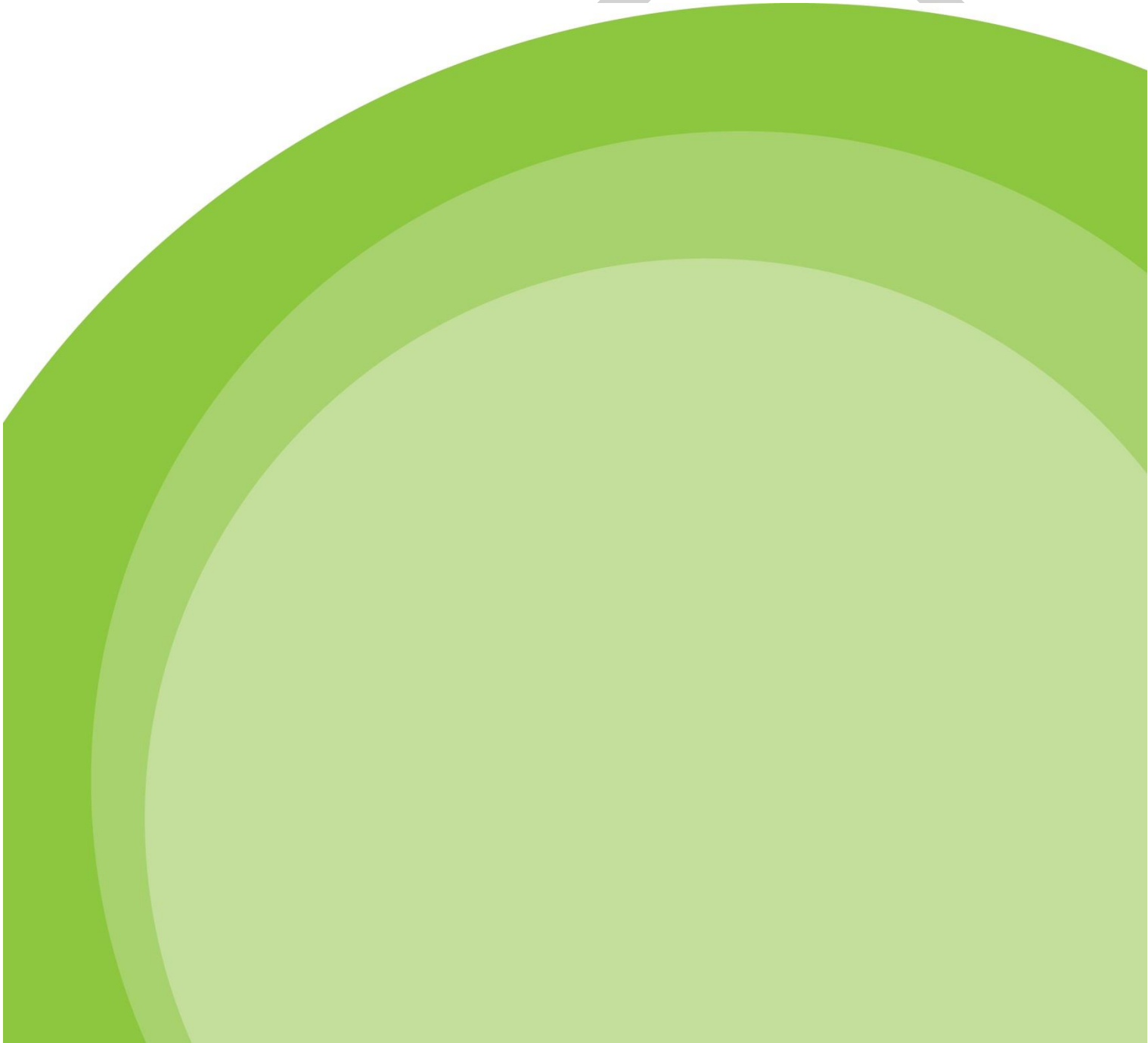


# Site Assessment Forms

Northhill



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

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP034
Site Name	Land rear of 67-103 Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Site Address	Land rear of 67-103 Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote (Northill parish)
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2.56 Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.9 Measured GIS Area: 2.90
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 77
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 46

#### 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	Not more than 50% located in floodzone 2 and 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

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

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

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

#### Relationship to Settlement

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

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

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

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>4</sup> ?	A	Further information required
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Agricultural land/field The existing use would not limit the development potential of the site
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Yes
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	Although not stated on the submission, it is assumed that a property would need to be demolished in order to gain access.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red	G	No

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

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

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

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

### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

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

#### Greenbelt

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

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

#### Previously Developed Land

<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition?	R	100% greenfield
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<sup>5</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>Community</b>			
17	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Designated area
18	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	N/A	Unknown
19	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
20	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	5.57%
21	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	G	3.96%
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
22	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	A	Access appears to be poor and it is assumed that a property would need to be demolished to make it adequate. This is not detailed in the submission.
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
23	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	A	The site is entirely backland and as such it does not have a frontage. Access does not appear to be adequate.
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> </ul>	R	100% Grade 1

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

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

### Transport and Access to Services

<b>25</b>	<b>Facilities and services</b> Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.  Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately		
<b>25a</b>	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Yes
<b>25b</b>	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Children go to Middle schools in Biggleswade
<b>25c</b>	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Children go to Middle schools in Biggleswade
<b>25d</b>	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	R	No. The closest GP is located within Biggleswade
<b>26</b>	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Upper Caldecote has convenience stores one of which contains a post office
<b>27</b>	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	R	Over 800m from site
<b>28</b>	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1,200m from site

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>		
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	R	Available access to the site is not wide enough to serve the number of dwellings proposed.
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Lower school may require some additional land for expansion, some existing capacity at middle and upper school.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?		Unknown
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	<p>What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No assessment required (G)</li> <li>Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<p><b>Contamination</b></p> <p>Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?</p>	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<p><b>Adjoining uses</b></p> <p>Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)</p>	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<p><b>Landscape character</b></p> <p>What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?</p>	A	The site contains a high number of mature trees and hedges which are important for the landscape character. There are concerns about precedent for backland development which would detract from openness of agricultural setting.
37	<p><b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b></p> <p>What would the impacts of development be on any</p>	<p>H = G</p> <p>A = G</p>	<p>Sensitive but possible</p> <p>Site is considered to have low</p>



	heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?		archaeological potential
<b>38</b>	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	R	Potential Habitat of Principle Importance impact, pond and mature trees.
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A/G	RoW on western edge, would need to link and enhance. On edges of Greensand Ridge NIA
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	A	Partly MSA
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		None
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**The site is not to be considered further for assessment.**

- **The site has a number of accessibility concerns the most notable of which is that adequate vehicle access has not been demonstrated to be available.**
- **The site is also Grade 1 agricultural land and the Council's ecology officer has raised significant concerns about impact to Habitats of Principle Importance.**
- **It would also have an adverse impact on the settlement pattern due to it being backland development.**

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

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP035
Site Name	Land to the rear of Almshouses
Site Address	Land to the rear of Almshouses, 47-67 Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.89ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.97ha Measured GIS Area: 1.94ha
Proposed Use	Land to the rear of Almshouses
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 57
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 45

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

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

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

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

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

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

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

#### Relationship to Settlement

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

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>8</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>9</sup> ?	A	Further information required
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	The site is a field. The existing use would not prejudice development of the site
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	The landowners have expressed an intent to develop
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	A	There are three landowners
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red	G	No

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

<sup>8</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

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

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

### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

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

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	Not in the green belt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	Details
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	Details
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>10</sup>	Yes/ No/ N/A	Details
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

#### Previously Developed Land

<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition?	R	100% greenfield
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<sup>10</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>Community</b>			
<b>17</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Designated area
<b>18</b>	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	NA	unknown
<b>19</b>	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
<b>20</b>	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	5.57%
<b>21</b>	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	G	3.96%
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
<b>22</b>	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	A	Site access appears poor. It should be investigated as to whether it is sufficient to accommodate the number of houses proposed.
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
<b>23</b>	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	A	The site is entirely backland development and as such does not benefit from having a frontage. Development north of Biggleswade Road has been built through a linear pattern of development and this proposal would be a departure from this a result in a protrusion in to the countryside. There are however an number of estate type

			developments to the south.
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
<b>24</b>	<p>Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>	R	Approximately 30% grade 1 and 70% grade 2

## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

### Transport and Access to Services

<b>25</b>	<p><b>Facilities and services</b></p> <p>Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.</p> <p>Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately</p>		
<b>25a</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Yes
<b>25b</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Children go to middle schools in Biggleswade
<b>25c</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Children go to the upper school in Biggleswade
<b>25d</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	R	No. the closest GP is in Biggleswade
<b>26</b>	<p>What retail provision does the settlement offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Upper Caldecote has convenience stores one of which contains a post office
<b>27</b>	<p>Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved</li> </ul>	R	Over 800m from the site

	public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)		
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1,200m from the site
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	A	It is unclear whether the existing access is sufficient to serve the proposed development. Upper Caldecote has direct access onto the A1 from Biggleswade Road.
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Lower school may require some additional land for expansion, some existing capacity at middle and upper school.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Further information required
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	A	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any	R	The site has range of trees at roadside ; open fields are integral to the Ivel vale farmed landscape.

	designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?		The site forms the setting of the historic almshouses - grounds include mature trees ,including the group forming the roadside feature. Agricultural setting to rear is important , site highly visible as flat open landscape.
<b>37</b>	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	H = G  A = G	Sensitive but development would be possible  Site is considered to have low archaeological potential.
<b>38</b>	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Site is within the NIA. The illustrative masterplan shows the central hedgerow removed. Should retain , buffer and enhance existing features.
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	G	The site is on the edge of the Greensand Ridge NIA
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	A	Partly with Mineral Safeguarding Zone
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		none
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

The site is not to be considered further for assessment.

- The site is located within Grade 1 agricultural land.
- There are concerns regarding accessibility to the site.
- It is considered that there will be an impact on the landscape due to the setting of the almshouses and visibility of the site.



## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>11</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP122
Site Name	Woodlands North Upper Caldecote
Site Address	Woodlands Nurseries, Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.71ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.71ha Measured GIS Area: 0.76
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 20
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 17

#### 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	Not more than 50% in Flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not more than 50% at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

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

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>12</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	This is not a logical extension to Upper Caldecote. It is approximately 250 metres from the existing settlement boundary of Upper Caldecote and is separated from the main 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?			No

<sup>12</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>13</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP124
Site Name	Woodlands House and Rowlets
Site Address	Woodlands House and Rowlets, Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.61ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.61ha Measured GIS Area: 0.57ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 17
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 14

#### 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	Not more than 50% located in Flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not more than 50% at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

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

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>14</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

<b>6</b>	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints(for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	This is not a logical extension to Upper Caldecote. It is approximately 250 metres from the existing settlement boundary of Upper Caldecote and is separated from the main village
<b>7</b>	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>14</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

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

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP141
Site Name	Land South of 82-88 Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Site Address	Land South of 82-88 Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2.01ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.01ha Measured GIS Area: 2.11ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 60
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 48

#### 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	Not more than 50% located in Flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not more than 50% at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

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

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

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

#### Relationship to Settlement

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

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>17</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>18</sup> ?	A	Further information required
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	The site is agricultural land. The use of the site does not limit the development potential.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	A	Owned by 4 landowners which are part of the same family
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	R	Access has not been agreed and would require the demolition of a property to the north
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	Details

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

<sup>17</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>18</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

Does the site continue to next stage?

No

DRAFT

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>19</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP218
Site Name	Land at Thorncote Road/ Hatch Road Junction
Site Address	Land at Thoncote Road, Hatch, Beds
Settlement	Hatch (Northhill parish)
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.47ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.47ha Measured GIS Area: 0.53
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 15
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 11

#### 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	More than 50% located within flood zone 2 and 3. 58.49%
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	Yes / No	All sites to be assessed by SFRA Consultants

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

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

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



## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>20</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP248
Site Name	Land on the North Side of Bedford Road, Northhill
Site Address	Land on the North Side of Bedford Road, Northhill
Settlement	Northhill
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.623ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.623ha Measured GIS Area: 0.72ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	NLP350

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 11
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 15

#### 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	Not more than 50% located in flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not more than 50% at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

<sup>20</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>21</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	This site is adjacent to the existing Settlement Envelope of Northhill
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
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>22</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>23</sup> ?	A	Further information required
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Mown field and residential The existing use would not limit the development potential of the site
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Yes
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	Land ownership issues identified.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	R	No. Application registered for 9 dwellings. – Application approved

<sup>21</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>22</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>23</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

Does the site continue to next stage?

No

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

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP358
Site Name	Land rear of Bells Brook House
Site Address	Land Rear of Bells Brook House, Biggleswade
Settlement	Biggleswade (Northill Parish)
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.88ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 188ha Measured GIS Area: 1.90
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	Yes	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 35-40
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 46

#### 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	More than 50% of the site is within flood zone 2 or 3. 96.84%
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	Yes/ No	All sites to be assessed by SFRA Consultants

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

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	No nationally significant designations.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>25</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP396
Site Name	Land at Water Lane
Site Address	Land at Water Lane, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2.5ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.0ha Measured GIS Area: 2.6ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	See NLP477 Part of site has planning permission (NLP477)

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  30 (or 40? The form is unclear)
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  48

#### 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	Not more than 50% located in flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not more than 50% at risk from surface water flooding

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

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	No nationally significant designations
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>25</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>26</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	This proposal adjoins the existing Settlement Envelope of Upper Caldecote and is accessed from The Pastures
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
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>27</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>28</sup> ?	A	Further information required
Does the site continue to next stage?			yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Agricultural land. The existing use will not limit the development potential of the site
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Yes
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	A more recent submission suggests that the land is in multiple ownership but all landowners intend to develop the site.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red	A	Resolution to grant planning permission for 40 dwellings

<sup>26</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>27</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>28</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

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

### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

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

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	Site not in greenbelt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	Details
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	Details
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>29</sup>	Yes/ No/ N/A	Details
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

#### Previously Developed Land

<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition?	R	Agricultural
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<sup>29</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>Community</b>			
17	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Designated area
18	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	Unknown but there would have been statutory consultation through the planning application
19	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact on sustainability
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
20	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	5.57%
21	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	G	3.96%
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
22	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	No known physical constraints
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
23	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	G	The site is complementary to the existing settlement pattern as it adjoins the boundary and follows the pattern of development to the east.
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> </ul>	R	Grade 1



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

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

### Transport and Access to Services

<b>25</b>	<p><b>Facilities and services</b></p> <p>Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.</p> <p>Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately</p>		
<b>25a</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Yes
<b>25b</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Children go to middle schools in Biggleswade
<b>25c</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Children go to the upper school in Biggleswade
<b>25d</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	R	No. the closet GP is in Biggleswade
<b>26</b>	<p>What retail provision does the settlement offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Upper Caldecote has convenience stores one of which contains a post office
<b>27</b>	<p>Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>400m-800m (A)</li> <li>Over 800m (R)</li> <li>OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	R	Over 800m from the site
<b>28</b>	<p>Distance to nearest train station:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1,200m from the site

29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Access off Harvey Close and Biggleswade Road. Upper Caldecote has direct access onto the A1 from Biggleswade Road.
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Lower school may require some additional land for expansion, some existing capacity at middle and upper school.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Further information required
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	A	site forms an integral part of the arable landscape vale landscape. There are open views into the site from the farmland and footpath to the south, but the site also connects with existing development and the village playing fields. concerns regarding visual impact as seen from Waterlane Farm and from the public rights of way. need

			to secure screening to the south.
<b>37</b>	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	A	The proposed development will have a negative and irreversible impact upon any surviving archaeological deposits present on the site, and therefore upon the significance of the heritage assets with archaeological interest. This does not present an over-riding constraint on the development providing that the applicant takes appropriate measures to record and advance understanding of the archaeological heritage assets. This will be achieved by the investigation and recording of any archaeological deposits that may be affected by the development; the post-excavation analysis of any archive material generated and the publication of a report on the works.
<b>38</b>	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	the importance of retaining and enhancing connectivity along water lane
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A	the development would need to complement and enhance the Water Lane area with its existing open space / extended verge with existing trees and hedgerow, and the recreation area to the south of the site.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	R/A/G	Liaison with M&W Officer
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		Planning application currently being determined 16/03283
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**The site is to be considerer for further assessment.**

- **There are no major constraints to development.**
- **Upper Caldecote is well located in terms of access to Biggleswade for services and facilities.**
- **There are concerns regarding the visual impact on the site from the south and so mitigation would be required to screen the southern boundary.**
- **The development would also need to enhance and maintain the character of Water Lane.**
- **The site is located on Grade 1 land.**
- **The site adjoins the settlement boundary and would not have an adverse impact on the**

character of Upper Caldecote as it would not extend the settlement envelope beyond the adjoining 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"> <li>• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value</li> <li>• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value</li> <li>• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value</li> </ul>	G	The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that residual value of development in this value area and at this scale would exceed both the upper and lower benchmark land values and as such the report indicates that such development would likely be viable.
Achievability			
44	Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?		<p>None – sole land owner</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</p>

			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"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>		Deliverable  0 to 5 years
46	What is the indicative build out time of the site?		Over a two year period.  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 HOUSING<sup>30</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP397
Site Name	Land at Hitchin Road
Site Address	Land at Hitchin Road, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 4.5ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 5ha Measured GIS Area: 5 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"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 80
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 90

#### 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	Not more than 50% in Floodzone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not at risk form surface water flooding

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

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

<sup>30</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>31</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	The proposed development could form an extension to Upper Caldecote in the south as it joins 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.	G	No coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>32</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>33</sup> ?	A	Further information required
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	The land is currently in vacant agricultural use and should not limit the development.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	The land owners are intent on developing the land.
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	There are no known legal or ownership problems that can delay development.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	G	There no planning applications for this area of land.

<sup>31</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>32</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>33</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

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

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

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	Site not in green belt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	Details
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	Details
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>34</sup>	Yes/ No/ N/A	Details
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

#### Previously Developed Land

<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> </ul>	R	Arable use
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<sup>34</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>Community</b>			
<b>17</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Area designated
<b>18</b>	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No known community consultation
<b>19</b>	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact on sustainability
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
<b>20</b>	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2006: 933 Number of houses in 2016: 985 Percentage growth: 5.57%
<b>21</b>	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	G	If all the outstanding permissions were to be completed this would be an additional 3.96% growth.
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
<b>22</b>	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	Flat field for agricultural with no physical constraints
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
<b>23</b>	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	A	The proposed development would result in development in the south of the settlement and result in considerable backland development.
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
<b>24</b>	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% of more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>	R	Grade 1

**STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT**

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

**Transport and Access to Services**

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

<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Additional places likely to be required
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Small lower school unlikely to manage increase in pupils from development, deficit in middle and upper school forecast has already been identified – financial contributions across all phases
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No assessment required (G)</li> <li>Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	A	OW present, JFlow modelling required to confirm flood risk
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Road traffic
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	A	Some scope – would need to safeguard trees and hedges and reflect local character of “village green “ grassed open spaces.
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	A	Site has multi-period archaeological potential but this would not prevent allocation providing appropriate mitigation is undertaken
38	<b>Ecological Assets</b>	R	Grade 1 agric land. open grassland

	What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?		foraging for bats / birds. Compliment existing GI, close to NIA
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A/G	No parish GI plan, but site not identified in Mid Beds GI network. Parcel 3 adjacent to existing open space – would need to buffer and extend this open space. Lots of watercourses – flood risk? No loss of LS open space.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	A	Site is within MSA
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		NA
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**The site is not considered for further assessment.**

- Although the site could form an extension to Upper Caldecote, it would result in a large backland development.
- The site is also located on Grade 1 agricultural land and there are ecological concerns with development on this site and the impact that this would have on ecological assets.
- The site is also located in a mineral safeguarding site.
- Upper Caldecote has few facilities and services most of which need to be accessed in the adjoining settlement, namely Biggleswade.

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>35</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP398
Site Name	Land at The Pound Ickwell Road Upper Caldecote
Site Address	Land at Ickwell Road Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Northill
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 3.5 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 4.5 ha Measured GIS Area: 4.9 ha
Proposed Use	Residential development
Any other information	NLP478

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

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

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

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

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

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

<sup>35</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>36</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	The proposed development is separated from the main settlement by Hitchin Road to the east and Ickwell Road to the south. There is development on three of the other sides of the cross roads. The site is considered to be an extension to the settlement but a smaller portion mirroring development on the eastern side of the road would be considered more suitable.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	No coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>37</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>38</sup> ?	A	Further information required
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	The land is currently in vacant agricultural use and should not limit the development.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	The land owners are intent on developing the land.
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could	G	There are no known legal or

<sup>36</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>37</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>38</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

	delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?		ownership problems that can delay development.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	G	There no planning applications for this area of land.
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	Not in 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.	Yes or 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"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	Details
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. <sup>39</sup>	Yes/ No/ N/A	Details
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

<sup>39</sup> 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	<p>Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>	R	Arable use
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**Community**

17	<p><b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?</p>	No	Area designated
18	<p><b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.</p>	No	No known community consultation
19	<p><b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)</p>	No	No impact on sustainability

**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"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <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: 933 Number of houses in 2016: 985 Percentage growth: 5.57%</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"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <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	If all the outstanding permissions were to be completed this would be an additional 3.96% growth.

**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	Flat field for agricultural with no physical constraints
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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 form?</p>	A	<p>Would not have an adverse impact on settlement pattern. Development on three other side of cross road. Smaller portion would be more suitable.</p>
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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"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>	R	Grade 1

## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

### Transport and Access to Services

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

	part of the development (G)		
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1200m
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Yes – Hitchin Road
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Additional places likely to be required
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Small lower school unlikely to manage increase in pupils from development, deficit in middle and upper school forecast has already been identified – financial contributions across all phases
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	A	OW present, JFlow modelling required to confirm flood risk
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Road traffic
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural	R	Not suitable for development – part of extensive open agricultural landscape – wide ranging views characteristic; no context to expand built form.

	Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?		
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	G	Site is considered to have low archaeological potential. No objection to allocation
38	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Grade 1 agric land in NIA, potential for ecological enhancements
39	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	G	No parish GI plan. Not within District GI network. No loss of LS open space.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	A	Site is within MSA
<b>Planning History</b>			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		NA
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes/ No

## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**A small portion of the site can be considered for further assessment.**

- The site could form an extension to Upper Caldecote, developing on the north western side of the cross roads.
- There is development on the other three corners of the cross roads. A smaller portion of the site would be considered more suitable for development and this would relate better to the existing settlement pattern.
- The site is located on Grade 1 agricultural land.
- There are landscape concerns with development on this site and the impact that this would have on views into the agricultural landscape. This would require mitigation to maintain and conserve these views.
- The site is also located in a mineral safeguarding site.
- Upper Caldecote has few facilities and services most of which need to be accessed in the adjoining settlement, namely Biggleswade.

**Due to the above reasons, a smaller portion of the site can be considered for further assessment.**

## STAGE 3 : ACHIEVABILITY

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

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

<b>Viability</b>			
43	Referring to the Viability Assessment undertaken by consultants, is the probability of the site being viable	G	The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb

	<p>high, medium or low?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value</li> <li>• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value</li> <li>• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value</li> </ul>		<p>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>
<b>Achievability</b>			
<b>44</b>	<p>Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?</p>		<p>None – sole land owner</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>
<b>45</b>	<p>When can the scheme realistically commence delivery?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>		<p>Deliverable</p> <p>0 to 5 years</p>
<b>46</b>	<p>What is the indicative build out time of the site?</p>		<p>Over a two year period.</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 site at a rate of 50 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

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>40</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP399
Site Name	Land Adjacent to Sand Lane, Northhill
Site Address	Land South of Sand Lane, Northhill
Settlement	Northhill
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.3ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.32ha Measured GIS Area: 0.34 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"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	Yes	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 7-12
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 9

#### 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	Not more than 50% of the site located in flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

<sup>40</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>41</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	ALP428
Site Name	29 Bedford Road, Northhill
Site Address	29 Bedford Road, Northhill
Settlement	Northhill
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.67ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.5ha Measured GIS Area: 2.5 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"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 40
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 40

#### 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	Not in flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

<sup>41</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>42</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site is remote, located within the countryside approximately 1km from Northhill
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

<sup>42</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )



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

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP003</b>
Site Name	The Paddock Sand Lane, Northhill
Site Address	Field to the east end of Sand lane, Northhill
Settlement	Northhill
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2.21ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 2.21ha Measured GIS Area: 2.25ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 15-25
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 40

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

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

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

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

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

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

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

#### Relationship to Settlement

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

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

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

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP065
Site Name	Land off Biggleswade Road and Pound Close
Site Address	Land off Biggleswade Road and Pound Close, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 3.5ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 3.8ha Measured GIS Area: 1.64ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 90
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 39

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

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

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

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

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

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

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

#### Relationship to Settlement

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 is adjacent to the existing Settlement Envelope of Upper Caldecote. Access does not appear sufficient - it is proposed to be provided through Pound Close. More information would be required.
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
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>47</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>48</sup> ?	A	The form states that none is required although access looks 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	Horticulture. The existing use would not limit the development potential of the site.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Sole landowner
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 identified in the submission

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

<sup>47</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>48</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	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	Not in green belt
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.	Yes or 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"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	Details
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. <sup>49</sup>	Yes/ No/ N/A	Details
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

#### Previously Developed Land

<sup>49</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

16	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>	G	The site is a horticultural nursery but it does not look like there are any permanent structures on the land. Consider the majority is greenfield
<b>Community</b>			
17	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Designated area
18	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No known consultation
19	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	There would perhaps be a minor loss of jobs associated with the horticultural use
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
20	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	5.57%
21	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	G	3.96%
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
22	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	None
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
23	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	A	This is a backland site accessed through an existing small development.
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?	R	40% grade 1, 60% grade 2

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

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

### Transport and Access to Services

<b>25</b>	<b>Facilities and services</b> Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.  Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately		
<b>25a</b>	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Yes
<b>25b</b>	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Children go to middle schools in Biggleswade
<b>25c</b>	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Children go to the Upper School in Biggleswade
<b>25d</b>	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	R	No
<b>26</b>	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	A	Upper Caldecote has convenience stores one of which contains a post office
<b>27</b>	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	R	Over 800m from the site
<b>28</b>	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1,200m from the site

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>		
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	R	Upper Caldecote does have direct access onto the A1 but it is unclear from the submission how this site will be accessed from Pound Close/Bedford Road
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Lower school may require some additional land for expansion, some existing capacity at middle and upper school.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Commitments required
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	A	OW present, JFlow modelling required to confirm flood risk
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	A	Concerns regarding precedent for backland development and loss of market gardening context for this agricultural village. Some scope if set within strong integrating landscape to mitigate views from the north.



<b>37</b>	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	H = G A = G	Sensitive but possible Site is considered to have low archaeological potential.
<b>38</b>	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	G	NIA Opportunities for enhancement
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	G	On edges of Greensand Ridge NIA
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	A	Within Mineral Safeguarding Area
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		NA
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**The site is to be considered further for assessment.**

- **There are no major constraints on site.**
- **Mitigation will be required to soften the impact on the landscape from developing the site.**
- **Access needs to be investigated 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

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

<b>44</b>	Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?		The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential property figures between 2013 and
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		<p>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"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>	0 to 5 years
46	What is the indicative build out time of the site?	The Case Study Sites outlined within the Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that after the site has received detailed planning permission a single housebuilder would likely take one year to 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

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## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>50</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP205</b>
Site Name	Woodside Caravan Park
Site Address	Woodside Caravan Park, Thorncote Road, Hatch
Settlement	Hatch
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 2ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 3ha Measured GIS Area: 6.2ha
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"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  10
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  54

#### 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	More than 50% of the site falls within the flood zone.
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not at risk from surface water flooding

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

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	There are no nationally significant designations on the site.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	The proposed development is totally clear of AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>50</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

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

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP206</b>
Site Name	The Paddock
Site Address	The Paddock, Land at Village Farm, Thorncote Green, Sandy
Settlement	Thorncote (Northhill Parish)
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.35ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.4ha Measured GIS Area: 0.27ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	Yes	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 1-2
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 8

#### 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	Not in flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

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

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>52</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP207</b>
Site Name	Land at Thorncote Road, Northill
Site Address	Land at Thorncote Road, Northill
Settlement	Northill
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.75ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.75ha Measured GIS Area: 0.86 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

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 8-10
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 18

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

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

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

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

<sup>52</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>53</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	This is a large infill site which could continue the linear pattern of development along Thorncote Road
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
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>54</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>55</sup> ?	G	Access improvement required
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Agricultural Land The existing use would not limit the development potential of the site
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Sole landowner
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
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

<sup>53</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>54</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>55</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

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

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

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	Not in green belt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	Details
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	Details
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>56</sup>	Yes/ No/ N/A	Details
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

#### Previously Developed Land

<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> </ul>	R	100% greenfield
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<sup>56</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>Community</b>			
<b>17</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Designated area
<b>18</b>	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	Unknown
<b>19</b>	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
<b>20</b>	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	5.57% across the parish of Northill
<b>21</b>	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	G	3.96% across the parish of Northill
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
<b>22</b>	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	No known physical constraints
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
<b>23</b>	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	G	This development has the potential to continue the linear pattern of development along Thorncote Road
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
<b>24</b>	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>	R	100% grade 3. It is unknown whether it is Grade 3a or Grade 3b

**STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT**

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

**Transport and Access to Services**

<b>25</b>	<b>Facilities and services</b> Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.  Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately		
<b>25a</b>	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Yes
<b>25b</b>	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Other catchment school available
<b>25c</b>	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Other catchment school available
<b>25d</b>	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	R	No. The nearest GPs are in Sandy and Biggleswade
<b>26</b>	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	R	None
<b>27</b>	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	G	299m from bus stop
<b>28</b>	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1,200m
<b>29</b>	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	A	The site has a frontage onto

			Thorncote Road but it is poorly related in terms of accessibility to the wider road network.
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Lower school may require some additional land for expansion, some existing capacity at middle and upper school.
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Commitments required
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No assessment required (G)</li> <li>Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	R	The site contains a high number of mature trees and boundary enclosure. Hedgerow enclosure beside the lane is important, also open land maintains views to Church. Field provides agricultural context in village.
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of	H = G A = G	Sensitive but possible The site is considered to have low archaeological potential.

	these assets?		
<b>38</b>	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	G	Buffer existing habitats, opportunities for enhancement
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A	Adjacent to Greensand Ridge Walk. Within Greensand NIA.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		NA
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

Site is to be considered further.

- Mitigation will be required to protect the mature trees and boundary enclosure.
- To preserve the views from the site to the Church, careful design will be required.
- It is considered that the site will not have a detrimental impact on the settlement pattern as it continues the linear pattern of 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.

<b>Viability</b>			
<b>43</b>	Referring to the Viability Assessment undertaken by consultants, is the probability of the site being viable high, medium or low? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value</li> <li>• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value</li> <li>• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value</li> </ul>	G	The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that residual value of development in this value area and at this scale would exceed both the upper and lower benchmark land values and as such the report indicates that such development would likely be viable.
<b>Achievability</b>			
<b>44</b>	Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?		The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential property figures between 2013 and 2016. The housing market within Central Bedfordshire has seen significant increases in residential

		<p>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"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>	<p>Within 0-5 years</p>
46	<p>What is the indicative build out time of the site?</p>	<p>1 year</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 build out this site.</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

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## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>57</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP216</b>
Site Name	Land at Thorncote Road, Hatch
Site Address	Land at Thorncote Road, Hatch
Settlement	Hatch
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.4ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.4ha Measured GIS Area: 0.74
Proposed Use	Residential housing (80-100% affordable)
Any other information	This proposal could be considered as a rural exception scheme

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	no	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:8-10
			Number of proposed dwellings  9

#### 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	Not in flood zone 2
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

<sup>57</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

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

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP263</b>
Site Name	Land south of Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Site Address	Land south of Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 21.35 acres Submitted Whole Site Area: 21.35 acres Measured GIS Area: 8.78 ha
Proposed Use	Residential development
Any other information	Similar land parcel to NLP431

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 160
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 157

#### 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	Not more than 50% in Floodzone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

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



### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

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

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	The proposed development could form an extension to Upper Caldecote in the south. There are no physical constraints that separate it from the settlement. the site is large in scale and as such a smaller portion would be considered more 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
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>60</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>61</sup> ?	A	Further information required
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	The land is currently in vacant agricultural use and should not limit the development.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	A	There is ongoing discussion between the landowners to ensure that all land owners are intent on developing the site.
11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development?	A	There could potentially be ownership problems as it appears

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

<sup>60</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>61</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

	If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?		that not all landowners are signed up.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	G	There no planning applications for this area of land.
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	Not in green belt
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.	Yes or 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"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	Details
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. <sup>62</sup>	Yes/ No/ N/A	Details
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

<sup>62</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

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"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>	R	Arable use
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**Community**

17	<p><b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?</p>	No	Area designated
18	<p><b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.</p>	No	No known community consultation
19	<p><b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)</p>	No	No impact on sustainability

**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"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <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: 933 Number of houses in 2016: 985 Percentage growth: 5.57%</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"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <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	If all the outstanding permissions were to be completed this would be an additional 3.96% growth.

**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	Flat field for agricultural with no physical constraints
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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 form?</p>	A	Although there is development on the eastern side of the village, the proposed site is considered large in scale in comparison to Upper Caldecote.
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**Agricultural Land Quality**

24	Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>	R	Grade 1
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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	<b>Facilities and services</b> Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.  Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately		
25a	Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Within settlement
25b	Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Adjoining settlement
25c	Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Adjoining settlement
25d	Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	A	Adjoining settlement
26	What retail provision does the settlement offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	R	None
27	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>	R	Over 800m

28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1200m
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Yes – Biggleswade Road
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Additional places likely to be required
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Small lower school unlikely to manage increase in pupils from development, deficit in middle and upper school forecast has already been identified – financial contributions across all phases
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	G	Site is at limited risk of surface water flooding, assessment is unlikely to be required
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Woodlands Nursery / Various Commercial
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	A	Scope for growth proportionate to existing development if associated with GI and wooded screen to open vale landscape to south..
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b>	G	Site is considered to have low

	What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?		archaeological potential. No objection to allocation
38	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A/G	Grade 1 agric land, potential impact on farmland species
39	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	G	No parish GI plan. Not within District GI network. No loss of LS open space.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	A	Site is within MSA
<b>Planning History</b>			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		NA
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**The site is to be considered further for development.**

- **The site could form an extension to Upper Caldecote, developing on the southern side of Biggleswade Road. There is development on the southern side of the road.**
- **A smaller portion of the site would be considered more appropriate for development and would be in proportion to Upper Caldecote and this would relate better to the existing settlement pattern.**
- **The site is located on Grade 1 agricultural land and the site is also located in a mineral safeguarding site.**
- **Upper Caldecote has few facilities and services most of which need to be accessed in the adjoining settlement, namely Biggleswade.**

### STAGE 3 : ACHIEVABILITY

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

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

#### Viability

43	Referring to the Viability Assessment undertaken by consultants, is the probability of the site being viable high, medium or low? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value</li> <li>• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value</li> <li>• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below</li> </ul>	A	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 both the upper and lower benchmark land value and as such
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	benchmark land value	<p>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 considered that this scale of development within this value area may be viable.</p>
<b>Achievability</b>		
44	Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?	<p>Not all land owners signed up to developed. Promotion agreement discussions ongoing</p> <p>The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) is based upon residential</p>

		<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"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>	<p>Deliverable</p> <p>0 to 5 years</p>
46	<p>What is the indicative build out time of the site?</p>	<p>Over a five year period.</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 site at a rate of 50 dwellings per annum thereafter.</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

DRAFT

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>63</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP308</b>
Site Name	Land accessed from Caldecote Road
Site Address	Land accessed from Caldecote Road, Ickwell
Settlement	Ickwell
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 5.3? Submitted Whole Site Area: Measured GIS Area: 10.87ha
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

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:40
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 195

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

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

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

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

<sup>63</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>64</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	The proposed development does form an extension to Ickwell. Although it is connected to Ickwell the site extends southwards away from the settlement. The scale of the site is large in comparison to 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	No coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>65</sup>.

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>66</sup> ?	G	Can be provided on site
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 land is currently in vacant agricultural use and should not limit the development.
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	The land owners 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	No known legal or ownership problems that could delay development.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for	G	There no planning applications for

<sup>64</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

<sup>65</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>66</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

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

### STAGE 1E ASSESSMENT

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

#### Greenbelt

<b>13</b>	Is the site located within the Green Belt?	No	Not in green belt
<b>14</b>	If answer to question 13 is yes, then does the site lie within one of the parcels which have been identified in the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Green Belt Study as making only a relatively weak, weak, or no contribution? If yes, site progresses through to Stage 2.	Yes or No	Details
<b>15a</b>	Does the site have all of the following merits that may outweigh the harm to the Green Belt and which may contribute to identification of exceptional circumstances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	Details
<b>15b</b>	Sites which have support from the local community as demonstrated through an allocation in an adopted or draft Neighbourhood Plan (that has been subject to Regulation 14 consultation) that do not meet the criteria in question 15a will automatically progress through this stage to be considered further at Stage 2. <sup>67</sup>	Yes/ No/ N/A	Details
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

#### Previously Developed Land

<b>16</b>	Is the site Previously Developed Land in accordance	R	Greenfield
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<sup>67</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

	with the NPPF definition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% - 100% (G)</li> <li>• 26 - 75% (A)</li> <li>• 25% - 0% (Greenfield) (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>Community</b>			
17	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Designated area
18	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	No known community consultation
19	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	No impact on sustainability
<b>Cumulative Impact</b>			
20	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	Number of houses in 2006: 933 Number of houses in 2016: 985 Percentage growth: 5.57%
21	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	G	If all the outstanding permissions were to be completed this would be an additional 3.96% growth.
<b>Physical Constraints</b>			
22	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	Flat field for agricultural with no physical constraints
<b>Relationship to Settlement</b>			
23	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural form?	A	The site would result in development southwards. The scale is proportionately large in comparison to the existing settlement and could have an impact on the settlement's built form.
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
24	Would the development impact on high quality	A	Grade 3

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

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

### Transport and Access to Services

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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>		
<b>29</b>	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Yes – Upper Caldecote Road
<b>School Capacity</b>			
<b>30</b>	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Additional places likely to be required
<b>31</b>	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Small lower school unlikely to manage increase in pupils from development, deficit in middle and upper school forecast has already been identified – financial contributions across all phases
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
<b>32</b>	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
<b>33</b>	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	R	Level 2 assessment required
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
<b>34</b>	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
<b>35</b>	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	G	No issues
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
<b>36</b>	<b>Landscape character</b> What would the impacts of development be on the landscape character or setting of the area or any designated landscapes? Would there be any direct or indirect harm to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Nature Improvement Area?	R	Would extend development into small scale fields and wooded landscape characteristic of Greensand dipslope.
<b>37</b>	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any	A	Site is considered to have low archaeological potential, but lies

	heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?		within the setting of a Scheduled Monument and Registered Park.
<b>38</b>	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A/R	Bordered by mature tree line to east, in NIA, would need extensive buffering to achieve net gain.
<b>39</b>	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	A	Significant flood risk issue? Adjacent to woodland – would need buffering. Within NIA and district GI network. No loss of LS open space
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
<b>40</b>	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	G	No issues
<b>Planning History</b>			
<b>41</b>	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		NA
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes/ No

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

**Site it not to be considered further for assessment.**

- There are no primary constraints to development on the site.
- Due to the floodrisk, any further development would require further flood risk assessment.
- There are also landscape and ecological concerns as development would extend into small scale fields characteristic of the Greensand dipslope.
- Development would also have an ecological impact in the NIA and the site would require extensive buffering as a result.
- Although it could be an extension to Ickwell, the site is disproportionately large in comparison to the village and would have an adverse impact on the character of the village.



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

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP332</b>
Site Name	Land adjacent to A1
Site Address	Hill Lane, Biggleswade, SG18 9AY
Settlement	Northill
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 10-16.72 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 16.72 ha Measured GIS Area: 16.83ha
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"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  200
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  180

#### 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	Just less than 50% is located within floodzone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Site not at risk from surface water flooding

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

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	None exist within the confines of the proposed development.
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	The proposed development is totally clear of AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

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

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

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

**Relationship to Settlement**

<b>6</b>	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints(for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The proposed development is separated from the main settlement of Biggleswade by the A1, and is not in close proximity to Upper Caldecote. It therefore does not form a logical extension to either settlement.
<b>7</b>	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	Does not cause coalescence.
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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

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

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP350</b>
Site Name	North East Side of Bedford Road, Northhill
Site Address	North East Side of Bedford Road, Northhill
Settlement	Northhill
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.49 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.49 ha Measured GIS Area: 0.54
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	ALP248

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 10
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 11

#### 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	Not in flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

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

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

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

**Relationship to Settlement**

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

**STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not able to meet their critical infrastructure needs<sup>72</sup>.

**Critical Infrastructure**

<b>8</b>	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>73</sup> ?	G	No needs
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**

<b>9</b>	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Mown field and residential The existing use would not limit the development potential of the site
<b>10</b>	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Yes
<b>11</b>	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	A	Ownership issues can be addressed.
<b>12</b>	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	R	No. Application registered for 9 dwellings. – Application approved
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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

<sup>72</sup> Critical infrastructure is that which has been identified as infrastructure that must happen to enable physical development. These infrastructure items are often known as 'blockers' or 'showstoppers', and are most common in relation to transport and utilities infrastructure. Failure to provide these pieces of infrastructure could result in significant delays in the delivery of development.

<sup>73</sup> This is an assessment based on the information known at this stage, a full assessment of infrastructure requirements will be undertaken before any sites are allocated.

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>74</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP431
Site Name	Land south of Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Site Address	Land south of Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Northill
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 6.7 ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 6.7ha Measured GIS Area: 6.7 ha
Proposed Use	Residential development
Any other information	See NLP263

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  190  Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  120
<b>Flood Risk</b> (All sites which reach Stage 2 will be subject to the Sequential Test)			
<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	No	Not with in the boundaries of the proposed development or in the immediate area.
<b>3</b>	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not at risk from surface water flooding
<b>Nationally significant designations</b> (All sites which reach Stage 2 be subject to detailed assessment)			
<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	There are no nationally significant designations on the site.
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	The proposed development is totally clear of AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

<sup>74</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>75</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

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

<sup>75</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>76</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP441</b>
Site Name	Land at Grange Lane
Site Address	Land at Grange Lane, Lower Caldecote
Settlement	Lower Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.28ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.28ha Measured GIS Area: 0.30ha
Proposed Use	Residential dwelling houses or Gypsy and Traveller Pitches
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

<b>1</b>	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	Yes	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 8
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 8

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

<b>2</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located in Flood Zone 2 or 3?	no	
<b>3</b>	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)

<b>4</b>	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	Details on designations and coverage
<b>5</b>	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	Details on coverage
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>76</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

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

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP477
Site Name	Land at Water Lane
Site Address	Land at Water Lane, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 1.44ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 1.44ha Measured GIS Area: 1.75ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	See ALP396 Planning permission approved at DMC

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>• 0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>• 2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma:  40-50
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology:  35

#### 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	Not more than 50% located in flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not more than 50% at risk from surface water flooding

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

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	No nationally significant designations
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

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



### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>78</sup>.

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	G	This proposal adjoins the existing Settlement Envelope of Upper Caldecote and is accessed from The Pastures
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
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

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

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>80</sup> ?	G	None required
Does the site continue to next stage?			yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Agricultural land. The existing use will not limit the development potential of the site
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	Yes
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	The land is in multiple ownership but all landowners intend to develop the site.
12	Does the site already have planning permission for the proposed use? If yes, then score as Red because it's not eligible for allocation.	R	Resolution to grant planning permission for 40 dwellings
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

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

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

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

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

Site details	
Reference Number	<b>NLP478</b>
Site Name	The Pound
Site Address	The Pound, Ickwell Road/Hitchin Road, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 3.09ha Submitted Whole Site Area: 3.09ha Measured GIS Area: 3.30ha
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	See ALP398

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 115
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 56

#### 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	Not in flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not at risk from surface water flooding

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

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

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

### STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT

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

#### Relationship to Settlement

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	A	This site is adjacent to the Settlement Envelopes but is physically separated from the main village by Hitchin Road (which is a busy main road) to the east and Ickwell Road to the south. There are however dwellings opposite and Ickwell Road is a relatively quiet rural road. It is felt that safe pedestrian crossing points would need to be provided to ensure this site is well integrated.
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
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1C ASSESSMENT

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

#### Critical Infrastructure

8	Can the site meet the <b>critical infrastructure requirements that will enable delivery</b> <sup>84</sup> ?	G	None identified
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 1D ASSESSMENT

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

#### Availability

9	What is the existing use of the site? Would the existing use limit the development potential?	G	Agricultural land
10	Is the land controlled by a developer or land owner who has expressed an intention to develop the site?	G	All land owners are intent on developing the site

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

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

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

11	Are there any legal or ownership problems that could delay or prevent development? If Yes, then can these be issues be realistically overcome?	A	There are multiple land owners but they are part of one family
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	Not in green belt
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.	Yes or 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"> <li>• Adjoining settlement has at least 3 of the following key local services - convenience shop, lower school, middle school, upper school, village hall, GP surgery, post office, library (use settlement audit)</li> <li>• Site makes a strong contribution to housing need (100 plus homes) within the Luton HMA</li> <li>• Site is in or directly adjacent to a settlement that has a mainline rail station or direct access (junction) to the strategic road network (A road or motorway)</li> </ul> Sites in Green Belt other than those covered by 14 and 15b that cannot meet these criteria, will not progress any further in this assessment of suitability.*	Yes or No	Details
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. <sup>85</sup>	Yes/ No/ N/A	Details
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 : SUITABILITY (DETAILED ASSESSMENT)

#### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

<sup>85</sup> Draft Neighbourhood Plan allocations in Green Belt that are proposed after this site assessment phase has concluded, may still be considered for allocation.

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

**Previously Developed Land**

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

<b>17</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Planning (only applicable in designated areas)</b> Is the site identified as a housing allocation in an emerging Neighbourhood Plan?	No	Designated area
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<b>18</b>	<b>Community Consultation</b> Has any community consultation taken place? If yes, provide brief details on the form this consultation took and any overall community response.	No	None
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<b>19</b>	<b>Sustainability of Settlement</b> Would this proposal impact on the sustainability of the settlement through the loss of services and facilities (for example, employment, retail, public house etc)	No	None identified
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**Cumulative Impact**

<b>20</b>	Considering housing completions over the past 10 years, what has been the level of housing growth in the parish? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of completions over the last ten years as a percentage of the dwellings in April 2006 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	A	5.57%
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<b>21</b>	What level of housing growth would there be if all the outstanding permissions (as of April 2016) were to be completed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5% growth (G)</li> <li>• 5% to 20% growth (A)</li> <li>• More than 20% growth (R)</li> </ul> <i>This is calculated by working out the total number of outstanding permissions as of April 1st 2016 as percentage of the total number of dwellings in April 2016 (as calculated using census and completions data).</i>	G	3.96%
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**Physical Constraints**

<b>22</b>	Are there any physical constraints or permanent features that affect the site's developability? For example pylons, gas works, sewage treatment works, topography or wind turbines.	G	None
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**Relationship to Settlement**

<b>23</b>	Would development of the site be complementary to the existing settlement pattern, and would it have an adverse impact on any historic, unique or distinctive characteristics of the settlement's built or natural	A	Hitchin Road is mostly characterised by a linear pattern of development . but there are small estate type developments in other
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	form?		parts of Upper Caldecote. This site appears separated from the main part of upper Caldecote but as mentioned above there are dwellings opposite.
<b>Agricultural Land Quality</b>			
<b>24</b>	<p>Would the development impact on high quality agricultural land?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% or more in non-agricultural land (G)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 3b, 4 or 5 (A)</li> <li>• 50% or more in Grade 1, 2 or 3a (R)</li> </ul>	R	The majority of the site is grade 1 while the rest is grade 2

## STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

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

### Transport and Access to Services

<b>25</b>	<p><b>Facilities and services</b></p> <p>Question 26 considers the suitability and sustainability of the site for housing. It links to the Council's Settlement Hierarchy Audit.</p> <p>Issues relating to capacity are assessed separately</p>		
<b>25a</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a Primary/Lower school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	G	Within settlement
<b>25b</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a Middle school (if applicable)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Adjoining settlement
<b>25c</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a Secondary/ Upper school?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Other catchment school available (A)</li> </ul>	A	Adjoining settlement
<b>25d</b>	<p>Does the settlement have a GPs surgery or medical centre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in the settlement (G)</li> <li>• Yes, proposed as part of the development (G)</li> <li>• No, but an adjoining settlement does (A)</li> <li>• Not in the settlement or an adjoining settlement (R)</li> </ul>	A	Adjoining settlement
<b>26</b>	<p>What retail provision does the settlement offer?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Centre/ Supermarket (G)</li> <li>• Convenience Store / Post Office / Newsagent (A)</li> <li>• None (R)</li> </ul>	R	None
<b>27</b>	Distance to bus stops with a frequent service (at least hourly at peak times):	R	Over 800m

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 400m (G)</li> <li>• 400m-800m (A)</li> <li>• Over 800m (R)</li> <li>• OR submission form stated that improved public transport facilities could be provided as part of the development (G)</li> </ul>		
28	Distance to nearest train station: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 800m (G)</li> <li>• 800m-1200m (A)</li> <li>• Over 1200m (R)</li> </ul>	R	Over 1200m
29	Is the site accessible from the existing road network?	G	Yes – Hitchin Road
<b>School Capacity</b>			
30	Do the local schools have capacity at all tiers?	A	Additional places likely to be required
31	If not, has a commitment been made to address this?	A	Small lower school unlikely to manage increase in pupils from development, deficit in middle and upper school forecast has already been identified – financial contributions across all phases
<b>Water Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Broadband Infrastructure will be assessed at a later stage)</b>			
32	Is there the capacity to provide all required infrastructure for waste water and potable water?	R/A/G	Water utilities companies have a statutory duty to supply water and waste water infrastructure to new development sites and a lack of available capacity does not prevent future development. Any infrastructure upgrades required will depend on the quantum and location of growth falling within each catchment area. Whilst the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (April 2017) identifies the current capacity of existing water infrastructure, a Stage 2 study will be prepared to test the cumulative effect of sites that have been shortlisted for allocation in the Local Plan and identify the nature and timing of any upgrades required.
<b>Drainage and Flooding (All sites subject to Sequential Test)</b>			
33	What is the conclusion of the sequential approach to site allocations, in regards to flood risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No assessment required (G)</li> <li>• Consider Further Assessment (A)</li> <li>• Further Assessment Required (R)</li> </ul>	A	OW present, JFlow modelling required to confirm flood risk
<b>Environmental Health</b>			
34	<b>Contamination</b> Are there any contamination constraints on site and will there be any remediation required?	R/A/G	Awaiting comments
35	<b>Adjoining uses</b> Would any adjoining uses have the potential to cause conflict with the proposed use? (for example; noise and smell)	A	Road traffic
<b>Environmental Constraints</b>			
36	<b>Landscape character</b>	R	Not suitable for development – part

	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?		of extensive open agricultural landscape – wide ranging views characteristic; no context to expand built form.
37	<b>Heritage/ Archaeology</b> What would the impacts of development be on any heritage assets and their setting? Are there any opportunities for enhancement of these assets?	G	Site is considered to have low archaeological potential. No objection to allocation
38	<b>Ecological Assets</b> What would the impacts of development be on any biological, geological or ecological assets and are there any opportunities for their enhancement?	A	Grade 1 agric land in NIA, potential for ecological enhancements
39	<b>Open space/leisure and GI assets</b> Are there any potential conflicts with open space, leisure designations or Rights of Way? Is there capacity to provide the required levels of open space and green infrastructure?	G	No parish GI plan. Not within District GI network. No loss of LS open space.
<b>Minerals and Waste</b>			
40	What would the impacts of development be on safeguarded minerals and waste sites, including mineral safeguarding sites?	A	Site is within MSA
<b>Planning History</b>			
41	What is the sites planning history? (For example planning applications and submissions to previous Allocations Plans)		No relevant planning history
Does the site continue to next stage?			Yes

### STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

Is the site suitable for the proposed development?

The site can be considered for further assessment.

- The site could form an extension to Upper Caldecote, developing on the north western side of the cross roads.
- There is development on the other three corners of the cross roads. A smaller portion of the site would be considered more suitable for development and this would relate better to the existing settlement pattern.
- The site is located on Grade 1 agricultural land.
- There are landscape concerns with development on this site and the impact that this would have on views into the agricultural landscape. This would require mitigation to maintain and conserve these views.
- The site is also located in a mineral safeguarding site.
- Upper Caldecote has few facilities and services most of which need to be accessed in the adjoining settlement, namely Biggleswade.

### 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.



<b>Viability</b>			
<b>43</b>	Referring to the Viability Assessment undertaken by consultants, is the probability of the site being viable high, medium or low? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High (G) Benchmark land value comfortably exceeded by likely residual value</li> <li>• Low (A) Marginal viability, with likely residual land value close to benchmark land value</li> <li>• Very Low (R) Likely residual value well below benchmark land value</li> </ul>	G	The Council's Residential Development Viability Report (Feb 2017) indicates that residual value of development in this value area and at this scale would exceed both the upper and lower benchmark land values and as such the report indicates that such development would likely be viable.
<b>Achievability</b>			
<b>44</b>	Are there any market factors which would affect deliverability?		<p>None – sole land owner</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>
<b>45</b>	When can the scheme realistically commence delivery? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 to 5 years (deliverable)</li> <li>• 6 to 10 years</li> <li>• 11 to 15 years</li> </ul>		<p>Deliverable</p> <p>0 to 5 years</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 to 20 years</li> <li>• Outside Plan Period</li> </ul>		
46	What is the indicative build out time of the site?		<p>Over a two year period.</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 site at a rate of 50 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

## Site Assessment Framework for HOUSING<sup>86</sup>

Site details	
Reference Number	NLP479
Site Name	Graces
Site Address	Graces, Upper Caldecote
Settlement	Upper Caldecote
Size	Submitted Developable Area: 0.9 Submitted Whole Site Area: 0.98 Measured GIS Area: .098
Proposed Use	Residential
Any other information	

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

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

### STAGE 1A ASSESSMENT

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

#### Provisional Site Capacity

1	Is the site likely to accommodate less than 10 dwellings? Work out the number of new homes from site size using density of 30dph and exclude up to 40 % depending on site size of land for infrastructure and services, take into account topography or significant areas of undevelopable land. Site Size Gross to net ratio standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 0.4 hectare 100%</li> <li>0.4 to 2 hectares 80%</li> <li>2 hectares or above 60%</li> </ul> <i>Note: for this calculation use the submitted Developable Area, or the area measured in GIS if this is smaller.</i>	No	Number of proposed dwellings as per proforma: 10-15
			Number of proposed dwellings as per CBC methodology: 23

#### 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	Not in flood zone 2 or 3
3	Is more than 50% of the site at risk from surface water flooding?	No	Not at risk from surface water flooding

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

4	Is more than 50% of the site covered by nationally significant designations? These are: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens.	No	No designations
5	Is more than 50% of the site located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?	No	No AONB
Does the site continue to next stage?			yes

<sup>86</sup> Employment sites and Gypsy and Traveller sites will be assessed using separate bespoke site assessment criteria.

**STAGE 1B ASSESSMENT**

This stage of the assessment rules out sites that are not well related to existing settlements but are of an insufficient size to be self contained. It also rules out sites which would cause coalescence of existing towns or villages. For the purposes of this assessment, a self-contained site is defined as a site which will provide 1,500 homes or more<sup>87</sup>.

**Relationship to Settlement**

6	For sites that are not of a sufficient scale to be self-contained, is the site a logical extension to the settlement or are there any major physical constraints (for example A roads, rivers or railways) that separate it from the main settlement?	R	The site is adjacent to the Settlement Envelope. Access to this site can only be achieved via a track which cuts through the Village Green which is identified as an Important Open Space. As such it is not considered to be a logical extension.
7	Does the site cause coalescence between an existing village or town and another existing village or town? If yes, then grade as Amber if the site would be able to provide appropriate buffers or green wedges to mitigate this, or Red if it would not be possible for appropriate buffers to be provided leaving a reasonable developable area based on the individual context of the site.	G	No coalescence
Does the site continue to next stage?			No

<sup>87</sup> The figure of 1,500 homes has been taken from the Government Publication 'Locally-Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities'. This defines the eligibility criteria for Garden Villages as standalone settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes. ( see [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508205/Locally-led\\_garden\\_villages\\_towns\\_and\\_cities.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508205/Locally-led_garden_villages_towns_and_cities.pdf) )



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