

Site Assessment Forms

Hockliffe



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Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP125
Site Name	Land off Leighton Road
Site Address	Land off Leighton Road, Hockliffe
Settlement	Hockliffe
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.98ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.98ha Measured GIS Area: 0.99ha
Proposed Use	Residential (potential for a local shop)
Any other information	Same as NLP 413

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: 125 Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 24
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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	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

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

STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or 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 to the south of the A5 that runs through Hockliffe, it can be seen as a logical extension and access to the site can be obtained via the A4012 rather than the A5.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs³.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁴ ?	G	N/A
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	Intent on developing the site
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	No issues
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red	G	No planning apps

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.

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

STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

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

Greenbelt

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	Yes	100% within Greenbelt
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.	No	
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>	Yes or No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hockliffe has a lower school, convenience store and post office • Does not make a strong contribution • The A5 runs through Hockliffe
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	Yes	Hockliffe is in the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan and have highlighted potential sites, but their draft plan has not reached the consultation stage.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING⁶

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP184
Site Name	Land R/O Manor Avenue, Woburn Road, Hockliffe
Site Address	Land R/O Manor Avenue, Woburn Road, Hockliffe
Settlement	Hockliffe
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.9ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.9ha Measured GIS Area: 2.24ha
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: 56 Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 46
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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	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

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

STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or 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?	G	The site lies to the east of Hockliffe Road and can be seen as a logical extension although access to the site will need to be improved.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs⁸.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ⁹ ?	G	N/A
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	Undeveloped open land (backland)
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Intent on developing the site.
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	No issues
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red	G	No planning apps

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)

⁸ 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.

⁹ This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

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

STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

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

Greenbelt

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	Yes	100% within the Greenbelt
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.	No	
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>	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hockliffe has a lower school, convenience store and a post office • Does not make a strong contribution to Luton HMA • Has direct access to the A5
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. ¹⁰	No	Hockliffe is producing a Neighbourhood Plan and have highlighted potential sites within this, but have yet to reach the consultation stage of their draft plan.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

¹⁰ Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹¹

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP175
Site Name	Land off Leighton Road, Hockliffe
Site Address	Land off Leighton Road, Hockliffe
Settlement	Hockliffe
Size	Submitted Developable Area: Area A – 1.3ha Submitted Whole Site Area: Area A – 1.6ha, Area B – 2.4ha Measured GIS Area: 3.90ha
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: 40 Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 31
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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	Approx. 80% within the floodzone 2 and 3
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 found on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

¹¹ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹²

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP242
Site Name	Land North East of A5 (Between Birch's Close and Mcdonalds), Hockliffe
Site Address	Land North East of A5 (Between Birch's Close and Mcdonalds), Hockliffe
Settlement	
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 3.2ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 3.2ha Measured GIS Area: 3.08ha
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: Up to 100 Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 55
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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?	Yes	More than 50% of the site is at risk of surface water flooding (1/100 year occurrence)

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 found on site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Not within AONB.
Does the site continue to next stage?		No	

¹² Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹³

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP259
Site Name	Land to the rear of Manor Avenue
Site Address	Land Rear of Manor Avenue, Off Woburn Road, Hockliffe, Beds, LU7 9LL
Settlement	Hockliffe
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.3ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.3ha Measured GIS Area: 1.92ha
Proposed Use	Residential, Village Hall and Car Park
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: 60 Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 31
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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 found on site
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

¹³ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more¹⁴.

Relationship to Settlement

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

STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs¹⁵.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ¹⁶ ?	G	Access from Woburn Road, provision of utilities will not be problematic
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

Availability

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

¹⁴ 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)

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

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

STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

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

Greenbelt

13	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	Yes	100% within Greenbelt
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.	No	
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>	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hockliffe has a lower school, convenience store and post office • Does not make a strong contribution to Luton HMA • Direct access to A5
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. ¹⁷	No	Hockliffe is producing a Neighbourhood Plan and have highlighted potential sites within this, but have yet to get to the consultation stage with their draft plan
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

¹⁷ Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹⁸

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP278
Site Name	Land off Leighton Road
Site Address	Leighton Road, Hockliffe, LU7 9ND
Settlement	Hockliffe
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.13ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.13ha Measured GIS Area: 1.20ha
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: 40 Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 27
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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	There is a significant flood zone area to the rear of the site.
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	Yes	More than 50% of the site is at risk of surface water flooding (1/30 year occurrence)

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	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

¹⁸ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING¹⁹

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP298
Site Name	Land South of Leighton Road, Hockliffe
Site Address	Leighton Road, Hockliffe, LU7 9NT
Settlement	Hockliffe
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2.71ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.71ha Measured GIS Area: 2.73ha
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: 50-55 Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 49
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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	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

¹⁹ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more²⁰.

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 lies just outside of the settlement to the west, there is a small area of backland that separates this site from the residential area of Hockliffe, therefore this is not a particularly logical extension to the settlement and the adjacent settlement of NLP413 would also need to be approved in order to make this site relatable to the 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	Does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs²¹.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ²² ?	G	There are no special critical infrastructure requirements necessary beyond the normal development requirements
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	100% Greenfield/agricultural
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²⁰ 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)

²¹ 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.

²² 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.

10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Intent on developing the site.
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	A	Potential issues.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	G	No planning apps
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?	Yes	100% greenbelt
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.	No	Details
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.*	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a lower school, convenience store and post office Does not make a strong contribution Has direct access to the A5
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. ²³	No	Hockliffe is producing a Neighbourhood Plan and have highlighted potential sites within this, but have yet to reach the consultation stage with their draft plan
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

²³ Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING²⁴

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP327
Site Name	Land to the South West of the A5
Site Address	Hockliffe
Settlement	Hockliffe
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 4ha adjacent to village (up to 18ha) Submitted Whole Site Area: 22.2ha Measured GIS Area: 24.2
Proposed Use	Mixed: Residential, Employment
Any other information	Opportunity for a small area of employment space to meet local needs due to proximity to M1 and A5.

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: 120-450 Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 4ha – 72 18ha - 324
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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	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an

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

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 more²⁵.

Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	Site does represent a logical extension as long as developable area was adjacent to the A5 which separates the site from the residential area of Hockliffe.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs²⁶.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ²⁷ ?	G	It is not thought any critical infrastructure is required, close proximity to M1 and A5/M1 link road.
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	Land owner is intent on developing the site.
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	G	No Issues.
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	Site does not already have planning permission.

²⁵ 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)

²⁶ 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.

²⁷ 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?	Yes	100% within Greenbelt
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.	No	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>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has one lower school and a convenience store and a post office • Does make a strong contribution to Luton HMA • Has direct access to the A5
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. ²⁸	No	Hockliffe are in the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan and have highlighted potential sites but have not yet reached the consultation stage of their draft plan.
Does the site continue to next stage?		Yes	

STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

Previously Developed Land

16	<p>Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76% - 100% (G) 	R	Site is greenfield and is therefore not considered PDL
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²⁸ 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?	Yes	Portion of the site that is proposed as the developable area is allocated within an emerging neighbourhood plan that has entered its draft 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 community consultation 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	Would not result in the loss of any services or negatively impact sustainability
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>	R	No. Houses 2006: 347 No. Houses 2016: 448 % Growth: 29.11%
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	No. houses 2016: 448 Outstanding Completions: 17 % Growth: 3.79%
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 physical constraints
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 developable area of the site would be complimentary to the settlement, helping to provide housing that would similarly reflect the form of the settlement opposite. May have an impact on the natural form, resulting in the loss of open space
Agricultural Land Quality			
24	Would the development impact on high quality	A	100% Grade 3

	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) 		The most recent data from Natural England does not sub-classify Grades 3a and 3b. 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	Settlement has a lower school
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) 	A	Does not have a middle school, other catchment available nearby
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	Does not have an upper school/secondary school, nearest being in Leighton Buzzard
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) 	R	Does not have a GPs surgery or medical centre
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	Settlement has 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) 	R	Site is over 800 metres away from the nearest bus stop
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 800m (G) 	R	Site is over 1,200 metres away from the nearest train station

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 800m-1200m (A) Over 1200m (R) 		
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Has direct access to the A6
School Capacity			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	If both sites permitted then a new lower school may be required.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Development could provide financial contributions
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?	G	No significant issues
35	Adjoining uses Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	A5 noise / industrial 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?	R	Exposed site, beyond settlement envelope, gradually rising ground, long ranging views to site from surrounding more elevated landscapes and PROW network
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?	H – R A - R	Heritage: Impact on countryside setting of GII LBs on SW side of A5. Archaeology: Unsuitable for allocation. Site lies within the setting of a Scheduled Monument.

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	Front of site only to settlement envelope, north of site borders NIA
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	No parish GI plan. RoW across site.
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)		No planning history
Gypsy and Traveller Provision			
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

The site has poor relationship with the settlement pattern and impacts on the landscape and would be within the setting of the following designated heritage assets:

- The Square, Grade II Listed Building;
- Congregational Chapel, Grade II Listed Building;
- Gable End, Grade II Listed Building;
- Westbrook Cottage, Grade II Listed Building;
- The Chestnuts, Grade II Listed Building;
- Ivey Cottages, Grade II Listed Building;
- Hockliffe House, Grade II Listed Building;
- Bull Farmhouse, Grade II Listed Building; and
- Church Farm moated site and associated settlement and cultivation earthworks.

Development of this site as a whole would cause substantial and less than substantial harm to heritage assets, whereby such harm would require clear and convincing justification. Furthermore; such harm would be weighed against the benefits of development. Notwithstanding the degree of harm that would be caused to heritage assets by developing the entire site, it is considered that such a development would cause harm to the character and appearance of the area, including the setting of this settlement.

It is considered that a portion of the site would form a logical extension to the settlement and mitigate the degree of harm to some of the setting of heritage assets.

Exceptional circumstances will need to be demonstrated to alter green belt boundaries to allow development within this 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	<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 	G	<p>The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that residual value of development in this value area and at this scale would exceed both the upper and lower benchmark land values and as such the report indicates that such development would likely be viable.</p>
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 to 5 years</p>

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

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING²⁹

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP413
Site Name	Land at Leighton Road, Hockliffe
Site Address	Land at Leighton Road, Hockliffe, LU7 9HJ
Settlement	Hockliffe
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.03ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.03ha Measured GIS Area: 0.99ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	Same site as ALP125

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 Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 24
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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	Not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

²⁹ Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or 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 lies on the western edge of Hockliffe and is adjacent to a number of other submissions. It can be seen as a logical extension as it borders the rear of a public house and does not extend away from the village.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs³¹.

Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery ³² ?	G	N/A
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

Availability

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

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.

12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	G	No planning apps
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?	Yes	100% greenbelt
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.	No	
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>	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a lower school, post office and convenience store • Does not make a strong contribution • Has direct access to the A5
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	No	Hockliffe are producing a Neighbourhood Plan and have highlighted sites within this, but have yet to reach the consultation stage with their draft plan
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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

Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING³⁴

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP420
Site Name	Land South West of The Lane
Site Address	Hockliffe
Settlement	Hockliffe
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.3ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 19.7ha Measured GIS Area: 20.9ha
Proposed Use	residential
Any other information	Recreational use being for the development of playing fields.

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
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:
			31

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	Site is not covered by any designations.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Site is not within AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

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

STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or 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 site does not represent a logical extension to the settlement extending significantly beyond the settlement, which is linear in character, into the countryside. The developable area is adjacent to employment land and is therefore not well suited to the residential form of the settlement that exists beyond the other area of employment land.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			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)



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