The majority of the site is not PDL.
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²⁶ 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"> • 76% - 100% (G) • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 		
Community			
17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	N/A	No information provided, this was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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	Site is currently in arable use.
Cumulative Impact			
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1592 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%
Physical Constraints			
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 major constraints identified though the topography may be slightly uneven in places.
Relationship to Settlement			
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	No impact.
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) 	A	The site lies within Grade 3 agricultural land. The most recent data from Natural England does not sub-classify Grades 3a and 3b.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 		Therefore site must be rated Amber.
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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	Facilities and services 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		
25a	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	G	Yes
25c	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	A	In an adjoining settlement (Lower Stondon)
26	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	A	Convenience store
27	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G) 	A	404 m
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) 	R	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 1200m (R) 		
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	R	Access will require demolition of existing properties.
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	As with Cranfield, the cumulative impact of a number of smaller developments would be a concern.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Expansion of schools at all phases would be required. No commitment made.
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assessment required (G) Consider Further Assessment (A) Further Assessment Required (R) 	R	Level 2 assessment required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	G	No significant features
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	G	
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Development of site not acceptable in landscape terms. Highly sensitive river corridor / meadow landscape setting, development would result in significant physical and visual intrusion.
37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	Her: R Arch: A	Site is known to contain multi-period archaeological remains but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken.

			Heritage objection: Open views from church could be restricted having an impact on wider setting of LBS and CA.
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	G	Arable land, retain & buffer boundary features, potential impact for farmland species but good opportunity for ecological enhancements.
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets 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?	R	Parish GI plan aspiration for this site to extend Millennium Meadow westwards and northwards. RoW on north and eastern edges. Ivel Valley is strategic and district GI corridor. No loss of LS open space.
Minerals and Waste			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	A	Site is within an MSA
Planning History			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		Two previous planning applications refused (CB/13/02458, CB.14/01728). Site dismissed at appeal
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

This site is not appropriate for development, it is part of a highly sensitive river corridor and meadow landscape setting and development of the site would result in significant physical and visual intrusion. Indeed the landscape value was a key factor in the dismissal of the planning appeal for this site recently. The parish GI plan presents aspirations for this site for the extension of Millennium Meadow.

Further to landscape value, the site is distinctive in heritage terms and the open views from the church could be restricted by development on this site which would have a significant impact on both the Listed Building and the wider conservation area. Potential capacity concerns have been identified in terms of education provision and the site is within a Mineral Safeguarding Area. The site has been identified as potentially at flood risk and therefore requires a Level 2 Flood Assessment. This site will not be considered further as part of this process.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING²⁷

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP265
Site Name	72 Hitchin Road
Site Address	72 Hitchin Road
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.175ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.175 ha Measured GIS Area: 0.18 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	Yes	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:
			12 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:
			5 dwellings

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?	Yes	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	Yes	

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	
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

²⁷ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING²⁸

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP427 (Site withdrawn)
Site Name	The Japanese Koi Company
Site Address	Hitchin Road SG16 6BB
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.28ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.28 ha Measured GIS Area: 1.28 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Same as ALP173 SITE WITHDRAWN

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

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING²⁹

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP471
Site Name	Town Farm Field
Site Address	Clifton Road
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2.25ha Submitted Whole Site Area: Measured GIS Area: 3.4 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Included in NLP288

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 41 dwellings

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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	
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

²⁹ 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 more³⁰.

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 is on the boundary of the settlement envelope and is well located in relation 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.	A	Development of this site would bring Henlow closer to Clifton in what is currently a small gap. However a small portion of this site may be acceptable.
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 needs³¹.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ³² ?	A	This question was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
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	Farmland
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Land owners intent to develop the site stated.
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	
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	
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

³⁰ 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)

³¹ 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.

³² 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.

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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) <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>	N/A	
15b	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. ³³	N/A	
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

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% - 100% (G) • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 	R	Farmland
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Community

³³ Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	N/A	No information provided, this was not asked in 2014 Call for Sites.
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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	Field
Cumulative Impact			
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1592 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%
Physical Constraints			
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	
Relationship to Settlement			
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?	R	Development of this site would reduce what is currently an important gap between Clifton and Henlow. This gap is very narrow and therefore needs to be protected.
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	R	In 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

25	Facilities and services 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		
25a	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	G	Yes
25c	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	A	In an adjoining settlement (Lower Stondon)
26	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	A	Convenience store
27	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G) 	G	
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Access from Clifton Road (or possibly Chiltern place?)

School Capacity

30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	New lower school site likely to be required for any significant development here, also an area of existing need for middle and upper school places.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	R	No commitment made
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assessment required (G) Consider Further Assessment (A) Further Assessment Required (R) 	R	Level 2 assessment required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	G	No immediate issues
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Unsuitable for development in landscape terms– elevated site affording attractive views to Church, hedges and trees; critical rural buffer between towns.
37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	Her: G Arch: A	Site has archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. No comment from Heritage.
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are	A	Potential impact on farmland species though extensive GI / biodiversity gain proposed

	there any opportunities for their enhancement?		
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets 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?	G/A	Existing ROW across south of site – corridor should be enhanced No loss of Leisure Strategy open space. Potential cumulative impact – existing formal sport space/facilities are under pressure. Should all developments proceed, planning requirement should require land and facilities to be delivered as a collective whole, not piece meal individually.
Minerals and Waste			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No Issues
Planning History			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

The site is within Grade 2 Agricultural Land and concerns have been raised about educational provision in the area. This site plays an important role as an elevated site affording attractive views to the Church, hedges and trees; it also provides a critical buffer between rural towns. The site has archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation assuming that mitigation is undertaken. There is the potential for impact on farmland species from development of the site. Development of this site would reduce what is currently a very important gap between Henlow and Clifton. Whilst a small portion might have a reduced impact, it would not be well related to the settlement and would constitute back-land development. It is important to retain this gap between Clifton and Henlow in order to prevent the two settlements merging and losing their historic character. This site is therefore not appropriate for development.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING³⁴

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP076
Site Name	Land west of Langford Road
Site Address	Land west of Langford Road, Henlow
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 5.56 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 7.41 ha Measured GIS Area: 7.48 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 100 dwellings

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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No part of site covered by 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

³⁴ 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 more³⁵.

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 south-eastern corner of the site adjoins the settlement envelope and extends to the north of the settlement. The settlement pattern in this area is linear in character and this site would extend the settlement significantly into the countryside. The site does not therefore 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.	R	The site falls between Henlow and Clifton and would result in visual and physical coalescence between the two settlements.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

³⁵ 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)

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING³⁶

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP091
Site Name	Site 2 Henlow End
Site Address	Henlow End Farm, Middlefield Lane
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2.054ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.054 ha Measured GIS Area: 2.03ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Covers part of ALP030

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 37 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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	
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

³⁶ 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 more³⁷.

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 in open countryside between Henlow and Henlow Camp, and is separated from Henlow by the A507. The site is isolated from existing settlements, and surrounded by farmland.
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

³⁷ 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)

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING³⁸

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP097
Site Name	18-20 Palace Street/2 Station Road
Site Address	18-20 Palace Street/2 Station Road, Biggleswade
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.1 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.1 ha Measured GIS Area: 0.36 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	NLP097

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	Yes	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:
			9 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:
			3 dwellings

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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

³⁸ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING³⁹

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP126
Site Name	Land at Oldfield Farm
Site Address	Old Field Farm, Henlow (SG16 6EJ)
Settlement	Within Henlow Parish, closer to Lower Stondon/Henlow Camp East
Size	Submitted Developable Area: <7.22 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: <8.22 ha Measured GIS Area: 8.55 ha
Proposed Use	Residential development
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: 200 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 130 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No part of site covered by 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

³⁹ 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 more⁴⁰.

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 proposed development is adjacent to existing Henlow Camp East as such it is a logical extension of existing housing. There are no physical features or barriers that separate the site from the main settlement. Part of Henlow Camp is currently an RAF station, however it is likely that this base will be closed and the site redeveloped.
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 needs⁴¹.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁴² ?	G	Nothing is specifically stated though the submission form does indicate that depending on the scale of development, certain infrastructure could be provided.
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	The site is 100% greenfield. Used for agricultural production. Existing use does not limit development.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Site is submitted on behalf of sole landowner and intention to develop is stated.

⁴⁰ 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)

⁴¹ 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.

⁴² 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.

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	The form states that there are not any 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	None.
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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) 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.*	N/A	
15b	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. ⁴³	N/A	
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

⁴³ Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

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

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% - 100% (G) • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 	R	No part of site PDL.
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Community

17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	Form states that no consultation has taken place.
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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	Site is 100% Greenfield.

Cumulative Impact

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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1,592 Number of houses in 2016: 1,708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%

Physical Constraints

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 constraints identified, though the location within an army base could present a barrier.
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Relationship to Settlement

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	G	No issues identified.
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	form?		
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	<p>Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	G	Non agricultural

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>Facilities and services</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"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	<p>Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	In Henlow
25c	<p>Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	<p>Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
26	<p>What retail provision does the settlement offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	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"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved 	A	641.9m

	public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)		
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	The site is accessible from Teddor Avenue or Oldfield Farm Road.
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	As with Cranfield, the cumulative impact of a number of smaller developments would be a concern.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Expansion of schools at all phases would be required. No commitment made.
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No assessment required (G) • Consider Further Assessment (A) • Further Assessment Required (R) 	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	A	On site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aerodrome (now agricultural)
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	G	Possible Army Base Noise
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Potential for development; lower density within significant landscape setting / buffer with wider rural landscape.

37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	Her: G Arch: G	Site is considered to have low archaeological potential. No objection to allocation. No Heritage comments.
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A/G	Arable land, potential impact on farmland species. Enhancements through buffering and enhanced boundaries.
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets 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/G	RoW along north, west and southern edges. Parish GI plan aspiration to upgrade northern RoW to bridleway. No loss of Leisure Strategy open space.
Minerals and Waste			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
Planning History			
41	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?

Potential issues with education capacity have been identified and Environmental Health have noted the potential for contamination from the Aerodrome (which is now agricultural). To preserve the landscape setting within the wider rural landscape, buffering would be required. Enhancements through buffering and enhanced boundaries would be required in terms of ecology as there may be a negative potential impact on farmland species. Since no major constraints have been identified, it is considered that the site is worthy of 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"> High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value 	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?		None stated in submission The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential

		<p>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 value areas but also the lower value areas of the Authority.</p>
<p>45</p>	<p>When can the scheme realistically commence delivery?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 to 5 years (deliverable) • 6 to 10 years • 11 to 15 years • 15 to 20 years • Outside Plan Period 	<p>Submission states that site could commence delivery in 0-5 years (deliverable).</p> <p>0 to 5 years</p>
<p>46</p>	<p>What is the indicative build out time of the site?</p>	<p>Submission states that this is dependent on the scale of development, but suggests approximately 5 years to complete the site.</p> <p>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</p>

			site at a rate of 50 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

DRAFT

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁴⁴

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP183
Site Name	Land at Arleseey Road
Site Address	Arleseey Road
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.1 ha Measured GIS Area: 1.09 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Covers part of ALP178. Site is the same area as NLP220

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: 20-30 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 24 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	
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

⁴⁴ 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 more⁴⁵.

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 on the edge of the settlement. It lies between the settlement envelope boundary and the A507.
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 needs⁴⁶.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁴⁷ ?	A	Possible acoustic bund adjacent to A507
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	Field
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Sole land owner 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	
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	
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

⁴⁵ 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)

⁴⁶ 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.

⁴⁷ 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.

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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) 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.*	N/A	
15b	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. ⁴⁸	N/A	
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

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% - 100% (G) • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 	R	Field.
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Community

⁴⁸ Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	Yes	Consultations with NP committee
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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	Site is currently in arable use.
Cumulative Impact			
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1592 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%
Physical Constraints			
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	
Relationship to Settlement			
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	
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	R	In Grade 2

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	Facilities and services 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		
25a	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	G	Yes
25c	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	A	In an adjoining settlement (Lower Stondon)
26	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	A	Convenience store
27	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G) 	G	
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Access from Arlesey Road
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	New lower school site likely to be required for any significant

			development here, also an area of existing need for middle and upper school places.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	R	No commitment made.
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assessment required (G) Consider Further Assessment (A) Further Assessment Required (R) 	R	Level 2 assessment required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments.
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Road Traffic Noise / Public House Noise
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Scope for development – important to retain and enhance hedgerow boundaries and reinforce A507 landscape corridor.
37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	Her: G Arch: A	Site has archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. No Heritage comment
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Cow paddock, rough grassland, grazed, retain & enhance hedgerows.
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets	G/A	Existing habitats at eastern corner

	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?		should be retained / enhanced / buffered. No loss of Leisure Strategy open space. Potential cumulative impact – existing formal sport space/facilities are under pressure. Should all developments proceed, planning requirement should require land and facilities to be delivered as a collective whole, not piece meal individually.
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Minerals and Waste

40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
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Planning History

41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		
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Does the site continue to next stage?		Yes
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STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

The site is within Grade 2 Agricultural Land. Potential capacity issues have been identified in education provision and potential flood issues mean that the site would need a Level 2 Flood Risk Assessment. Environmental Health have identified potential noise issues from the road and the public house. The site has multi-period archaeological potential, but this would not prevent allocation providing that mitigation was undertaken. Any development should retain the hedgerow boundaries and reinforce the landscape corridor to the A507. This site will be considered further. Due to the proximity of the site to the A507, and the need to retain the landscape corridor to the A507, only a portion of this site will be considered further for residential development.

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"> High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value 	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.
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Achievability

44	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
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		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.
45	When can the scheme realistically commence delivery? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 to 5 years (deliverable) • 6 to 10 years • 11 to 15 years • 15 to 20 years • Outside Plan Period 	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 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

DRAFT

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁴⁹

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP219
Site Name	Land off Clifton Road
Site Address	Land off Clifton Road, SG16 6BD
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.87ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.87 ha Measured GIS Area: 1.89 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Same as ALP073

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 45 dwellings
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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?	Yes	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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	
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

⁴⁹ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁵⁰

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP220
Site Name	Land off Arlesey Road
Site Address	Land off Arlesey Road
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.10 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.10 ha Measured GIS Area: 1.11 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Covers part of ALP178. Site is the same area as NLP183

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 26 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	
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

⁵⁰ 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 more⁵¹.

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 on the edge of the settlement. It lies between the settlement envelope boundary and the A507.
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 needs⁵².

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁵³ ?	G	The site lies on the edge of the settlement. It lies between the settlement envelope boundary and the A507.
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	Field
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Sole land owner 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	
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	
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

⁵¹ 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)

⁵² 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.

⁵³ 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.

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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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">• 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)• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA• 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) 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.*	N/A	
15b	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. ⁵⁴	N/A	
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

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 76% - 100% (G)• 26 - 75% (A)	R	Field.
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⁵⁴ 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"> • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 		
Community			
17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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	Site is currently in arable use.
Cumulative Impact			
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1592 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%
Physical Constraints			
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	
Relationship to Settlement			
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	
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	R	In 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

25	Facilities and services 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		
25a	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	G	Yes
25c	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	A	In an adjoining settlement (Lower Stondon)
26	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	A	Convenience store
27	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G) 	G	
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Access from Arlesey Road

School Capacity

30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	New lower school site likely to be required for any significant development here, also an area of existing need for middle and upper school places.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	R	No commitment made
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assessment required (G) Consider Further Assessment (A) Further Assessment Required (R) 	R	Level 2 assessment required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments.
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Road Traffic Noise / Public House Noise
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Scope for development – important to retain and enhance hedgerow boundaries and reinforce A507 landscape corridor.
37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	Her: G Arch: A	Site has archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken. No Heritage comment
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are	A	Cow paddock, rough grassland, grazed, retain & enhance hedgerows.

	there any opportunities for their enhancement?		
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets 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?	G/A	Existing habitats at eastern corner should be retained / enhanced / buffered. No loss of Leisure Strategy open space. Potential cumulative impact – existing formal sport space/facilities are under pressure. Should all developments proceed, planning requirement should require land and facilities to be delivered as a collective whole, not piece meal individually.
Minerals and Waste			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
Planning History			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

The site is within Grade 2 Agricultural Land. Potential capacity issues have been identified in education provision and potential flood issues mean that the site would need a Level 2 Flood Risk Assessment. Environmental Health have identified potential noise issues from the road and the public house. The site has multi-period archaeological potential, but this would not prevent allocation providing that mitigation was undertaken. Any development should retain the hedgerow boundaries and reinforce the landscape corridor to the A507.

Due to the proximity of the site to the A507, and the need to retain the landscape corridor to the A507, only a portion of this site will be considered further for residential development.

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"> High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value 	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?		The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential

		<p>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 value areas but also the lower value areas of the Authority.</p>
45	<p>When can the scheme realistically commence delivery?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 to 5 years (deliverable) • 6 to 10 years • 11 to 15 years • 15 to 20 years • Outside Plan Period 	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 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

DRAFT

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁵⁵

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP232
Site Name	Land south of John Howland Close
Site Address	Land south of John Howland Close
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.58ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.74 ha Measured GIS Area: 0.74 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 14 dwellings
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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?	Yes	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	Yes	

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	
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

⁵⁵ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁵⁶

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP234
Site Name	Land south of Clifton Road
Site Address	Land south of Clifton Road
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.83 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.63 ha Measured GIS Area: 1.68ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 to 25 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 20 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	
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

⁵⁶ 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 more⁵⁷.

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 settlement envelope borders the site to the north and north-west. The northern portion of the site has a relatively strong relationship with the existing settlement. The roadside portion of the site already has planning permission. The southern portion of the site is however less well related.
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 needs⁵⁸.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁵⁹ ?	G	No specific infrastructure will be 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
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Multiple land owners all 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	None stated.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red	A	The roadside portion of the site has been granted permission for 9

⁵⁷ 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)

⁵⁸ 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.

⁵⁹ 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.		bungalows. (CB/16/04589/OUT). However there is no permission for the remainder of the site.
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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) 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.*	N/A	
15b	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. ⁶⁰	N/A	
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

⁶⁰ 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"> • 76% - 100% (G) • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 	R	Greenfield
Community			
17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	Yes	The site was submitted to the Parish in 2015 for consideration for development within their neighbourhood plan.
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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	Field
Cumulative Impact			
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1592 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%
Physical Constraints			
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	
Relationship to Settlement			
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 northern portion of the site is well related; however development of the southern portion would sharply and significantly change the form of the existing settlement.
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?	R	In Grade 2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 		
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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	Facilities and services 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		
25a	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	G	Yes
25c	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	A	In an adjoining settlement (Lower Stondon)
26	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	A	Convenience store
27	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G) 	G	239m
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) 	R	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 800m-1200m (A) Over 1200m (R) 		
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Access from Clifton Road
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	R	New lower school site likely to be required for any significant development here, also an area of existing need for middle and upper school places.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Contributions proposed
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assessment required (G) Consider Further Assessment (A) Further Assessment Required (R) 	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required.
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments.
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Road Traffic Noise
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Scope for development – important to retain and enhance hedgerow boundaries and create screen to south.
37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of	Her: G Arch: A	Site has archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken.

	these assets?		No Heritage comment
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	G	Partial planning application, opportunity for enhancement, retain & buffer existing
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets 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?	G/A	Existing hedgerows around site should be retained / enhanced / buffered. No loss of Leisure Strategy open space. Potential cumulative impact – existing formal sport space/facilities are under pressure. Should all devs proceed, planning requirement should require land and facilities to be delivered as a collective whole, not piece meal individually.
Minerals and Waste			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
Planning History			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		16/04589/OUT approved for 9 bungalows
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

The site is within Grade 2 Agricultural Land, it has been identified that there are potential issues with education capacity in the area. Environmental Health have identified the potential for issues with noise pollution from the road and the site has archaeological potential but this would not preclude allocation as long as mitigation was undertaken. Whilst part of the site has planning permission, it will still be considered further within the process to explore opportunities for a wider part of the site.

It is considered that only a portion of this site would be worth further consideration for development at this time. The full site extends sharply away from the existing line of the settlement and would significantly change the pattern of the existing settlement. This could also help to address potential traffic noise issues to the south of the site.

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"> High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value 	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
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value 		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%. 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.</p>
45	<p>When can the scheme realistically commence delivery?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 to 5 years (deliverable) • 6 to 10 years • 11 to 15 years • 15 to 20 years • Outside Plan Period 		0 to 5 years

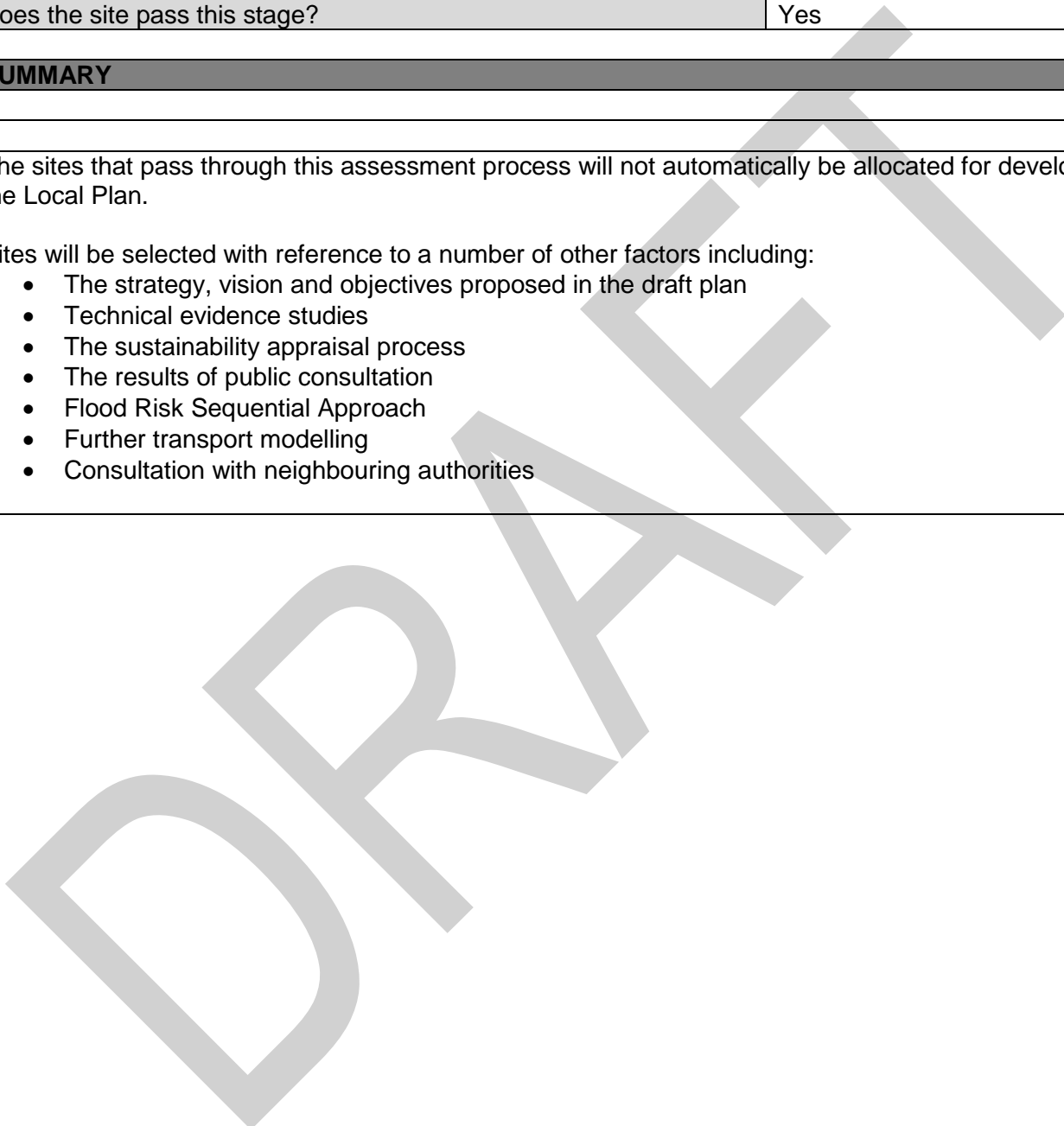
46	What is the indicative build out time of the site?		The Case Study Sites outlined within the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that after the site has received detailed planning permission a single housebuilder would likely take one year to build out this site.
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 HOUSING⁶¹

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP268
Site Name	Land adjacent to Derwent Lower School
Site Address	Hitchin road, Henlow.
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: The form does not specify the site area Submitted Whole Site Area: The form does not specify the site area Measured GIS Area: 5.59 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: 168 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 101 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No part of site covered by 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

⁶¹ 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 more⁶².

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 proposed development is adjacent to existing Henlow Camp East as such it is a logical extension of existing housing. There are no physical features or barriers that separate the site from the main settlement. Part of Henlow Camp is currently an RAF station, however it is likely that this base will be closed and the site redeveloped.
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 issues.
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 needs⁶³.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁶⁴ ?	G	No critical infrastructure requirements were identified in the form.
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	The site is unused and undeveloped agricultural land.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	A	Submission stated that all landowners are not intent on developing the site, however upon further investigation this was identified as a mistake.

⁶² 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)

⁶³ 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.

⁶⁴ 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.

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	The form states that there are 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.
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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) 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.*	N/A	
15b	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. ⁶⁵	N/A	
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

⁶⁵ Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

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

16	<p>Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% - 100% (G) • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 	R	No part of site is PDL.
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Community

17	<p>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?</p>	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	<p>Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.</p>	No	No consultation has taken place.
19	<p>Sustainability of Settlement Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)</p>	No	Site is 100% Greenfield.

Cumulative Impact

20	<p>Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <p><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></p>	A	<p>Number of houses in 2006: 1,592 Number of houses in 2016: 1,708 Percentage growth: 7.29%</p>
21	<p>What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <p><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></p>	G	<p>Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%</p>

Physical Constraints

22	<p>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.</p>	G	No constraints identified, though the location within an army base could present a barrier.
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Relationship to Settlement

23	<p>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</p>	G	No issues identified.
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	form?		
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	<p>Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	R	The majority of the site falls within Grade 2 Agricultural Land.

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>Facilities and services</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"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	<p>Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	In Henlow
25c	<p>Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	<p>Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
26	<p>What retail provision does the settlement offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	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"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved 	A	565.16m

	public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)		
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Site has some frontage onto Hitchin Road.
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	As with Cranfield, the cumulative impact of a number of smaller developments would be a concern.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	G	Expansion of schools at all phases would be required. Submission suggests that expansions to lower schools may be an option.
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No assessment required (G) • Consider Further Assessment (A) • Further Assessment Required (R) 	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	A	On site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aerodrome (now agricultural)
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	G	Traffic Noise minor impact
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	G	Potential for development; lower density within significant landscape setting / buffer with wider rural landscape.

	Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?		
37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	Her; G Arch: G	Site is considered to have low archaeological potential. No objection to allocation. No heritage comment.
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A/G	Grade 1 agric land predominantly, potential impact to farmland species. Deliver enhancements through buffering and connecting boundary hedgerows
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets 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	No aspirations identified in parish GI plan. Covers existing school playing field, would expect this to be retained / replaced. No loss of LS open space.
Minerals and Waste			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
Planning History			
41	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?

The majority of the site falls within grade 2 agricultural land and potential issues have been raised in relation to the education capacity in the area. Environmental Health have noted that there is the potential for contamination from the aerodrome (now agricultural). There may be potential impacts on farmland species, but enhancement could be delivered through buffering and connecting boundary hedgerows. Buffering would also be required in setting any development against the wider rural landscape. This site will 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	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"> High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value 	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?		None stated. The Council's Residential

		<p>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 value areas but also the lower value areas of the Authority.</p>
45	<p>When can the scheme realistically commence delivery?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 to 5 years (deliverable) • 6 to 10 years • 11 to 15 years • 15 to 20 years • Outside Plan Period 	<p>Submission states that delivery could commence in years 5-10.</p> <p>0 to 5 years</p>
46	<p>What is the indicative build out time of the site?</p>	<p>Submission states that site would take approximately 5-10 years to complete.</p> <p>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</p>

		site at a rate of 50 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

DRAFT

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁶⁶

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP288
Site Name	Land to the north of Clifton Road Henlow
Site Address	Land to the north of Clifton Road Henlow
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 5 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 10 ha Measured GIS Area: 14.075 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Part of site includes submission ALP471

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: 85 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 90 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No part of site covered by 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

⁶⁶ 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 more⁶⁷.

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	A river runs along the entire eastern side of the site which separates the site from the main settlement to the east. Between the proposed development and main settlement there is land which would remain undeveloped and lie between the two. The northern part of this site would be very poorly related.
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	Development of this site would narrow the countryside gap between Henlow and Clifton and would result in coalescence of the two settlements.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

⁶⁷ 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)

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁶⁸

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP292
Site Name	Land at Arleseey Road
Site Address	Arleseey Road, Henlow
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 8.5 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 9.18 ha Measured GIS Area: 9.21 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: 180 dwellings
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 153 dwellings

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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No part of site covered by 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

⁶⁸ 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 more⁶⁹.

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 borders the settlement envelope to the west, but it may not be a logical extension as it does not integrate with 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	No coalescence issues.
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 needs⁷⁰.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁷¹ ?	G	Submission form states that new access will be required and commits to providing this.
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	The site is 100% greenfield
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Site has been submitted on behalf of a developer however landowner details are provided and intention to develop is stated.
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	Submission states that there are 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. CB/16/04150/OUT refused.

⁶⁹ 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)

⁷⁰ 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.

⁷¹ 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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) 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.*	N/A	
15b	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. ⁷²	N/A	
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

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% - 100% (G) 	R	No part of the site is PDL.
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⁷² 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"> • 26 - 75% (A) • 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 		
Community			
17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	Form stated that no consultation has taken place.
19	Sustainability of Settlement 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, site is 100% Greenfield.
Cumulative Impact			
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1,592 Number of houses in 2016: 1,708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> • Less than 5% growth (G) • 5% to 20% growth (A) • More than 20% growth (R) <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>	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%
Physical Constraints			
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	None identified.
Relationship to Settlement			
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	No issues identified.
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	A	The site lies within Grade 3 agricultural land. The most recent data from Natural England does not sub-classify Grades 3a and 3b. Therefore site must be rated

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	Facilities and services 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		
25a	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Yes
25b	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	G	Yes
25c	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread in Clifton
25d	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	A	In an adjoining settlement (Lower Stondon)
26	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	A	Convenience store
27	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G) 	A	594.27m
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	

29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	A	Site fronts on to A507 but there may be issues achieving a safe access here.
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	As with Cranfield, the cumulative impact of a number of smaller developments would be a concern.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Expansion of schools at all phases would be required. Submission suggests some contributions could be made to upper/middle schools.
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assessment required (G) Consider Further Assessment (A) Further Assessment Required (R) 	A	Ordinary Watercourse present, JFlow modelling required to confirm flood risk
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	G	No significant features on site
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	A507 noise – quarry operations
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Development of site not acceptable in landscape terms. Vital countryside buffer effectively containing existing settlement edge.
37	Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of	Her: A Arch: G	Site is considered to have low archaeological potential. No objection to allocation. Heritage raised concerns about

	these assets?		possible impact on setting to Henlow Grange (GII*)
38	Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	R	Open grazing land, close to Henlow Grange parkland, foraging for many species. Habitat of PI
39	Open space/leisure and GI assets 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?	R	Long standing permissive path across the site exists (shown on OS map). Site also identified as informal open space in parish GI plan, with the aspiration to formalise the informal access and permissive path. Not identified as part of the GI network at Mid Beds plan scale. No loss of Leisure Strategy open space.
Minerals and Waste			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	R	MSA and next to a permitted sand and gravel extraction site.
Planning History			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		Planning application on site refused CB/16/04150/OUT.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

A potential education capacity issue has been identified in this area and an Ordinary Watercourse has been identified on this site so further modelling would be required to confirm the risk.

Environmental Health have also noted the potential noise issues from the A507 and the quarry operations.

This site is not appropriate for residential development. In landscape terms it provides a vital countryside buffer which effectively contains the existing settlement edge. Development could also significantly impact on the setting of Henlow Grange (GII*). The site is open grazing land and is close to parkland and provides foraging for many species. There is a long standing permissive path across the site and it is identified as informal open space in the Parish GI Plan with the aspiration to formalise the access and permissive path. The site is also within a MSA and next to a permitted sand and gravel extraction site. The site will not be considered further as part of this process.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁷³

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP311
Site Name	Land off Middlefield Lane and Hitchin Road
Site Address	Middlefield Lane
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.49ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.49ha Measured GIS Area: 0.58 ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Same as ALP028

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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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: 9 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 12 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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	
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

⁷³ 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 more⁷⁴.

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 between Henlow and Henlow Camp, and is separated from Henlow by the A507. The site is isolated from existing settlements, and surrounded by farmland.
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 would not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

⁷⁴ 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)

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁷⁵

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP337
Site Name	Land off Stockbridge Road and High Street
Site Address	Land off Stockbridge Road and High Street
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2.1ha 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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 38 dwellings
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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	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	

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 designations on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	
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

⁷⁵ 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 more⁷⁶.

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 is located to the west of Henlow, and is directly adjacent to the 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.	R	The site falls within the countryside gap between Henlow and Clifton and would result in coalescence between the two settlements.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

⁷⁶ 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)

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁷⁷

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP343
Site Name	Welch's Transport Yard, High Street
Site Address	Welch's Transport Yard, High Street
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.9ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.9 ha Measured GIS Area: 0.9 ha
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"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <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 dwellings Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 22 dwellings
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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?	Yes	
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	Yes	

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	
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁷⁸

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP469
Site Name	RAF Henlow
Site Address	RAF Henlow
Settlement	Henlow
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 220ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 220 ha Measured GIS Area: 220 ha
Proposed Use	Mixed use: Residential and Business Use
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	<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 0.4 hectare 100% 0.4 to 2 hectares 80% 2 hectares or above 60% <p><i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i></p>	No	<p>Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 1800 dwellings</p> <p>Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 700 dwellings</p> <p>Consisting of 220 additional dwellings within the RAF base on land within the control of the site promoters and 480 dwellings within the Airfield on land to the west and south of the Listed Hangers. Excluding land from within the Safeguarding Area of the MBDA site and land to the north of the site which is considered to isolated for residential development that is not of a scale that would be self contained.</p>
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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	Less than 50% of site is located within Flood Zone 2 and 3.
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Less than 50% of the site is 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	No	The site is not covered by nationally significant designations.
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⁷⁸ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

	Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.		
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No part of site covered by 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 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 more⁷⁹.

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	It is considered that development within Henlow Camp and land to the south and west of the Listed Hangers would be well related to Lower Stondon. Land to the north of the site adjoining the A507 but beyond the MBDA safeguarding area would appear isolated from settlements and development in this area would not be of a scale that would self-contained. Therefore a portion of development within the site would be acceptable.
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 issues.
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 needs⁸⁰.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁸¹ ?	G	No critical infrastructure requirements were identified in the form.
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

⁷⁹ 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)

⁸⁰ 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.

⁸¹ 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.

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	The existing use of the site is a military base and airfield.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	A	The site is largely within the sole control of the site promoter however portions of the site are not and as such those areas are not considered to be available for development, at this date.
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	If is considered that the ownership of the building within the airbase will need to be resolved but it is considered that this could be realistically overcome.
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.
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

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	
14	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.	N/A	
15a	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"> • 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) • Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA • 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) Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not	N/A	

	progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*		
15b	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. ⁸²	N/A	
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

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 76% - 100% (G) 26 - 75% (A) 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R) 	G	Large portions of the site is considered to form previously developed land.
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Community

17	Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas) Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Although Henlow is a parish which has been designated for a Neighbourhood Plan, there are no draft allocations at this stage.
18	Community Consultation Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No consultation has taken place.
19	Sustainability of Settlement Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	Yes	Development of the site would result in the loss of local employment. Development of this site would be required to provide opportunities for local employment.

Cumulative Impact

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"> Less than 5% growth (G) 5% to 20% growth (A) More than 20% growth (R) <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: 1,592 Number of houses in 2016: 1,708 Percentage growth: 7.29%
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"> Less than 5% growth (G) 5% to 20% growth (A) 	G	Outstanding completions: 10 Number of houses in 2016: 1708 Percentage growth: 0.59%

⁸² 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"> • More than 20% growth (R) <p><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></p>		
Physical Constraints			
22	<p>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.</p>	A	The MBDA which neighbours the site stores hazardous substances which would significantly affect developability of a large area of the site. In addition development would be required to ensure that it would not result in the total number of vehicular movements upon Bedford Road to equal or exceed 10,000 movements in 24 hours, to ensure development would not negatively affect the ability of the MBDA to continue activities.
Relationship to Settlement			
23	<p>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?</p>	A	Development within the RAF Base to the south of Hitchin Road would not provide significant opportunities for interconnectivity between Lower Stondon and the development.
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	<p>Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G) • 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A) • 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R) 	G	50% or more in non-agricultural land.

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>Facilities and services</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"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	Stondon Lower School.
25b	<p>Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Robert Bloomfield Academy, Shefford

25c	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Other catchment school available (A) 	A	Samuel Whitbread Academy, Shefford
25d	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, in the settlement (G) • Yes, proposed as part of the development (G) • No, but an adjoining settlement does (A) • Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R) 	G	The Hawthorn Surgery, Lower Stondon.
26	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre/ Supermarket (G) • Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A) • None (R) 	A	Convenience store
27	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 400m (G) • 400m-800m (A) • Over 800m (R) • OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G) 	A	Service 89 Hitchin.
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) • 800m-1200m (A) • Over 1200m (R) 	R	Over 1200m to Arlesey station. Opportunity to provide cycle link to Arlesey Train Station.
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Bedford Road, Hitchin Road and A507.
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Stondon lower is on a constrained site and already feeling pressure from development in catchment. Derwent lower may be able to accommodate some expansion. Middle and upper school places are very tight in this area.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Commitment to expand existing primary schools and provision of new primary school if necessary. No commitment made to contribute towards the expansion of existing or on site provision of middle, upper, secondary or higher education facilities. Provision of schools or financial contributions for the expansion of existing schools, will be required as necessary to make development acceptable, the detail of which is subject to the scale of the

			development proposed on the site.
Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	A	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.
Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assessment required (G) Consider Further Assessment (A) Further Assessment Required (R) 	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
Environmental Health			
34	Contamination Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	A	Potential Land Contamination within the site including former railway lines, storage of hazardous substances, imported materials for landscaping of golf course and other sources associated with historic use of the land. Contamination will need to be dealt with appropriately.
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Noise – the relationship between existing and proposed, the impact on highway noise etc will need assessment. Potential sources of Air Pollution including sewage works / industrial uses neighbouring the site. Impacts from proposed development on neighbouring uses within the site and neighbouring the site would also need to be assessed.
Environmental Constraints			
36	Landscape character 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	Landscape Officer has issued the following comment: Need to ensure any future development is set within significant landscape framework to contain growth.

			<p>Need to integrate any development within a quality scale landscape setting to contain and separate spatially from growth east of Arlesey, any future growth at Stotfold and Lower Stondon to avoid the image of coalescence. Need to enhance landscape character and habitat values in around the site and linked to green infrastructure, SUDs, sustainable landscape design. Potential to include significant woodland planting to provide quality setting and to mitigate image and effects of development e.g. increasing canopy cover to screen, shade and contribute to surface water management; habitat creation including wet woodland planting linked to SuDS; treed highway avenues and parkland trees to enhance POS.</p>
37	<p>Heritage/ Archaeology What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?</p>	A	<p>The Council's Archaeologist has issued the following comment:</p> <p>The facility lies within a multi-period archaeological landscape and while the military structures will have undoubtedly truncated earlier remains in some places, there are other areas where archaeological deposits could conceivably survive fairly intact (for example the air field). That being the case we would expect a programme of non-intrusive survey, followed by targeted trial trenching (as appropriate) to form part of any planning submission (this would be in line with para 128 of the NPPF). This would then lead to an appropriate mitigation strategy being devised (in line with para 141 of the NPPF) if consent was granted. Should the site be allocated, a contingency for archaeological works must be included in any proposal to prevent issues with viability and CBC should note the duties of LPAs towards the historic environment when creating Local Plans (see para 126 of the NPPF) when considering this site.</p>

The Council's Conservation Officer has issued the following comment:

There are 6 separately listed (all Grade II) buildings. RAF Henlow was established in 1917 as the Eastern Command Repair Depot, with link to Midland Railway.

Buildings 186, 187, 188 & 189 form an in-line group. Built 1918 by the War Office Directorate of Fortifications & Works. Brick & steel walls with 'Belfast' softwood roof trusses. Listed 1 December 2005.

Building 190 continues the group eastwards of the 4 hangers located to the west. Built 1918 by WODFW. Brick & steel walls with Dorman Long steel trusses. Listed 1 December 2005.

Building 370 with 330 was built 1933 by the Air Ministry Directorate of Works & Buildings. Design influenced by the Royal Fine Arts Commission on military architecture. Red brick, Portland stone, slate roofs. Listed 1 December 2005.

The innovative hanger and wide span shed buildings are of particular special historic interest and importance in their role in sustaining the 1914-18 war effort recognised as a part of the national review of 20th century wartime buildings.

Finding appropriate uses for these large buildings will certainly be a challenge. Also how to integrate them, in a suitably sympathetic and dignified way, within the context of a new large scale housing development, will require careful handling of the buildings themselves as a group and their setting and a certain separation space from surroundings to work successfully.

There are non-designated heritage

			<p>assets on site which form an integral part of the site's history and context and these include the airfield itself, buildings, and a number of pillboxes on the perimeter.</p> <p>Where similar re-development of former MOD sites has taken place a programme of recording of all structures in their original condition has taken place prior to or just after the closure of the facilities. In some cases this has been undertaken by the Research Department at Historic England (see RAF Stanbridge). These records have then formed a vital part of the re-development proposals; it is therefore recommended that a similar approach is adopted for RAF Henlow and this approach would be in line with the requirements of para 128 of the NPPF. I would also expect consultation with Historic England to have taken place prior to a planning submission and any application would need to be compliant with paras 132-135 of the NPPF.</p>
38	<p>Ecological Assets What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?</p>	A	<p>Northern area of the site forms an extensive area of semi-natural habitat with associated interest for Species of Principal Importance. Depending on level of development within that area it may be hard to demonstrate net gains for biodiversity.</p>
39	<p>Open space/leisure and GI assets 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?</p>	G/A	<p>Scope for net GI enhancement, no specific aspirations identified in parish GI plans.</p> <p>No loss of Leisure Strategy sites. Near to Derwent Lower School, BMX track off Station Road (Stondon), Oldfield Farm Play Area and Amenity Space. Further afield: Samuel Whitbread Academy, Henlow Academy, Ransford Academy, All Saints Lower School.</p> <p>The development would require stand alone recreational open space and sporting facilities.</p>
Minerals and Waste			

40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
Planning History			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		None relevant.
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

This site consists of the Military Airfield and Base known as RAF Henlow, neighbouring Lower Stondon. The village of Lower Stondon lies to the south and west of the site and the village of Haynes lies to the north, separated from the site by the A507.

RAF Henlow is a Military facility which is considered to be of national importance in terms of military aviation heritage due to its use during both of the World Wars, the inter-war years and post-war. The site has been announced for disposal by the Ministry of Defense as part of the Better Defense Estate Strategy. The Growth Location falls within the Landscape Character Area known as the Upper Ivel Clay Valley which is an open arable landscape with more intimate, enclosed pastures along the immediate river corridors. The site is considered to largely form previously developed land, whereby the NPPF promotes the reuse of such land.

Development within the site has the potential to affect the setting of a number of heritage assets including:

- 190 Hitchin Road, Henlow, Grade II Listed Building;
- Old Ramerick Manor, Grade II* Listed Building;
- Building 370 with 330 (Officer's Mess), RAF Henlow, Grade II Listed Building;
- Buildings 186,187, 188 and 189 (Aircraft Hangers), RAF Henlow, Grade II Listed Buildings; and
- Building 190 (Coupled General Service Shed), RAF Henlow, Grade II Listed Building.

In addition to the above it is considered that RAF Henlow is and contains non designated heritage assets due to the part it played in the World Wars and interwar years.

However it is considered that subject to the retention and appropriate re-use of heritage assets within the site as well as appropriate master planning that the impact of development upon heritage assets could be outweighed by the benefits of development at this site, in the context of paragraphs 132-134 of the NPPF.

The site also has the potential to contain multi-period archaeological remains which would not form an overriding constraint to development but will require investigation, recording and where necessary preservation in situ.

Any harm to designated or non designated heritage assets will need to be considered in accordance with national and local policy.

This site is located in close proximity to Hazardous Substances at the MBDA site which have the potential to cause major accidents. The presence of this Hazardous Substances would affect the developable area within this site and the scale of development in the context of additional vehicular movements on Bedford Road. Regard is to be had to the objectives of preventing major accidents and limiting the consequences of such accidents by pursuing those objectives through the controls described in Article 12 of the Council Directive 96/82/EC as well as the need in the long term, to maintain appropriate distances between such establishments and residential areas, buildings and areas of public use, major transport routes as far as possible, recreational areas and areas of particular natural sensitivity or interest.

Due to the above constraints, it is considered that the location and scale of development within this site is heavily constrained, whereby the scale of development will need to be carefully considered to ensure that the total movements on Bedford Road would not exceed 10,000 movements per 24 hours. If movements would exceed 10,000 per 24 hours then this would affect the activities of an existing business use, contrary to the NPPF. Traffic movements from residential development cannot be controlled by Planning Conditions unlike commercial deliveries and vehicular movements associated with commercial uses, which may be considered a more appropriate use for this site.

For the reasons outlined above it is considered that a portion of the site could only be considered appropriate for residential development, limiting built development area to the south and west of the listed hangers and general service shed and to the areas available for development within the RAF Base to the south of Hitchin Road. Any development to the north of the Airfield, beyond the exclusion zones associated with the MBDA site would be isolated and would be less than 1500 homes, whereby it is not considered that development of that scale would be self-contained. This area of land could be considered for Commercial uses.

Development within this location would benefit from connections towards Hitchin, the A507 and the A1 beyond, as well as relatively close proximity to Arlesey Train Station.

The A507 and the A1 are currently subject to a significant volume of traffic and are close to capacity at peak times. Development within this area could increase traffic on the A507 and the A1 as well as the existing road network, including routes towards Hitchin. A comprehensive scheme for highway improvements will be required to demonstrate that such impacts would be mitigated.

Development in this site would be required to provide public transport infrastructure within the development and provision of an efficient public transport route through the site that links to Arlesey Railway Station and Hitchin serving both the new settlement and improvements to the service to existing neighbouring settlements.

Development in this site would be required to improve connections (serving both the development and existing settlements) including cycleway connections and footpaths (Rights of Way), connecting to Arlesey Train Station.

This site is located near to the following sources of pollution:

- vehicular noise on adjoining roads;
- sewage works; and
- neighbouring uses.

There is potential for land contamination within the site due to historic uses within the landscape.

Potential future development within this site will require appropriate mitigation in accordance with national and local planning policy.

In the context of biodiversity, the northern area of the site forms an extensive area of semi-natural habitat with associated interest for species of importance. Development would be required to protect endangered species, provide a net gain for biodiversity.

Any future development within this site must be in conformity with national and local policy.

Development of this Growth Location provides an opportunity to provide Blue/Green Infrastructure to benefit future occupiers and existing communities.

For the reasons outlined above it is considered that this site is worthy of further assessment for development.

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

<p>43</p>	<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">• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value	<p>A</p>	<p>In the context of the site delivering a total of 700 homes; the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that residual value of development in this value area and at this scale with £38k infrastructure costs would not exceed the upper benchmark land value and as such the report indicates that such development may not be viable.</p> <p>However the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential property figures between 2013 and 2016 and based on the average building costs during 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 value areas but also the lower value areas of the Authority.</p> <p>For the reasons outlined above it is</p>
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		<p>considered that this scale of development within this value area may be viable.</p> <p>Development within this site has specific constraints and infrastructure requirements and as such further viability information will be required.</p>
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 increase viability/deliverability of development not only in the higher value areas but also the lower value areas of the Authority.</p>
45	<p>When can the scheme realistically commence delivery?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 to 5 years (deliverable) • 6 to 10 years • 11 to 15 years • 15 to 20 years • Outside Plan Period 	<p>0-5 years.</p>
46	<p>What is the indicative build out time of the site?</p>	<p>The Case Study Sites outlined</p>

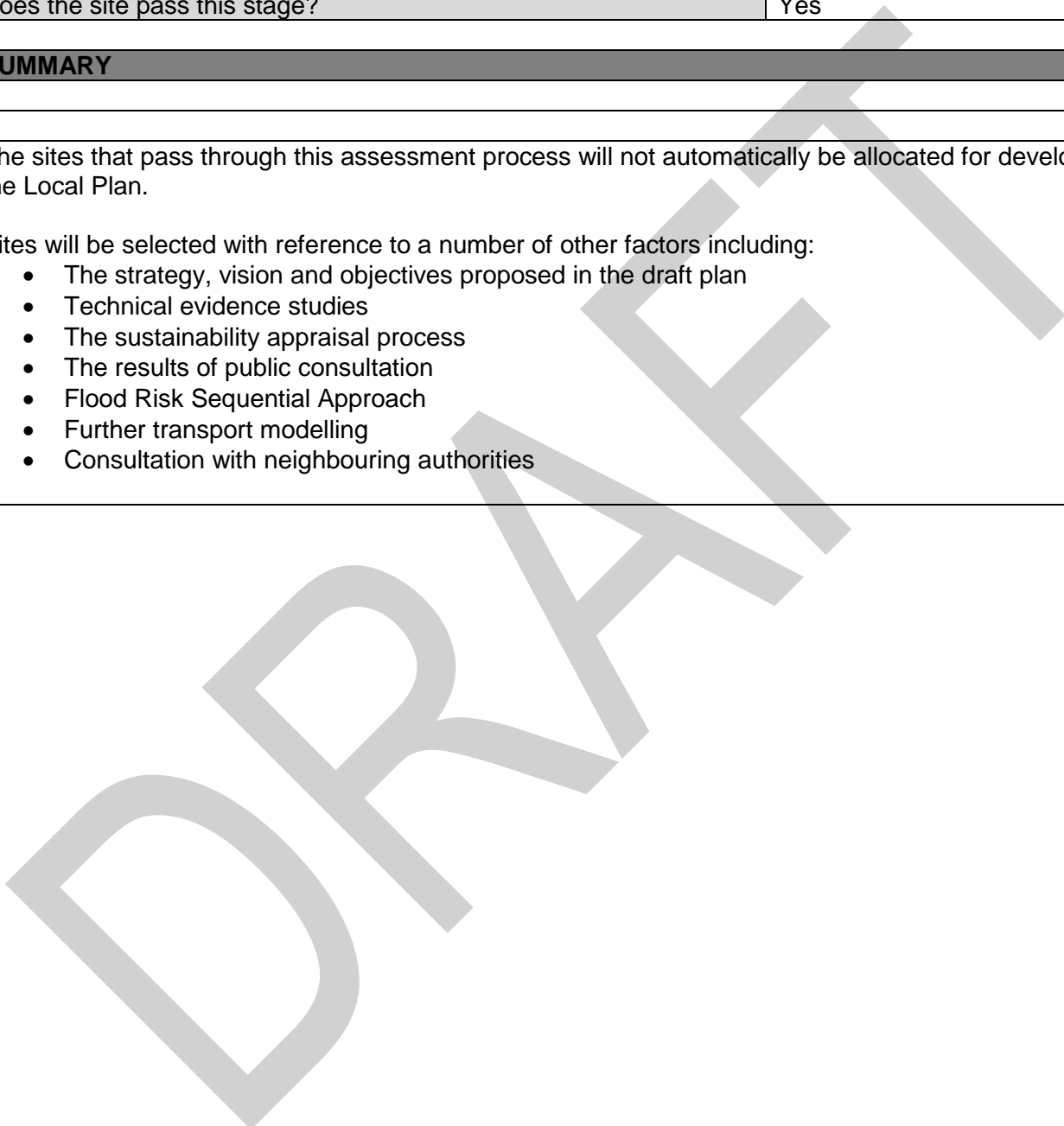
		<p>within the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that after the site has received detailed planning permission two housebuilders would likely take one year to first completion and would build out the site at a rate of 100 dwellings per annum there after.</p>
Does 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





**Central
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