

# Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan

Scoping Report

Bredfield Parish Council

12 March 2018

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## Revision History

Revision	Revision date	Details	Authorized	Name	Position
V1.0	14 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Draft for client comment	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Nick Chisholm-Batten	Associate
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**LEGEND**

Bredfield Neighbourhood  
Plan Area



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**BREDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

Project Title  
**SCOPING REPORT FOR THE  
STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSESSMENT OF THE BREDFIELD  
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

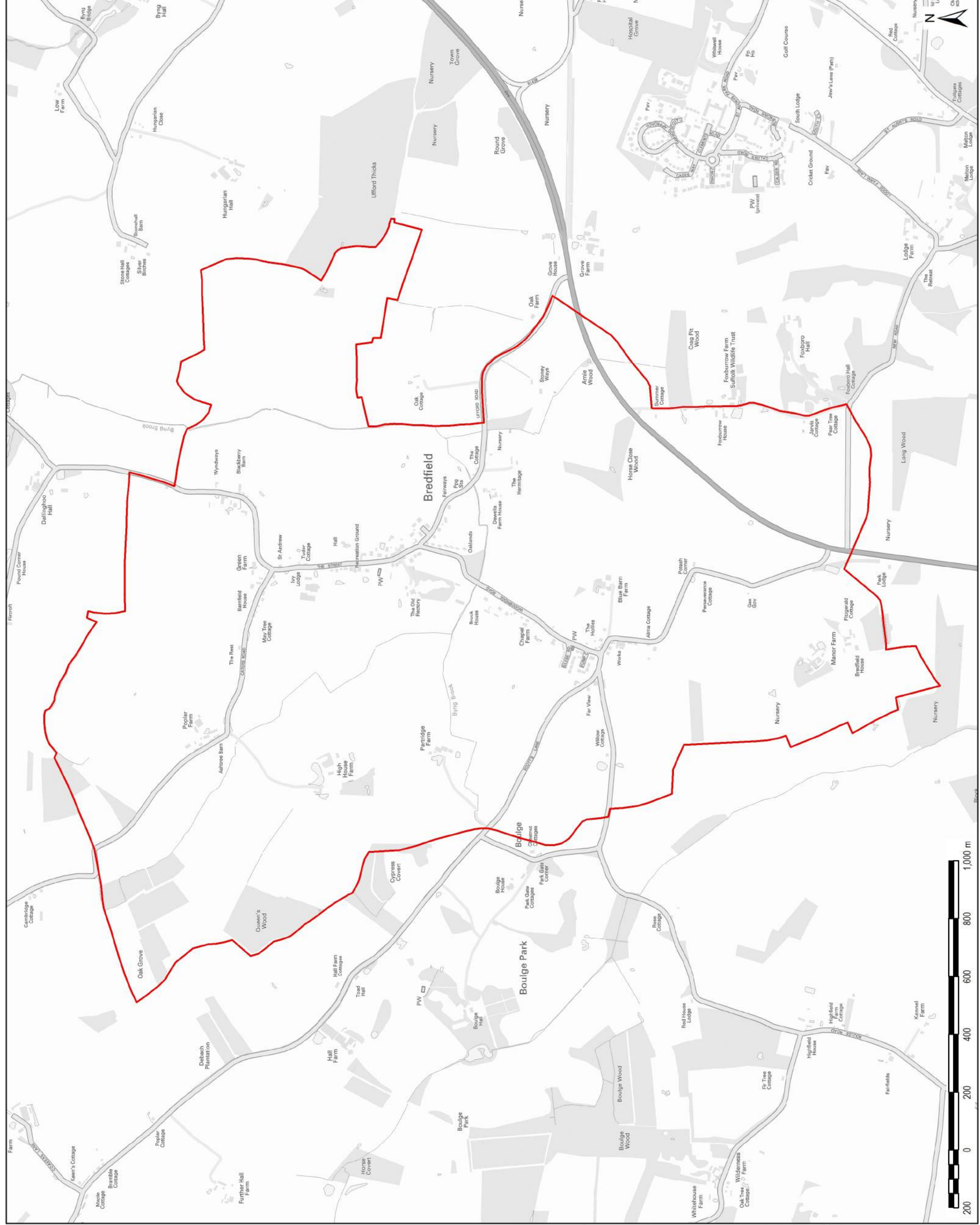
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**FIGURE 1.1**  
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**01**



# 1. Introduction

## Background

AECOM has been commissioned to undertake an independent Strategic Environmental Assessment in support of Bredfield Parish's emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

The Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan is currently being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of Suffolk Coastal District Council's emerging Local Plan Review. It is currently anticipated that the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to Suffolk Coastal District Council in 2018.

Key information relating to the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan is presented in Table 1.1.

**Table 1.1: Key facts relating to Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan**

Name of Responsible Authority	Bredfield Parish Council
Title of Plan	Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan
Subject	Neighbourhood planning
Purpose	<p>The Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The plan will be in general conformity with Suffolk Coastal District Council's Local Plan and the emerging Suffolk Coastal District Local Plan Review.</p> <p>The Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan will be used to guide and shape development within the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan area.</p>
Timescale	2018 - 2036
Area covered by the plan	The Neighbourhood Plan area covers the parish of Bredfield in Suffolk (Figure 1.1)
Summary of content	The Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan will set out a vision, strategy and range of policies for the Neighbourhood Plan area.
Plan contact point	<p>David Hepper, Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan Group</p> <p>Email address: davidhpper99@gmail.com</p>

## Relationship with Suffolk Coastal Planning Policy

The Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the emerging Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Review. Local Plans seek to give communities a solid framework within which appropriate community-led planning policy documents, including Neighbourhood Plans, can be brought forward. Neighbourhood Plans are required to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan and can develop policies and proposals to address local place-based issues. In this way it is intended for the Local Plan Review to provide a clear overall strategic direction for development in Suffolk Coastal District, whilst enabling finer detail to be determined through the neighbourhood planning process where appropriate.

The emerging Suffolk Coastal District Local Plan will provide a framework for development to 2036 and will replace the following adopted development plan documents:

- Adopted Core Strategy (2013)
- Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies Development Plan Document (SAASP DPD) (2017)
- Felixstowe Peninsula Area Action Plan (2017)

It is anticipated that the plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination in autumn of 2018 ahead of adoption by Suffolk Coastal District Council in winter 2019.

Bredfield is identified as a 'Local Service Centre' in the adopted Suffolk Coastal Core Strategy (2013) which is tier 4 of 6 in the District's settlement hierarchy<sup>1</sup>.

The adopted SAASP DPD (2017) includes an allocation of 10 new dwellings in Bredfield by the end of the plan period in 2027. This is a trend-based target based on permissions granted between 2010 and 2015. The SAASP DPD identifies that the Neighbourhood Plan will "need to allocate land for new housing development" to deliver this growth<sup>2</sup>.

## SEA Explained

The Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan has been screened in by Suffolk Coastal District Council as requiring a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). SEA is a mechanism for considering and communicating the potential impacts of an emerging plan, and potential alternatives in terms of key environmental issues. The aim of SEA is to inform and influence the plan-making process with a view to avoiding and mitigating potential negative impacts. Through this approach, the SEA for the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan seeks to maximise the emerging plan's contribution to sustainable development.

SEA is undertaken to meet specific requirements prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations).<sup>3</sup>

Two key procedural requirements of the SEA Regulations are that:

1. When deciding on 'the scope and level of detail of the information' which must be included in the Environmental Report there is a consultation with nationally designated authorities concerned with environmental issues; and
2. A report (the 'Environmental Report') is published for consultation alongside the Draft Plan (i.e the draft Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan) that presents outcomes from the environmental assessment (i.e. discusses 'likely significant effects' that would result from plan implementation) and reasonable alternatives.

## This Scoping Report

This Scoping Report is concerned with item 1 above. It presents a suggested scope for the SEA so that the designated authorities (Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency) can provide timely comment.

## SEA scoping explained

Developing the draft scope for the SEA as presented in this report has involved the following steps:

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<sup>1</sup> Suffolk Coastal District Council, 2013: <http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Planning/Suffolk-Coastal-Local-Plan/Core-Strategy-and-DMP/SCDC-Local-Plan-July-2013.pdf> (page 75) [Last accessed 08/02/18]

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Planning/Suffolk-Coastal-Local-Plan/Site-Allocations-and-Area-Specific-Policies/Adopted-Version-Sites-DPD-January-2017.pdf> (page 23) [Last accessed 08/02/18]

<sup>3</sup> The SEA Regulations implement into UK law EU Directive 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment'



1. Defining the broader context for the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan and associated SEA (i.e. EU, UK Government and local policy and commitments), to summarise the regulatory and legislative landscape;
2. Establishing the baseline for the SEA, (i.e. the current and future situation in the Parish in the absence of the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan, in order to help identify the plan's likely significant effects;
3. Identifying particular problems or opportunities ('issues') that should be a particular focus of the SEA; and
4. Developing a SEA Framework comprising objectives and appraisal questions on the basis of these issues which can then be used to appraise the draft plan.

## Structure of this report

### Key sustainability issues

The outcomes of the scoping elements introduced through steps 1–4 above have been presented under a series of key environmental themes, as follows:

- Air Quality
- Biodiversity
- Climatic Factors (including flood risk)
- Landscape and Historic Environment
- Land, Soil and Water Resources
- Population and Community
- Health and Wellbeing
- Transportation

The selected environmental themes incorporate the 'SEA topics' suggested by Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive<sup>4</sup>. These were refined to reflect a broad understanding of the anticipated scope of plan effects.

It is intended that presenting the scoping information under these themes will help enable the reader to easily locate the information of greatest interest to them. Once agreed (i.e. subsequent to consultation on this Scoping Report), the suggested scope presented under eight themes will provide a methodological 'framework' for the environmental assessment of the draft plan and reasonable alternatives. The discussion of the scoping information each theme is presented in Sections 2 to 9.

### SEA Framework to assess policy proposals

The SEA Framework provides a way in which environmental effects can be defined and subsequently analysed based on standard 'tests'. Each proposal within the emerging Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan will be assessed consistently using the framework.

The SEA objectives and appraisal questions proposed for the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan SEA are presented under each of the themes in Sections 2 to 9.

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<sup>4</sup> The SEA Directive is 'of a procedural nature' (para 9 of the Directive preamble) and does not set out to prescribe particular issues that should and should not be a focus, beyond requiring a focus on 'the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors' [our emphasis]



## 2. Air Quality

### Focus of Theme:

- Air pollution sources
- Air quality hotspots
- Air quality management

### Headline Sustainability Issues

- Air quality in the Neighbourhood Plan area is good, with no significant issues identified.
- There are no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) within the Neighbourhood Plan area. A total of three AQMAs have been declared in Suffolk Coastal District, the closest of which to the Neighbourhood Plan area is around three miles to the south of Bredfield in Woodbridge.
- Housing and employment growth have the potential to increase emissions and reduce air quality in the area. However, as air pollution is at a low baseline and housing growth is likely to be modest the probable effects on air quality are less likely to be significant.

Due to the absence of any significant air quality issues within the Neighbourhood Plan area, **air quality has been scoped out for the purposes of the SEA process.**

### Policy Context

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- 'Planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas is consistent with the local air quality action plan'.
- New and existing developments should be prevented from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of air pollution.

In terms of the local context, Suffolk Coastal District Council is required to monitor air quality across the district under Section 82 of the Environment Act (1995), report regularly to Defra and take action where nationally set levels are likely to be exceeded. Monitoring is undertaken to assess levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), sulphur dioxide, ozone, benzene and particulates. Where exceedances exist, areas are declared as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and local authorities are required to produce an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) to improve air quality in the area.

### Baseline Summary

#### Summary of Current Baseline

As of February 2018, there are no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) within the Neighbourhood Plan area. The nearest AQMA applies to an area of Lime Kiln Road in Woodbridge, approximately 3 miles to the south of the Neighbourhood Plan area. Declared in 2006 for exceedances in nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) the Woodbridge AQMA applies to several houses on the road junction of Lime Kiln Quay Road, The Thoroughfare and St John's Street.

## Summary of Future Baseline

Whilst no significant air quality issues currently exist within the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan area, new employment and or housing provision within the parish have the potential for adverse effects on air quality through increasing traffic flows and associated levels of pollutants such as NO<sub>2</sub>.

The likely area of particular sensitivity to increased traffic flows could be along The Street, Ufford Road and Woodbridge Road as these are the principal roads in and out of the village core. However, the existing baseline for air pollutants is low in Bredfield parish and any increases are not likely to lead to significant air quality issues in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### 3. Biodiversity

#### Focus of Theme:

- Nature conservation designations
- Habitats
- Species
- Geodiversity

#### Headline sustainability issues

- There are no biodiversity sites within the Neighbourhood Plan area which have been designated at a national, European or international level. This includes Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) although parts of the Neighbourhood Plan area fall within SSSI Impact Risk Zones.
- There are also no locally designated sites such as Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites or County Wildlife Sites.
- Although there are no substantial areas of ancient woodland there is a small portion of the Dallinghoo Wield Wood ancient woodland site which lies within in the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary.
- Some limited areas of Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats are present in the Neighbourhood Plan area, specifically Traditional Orchard, Deciduous Woodland and Woodpasture and Parkland.

#### Policy Context

At the European level, the EU Biodiversity Strategy<sup>5</sup> was adopted in May 2011 in order to deliver an established new Europe-wide target to 'halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020'.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- Contribute to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity by minimising impacts and achieving net gains in biodiversity wherever possible.
- Promote the 'preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks' and the 'protection and recovery of priority species'. Plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries.
- Set criteria based policies for the protection of internationally, nationally and locally designated sites, giving weight to their importance not just individually but as a part of a wider ecological network.
- Take account of the effects of climate change in the long term. Adopt proactive strategies to adaptation and manage risks through adaptation measures including green infrastructure (i.e. 'a network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities').
- Plan positively for 'green infrastructure' as part of planning for 'ecological networks'.
- High quality open spaces should be protected or their loss mitigated, unless a lack of need is established.

The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP)<sup>6</sup> sets out the importance of a healthy, functioning natural environment to sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal well-being. It was

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<sup>5</sup> European Commission (2011) Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 [online] available at: <[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/pdf/EP\\_resolution\\_april2012.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/pdf/EP_resolution_april2012.pdf)> [last accessed 30/01/18]

<sup>6</sup> Defra (2012) The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (Natural Environment White Paper) [online] available at:

in part a response to the UK's failure to halt and reverse the decline in biodiversity by 2010 and it signalled a move away from the traditional approach of protecting biodiversity in nature reserves to adopting a landscape approach to protecting and enhancing biodiversity. The NEWP also aims to create a green economy in which economic growth and the health of our natural resources sustain each other and markets, business and Government better reflect the value of nature. It includes commitments to:

- Halt biodiversity loss, support functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks by 2020;
- Establish a new voluntary approach to biodiversity offsetting to be tested in pilot areas;
- Enable partnerships of local authorities, local communities and landowners, the private sector and conservation organisations to establish new Nature Improvement Areas; and
- Address barriers to using green infrastructure to promote sustainable growth.

Reflecting the commitments within the Natural Environment White Paper and the EU Biodiversity Strategy, 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services' aims to "halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people"<sup>7</sup>.

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

There are no European or internationally designated sites within the Neighbourhood Plan area. In terms of national designations there are no SSSIs within the Neighbourhood Plan area itself but parts of the parish fall within the SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) of the Deben Estuary SSSI. New residential development within these IRZs will be required to make a financial contribution towards the emerging Suffolk Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy.

There are no significant areas of ancient woodland within the Neighbourhood Plan area but there is a small portion of the Dallinghoo Wield Wood ancient woodland which falls inside the Bredfield Parish boundary.

### Local Wildlife Sites

There are no locally designated wildlife sites within the Neighbourhood Plan area although the Foxburrow Farm Suffolk Wildlife Trust site is immediately adjacent to the south east.

### Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats

UK BAP priority habitats cover a wide range of semi-natural habitat types. The following Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)<sup>8</sup> priority habitats are located within the Neighbourhood Plan area:

- Two areas of Traditional Orchard, one at Tudor Cottage on The Street and one at Brook House on Woodbridge Road.
- Various areas of Deciduous Woodland throughout the Neighbourhood Plan area with the greatest concentration in the north west.

Figure 3.1 overleaf shows the designated biodiversity sites and BAP priority habitats located within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

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<<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm80/8082/8082.pdf>> last accessed [30/01/18]

<sup>7</sup> DEFRA (2011): 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services', [online] Available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/biodiversity-2020-a-strategy-for-england-s-wildlife-and-ecosystem-services>> last accessed [13/02/18]

<sup>8</sup> MAGIC (2018): 'Interactive Map – Habitats and Species' [online database] available to access via: <<http://www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>> [last accessed 13/02/18]

## Summary of Future Baseline

Habitats and species could potentially face increasing pressure from future development within the Neighbourhood Plan area. Whilst there are only a small number of protective designations constraining the Neighbourhood Plan area development of any kind can have the potential for negative impacts through poor design and location.

Many of the BAP priority habitats within the Neighbourhood Plan area are well away from the village core and are unlikely to be directly affected by development. However, both of the two areas of Traditional Orchard are within the village core and could be more vulnerable. It will be important for future development to have regard for these habitats in particular.

The Deben Estuary SSSI Impact Risk Zones have established mitigation requirements. In the Neighbourhood Plan area the risk to the SSSI from new residential development can be sufficiently mitigated through financial contribution to the emerging Suffolk Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy.






## SEA objectives and appraisal questions

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect and enhance all biodiversity and geological features.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance semi-natural habitats?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance priority habitats, and the habitat of priority species?</li> <li>• Achieve a net gain in biodiversity?</li> <li>• Support enhancements to multifunctional green infrastructure networks?</li> <li>• Support access to, interpretation and understanding of biodiversity and geodiversity?</li> </ul>



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**LEGEND**

-  Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan Area
-  Ancient Woodland
- Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats**
-  Deciduous Woodland
-  Good Quality Semi-improved Grassland
-  Traditional Orchard

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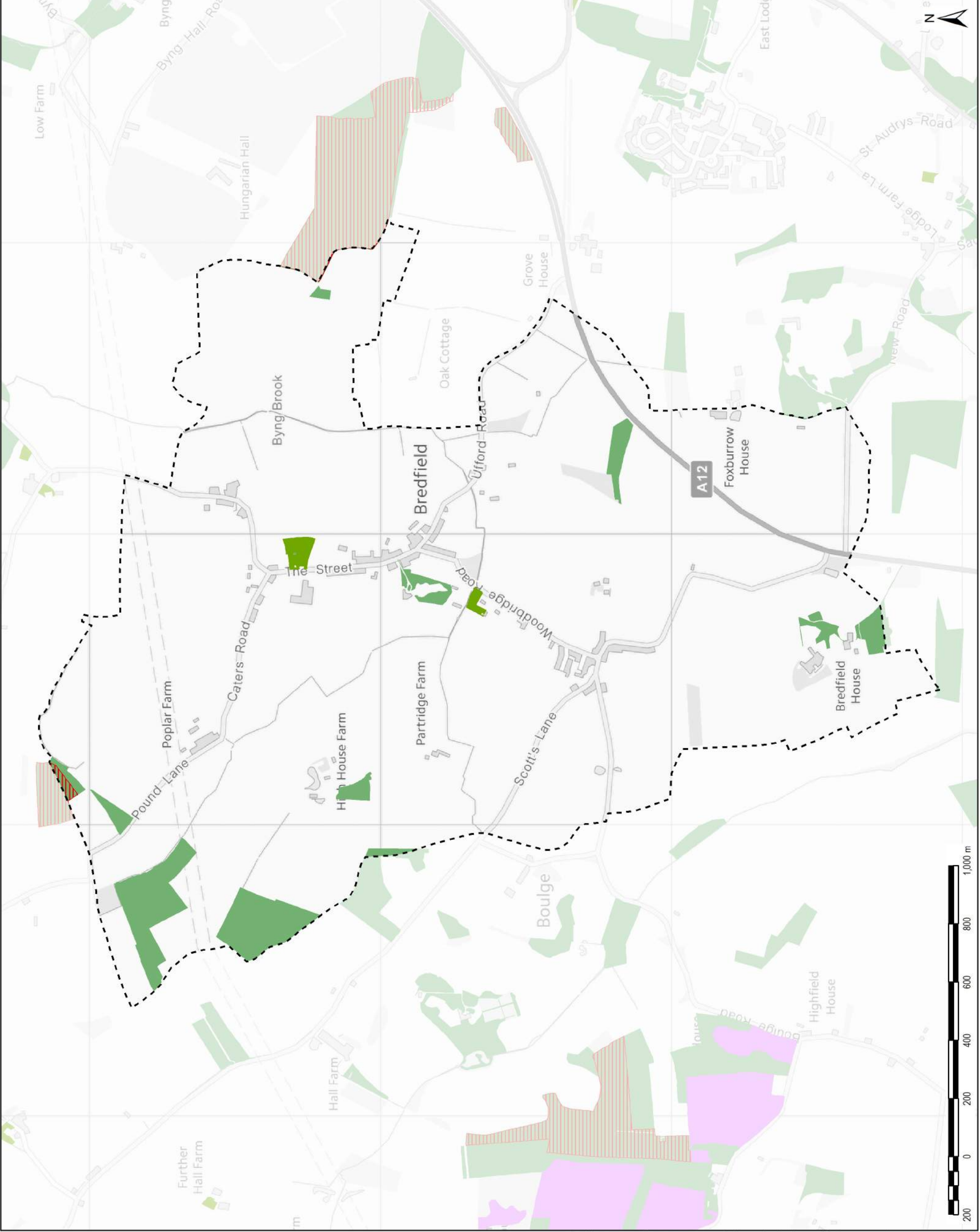
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**FIGURE 3.1**



## 4. Climate Change

### Focus of Theme:

- Contribution to climate change
- Effects of climate change
- Climate change adaptation
- Flood risk

### Headline sustainability issues

- An increase in the built footprint of the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan area (associated with the delivery of new housing) has the potential to increase overall greenhouse gas emissions.
- Most of the Neighbourhood Plan area is not at risk of either fluvial or surface water flooding. However, a very limited area either side of one stretch of Byng Brook falls within Flood Zones 2 and 3 and a more extensive area focussed around a longer stretch of Byng Brook is also risk of surface water flooding.

### Policy context

The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment is published on a 5-yearly cycle in accordance with the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2008. It required the Government to compile an assessment of the risks for the UK arising from climate change, and then to develop an adaptation programme to address those risks and deliver resilience to climate change on the ground. For both the 2012 and the 2017 UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, the Adaptation Sub-Committee commissioned an evidence report to achieve the following:

“Based on the latest understanding of current, and future, climate risks and opportunities, vulnerability and adaptation, what should the priorities be for the next UK National Adaptation Programme?”<sup>9</sup>

The evidence report contains six priority risk areas requiring additional action in the next five years, see below:

1. Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure;
2. Risks to health, well-being and productivity from high temperatures;
3. Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry;
4. Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity;
5. Risks to domestic and international food production and trade; and
6. New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals

The UK Climate Change Act<sup>10</sup> was passed in 2008 and established a framework to develop an economically credible emissions reduction path. It also highlighted the role it would take in contributing to collective action to tackle climate change under the Kyoto Protocol, and more recently as part of the UN-led Paris Agreement.

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<sup>9</sup> DEFRA (2017): ‘UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Report January 2017’, [online] available to download from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-climate-change-risk-assessment-2017> [last accessed 13/02/18]

<sup>10</sup> HM Government (2008): ‘Climate Change Act 2008’, [online] accessible via <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents> [last accessed 13/02/18]



## Baseline summary

### Summary of current baseline

Data from the Department of Energy and Climate Change shows that Suffolk Coastal District has broadly seen higher per capita emissions than the East of England and England as a whole between 2005 and 2015. Whilst this may partly be explained by the presence of the major port facilities at Felixstowe overall the Industrial and Commercial rates of emissions were actually lower in Suffolk Coastal than at regional and national scale with domestic and transport rates of emissions higher. This may reflect that the District has a number of relatively isolated communities with a high level of car dependency. Further data on car ownership can be found in section 9.3.1.

### Contribution to climate change

Table 4.1: Carbon dioxide emissions and sources, plus emissions per capita, 2005-2015<sup>11</sup>

	Industrial and Commercial (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Domestic (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Transport (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Total (t CO <sub>2</sub> )
<b>Suffolk Coastal District</b>				
2005	2.5	2.7	2.3	7.6
2006	2.5	2.7	2.3	7.6
2007	2.3	2.6	2.3	7.2
2008	2.2	2.6	2.2	6.9
2009	2.2	2.4	2.1	6.6
2010	2.0	2.6	2.1	6.6
2011	1.9	2.2	2.0	6.1
2012	2.2	2.4	2.0	6.6
2013	2.1	2.3	2.0	6.3
2014	1.9	1.9	2.1	5.8
2015	1.5	1.8	2.1	5.4
<b>East of England</b>				
2005	2.6	2.5	1.9	6.9
2006	2.5	2.5	1.8	6.9
2007	2.4	2.4	1.8	6.7
2008	2.4	2.4	1.7	6.5

<sup>11</sup> Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (2017) UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005-2015: subset dataset Local Authority CO2 emissions estimates within the scope of influence of Local Authorities 2005-2015 (kt CO2) (available at: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015>> 2005 to 2015 last accessed 31/01/18]

	Industrial and Commercial (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Domestic (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Transport (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Total (t CO <sub>2</sub> )
2009	2.1	2.2	1.6	5.9
2010	2.3	2.3	1.6	6.2
2011	2.0	2.0	1.6	5.6
2012	2.1	2.2	1.5	5.8
2013	2.0	2.1	1.5	5.5
2014	1.6	1.7	1.5	4.9
2015	1.5	1.7	1.5	4.7

### England

2005	3.0	2.5	1.7	7.2
2006	3.0	2.5	1.7	7.1
2007	2.8	2.4	1.7	6.9
2008	2.7	2.4	1.6	6.7
2009	2.4	2.1	1.5	6.1
2010	2.5	2.3	1.5	6.3
2011	2.2	2.0	1.4	5.7
2012	2.4	2.1	1.4	5.9
2013	2.3	2.0	1.4	5.7
2014	1.9	1.7	1.4	5.0
2015	1.7	1.6	1.4	4.8

### Potential effects of climate change

The outcome of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK was released in 2009 by the UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) team<sup>12</sup>. UKCP09 gives climate information for the UK up to the end of this century and projections of future changes to the climate are provided, based on simulations from climate models. Projections are broken down to a regional level across the UK and are shown in probabilistic form, which illustrate the potential range of changes and the level of confidence in each prediction.

As highlighted by the research, the effects of climate change for the East of England by 2050 for a medium emissions scenario<sup>13</sup> are likely to be as follows:

- The central estimate of increase in winter mean temperature is 2.2°C and an increase in summer mean temperature of 2.5°C; and

<sup>12</sup> The data was released on 18th June 2009: See: <<http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/>> [last accessed 14/02/18]

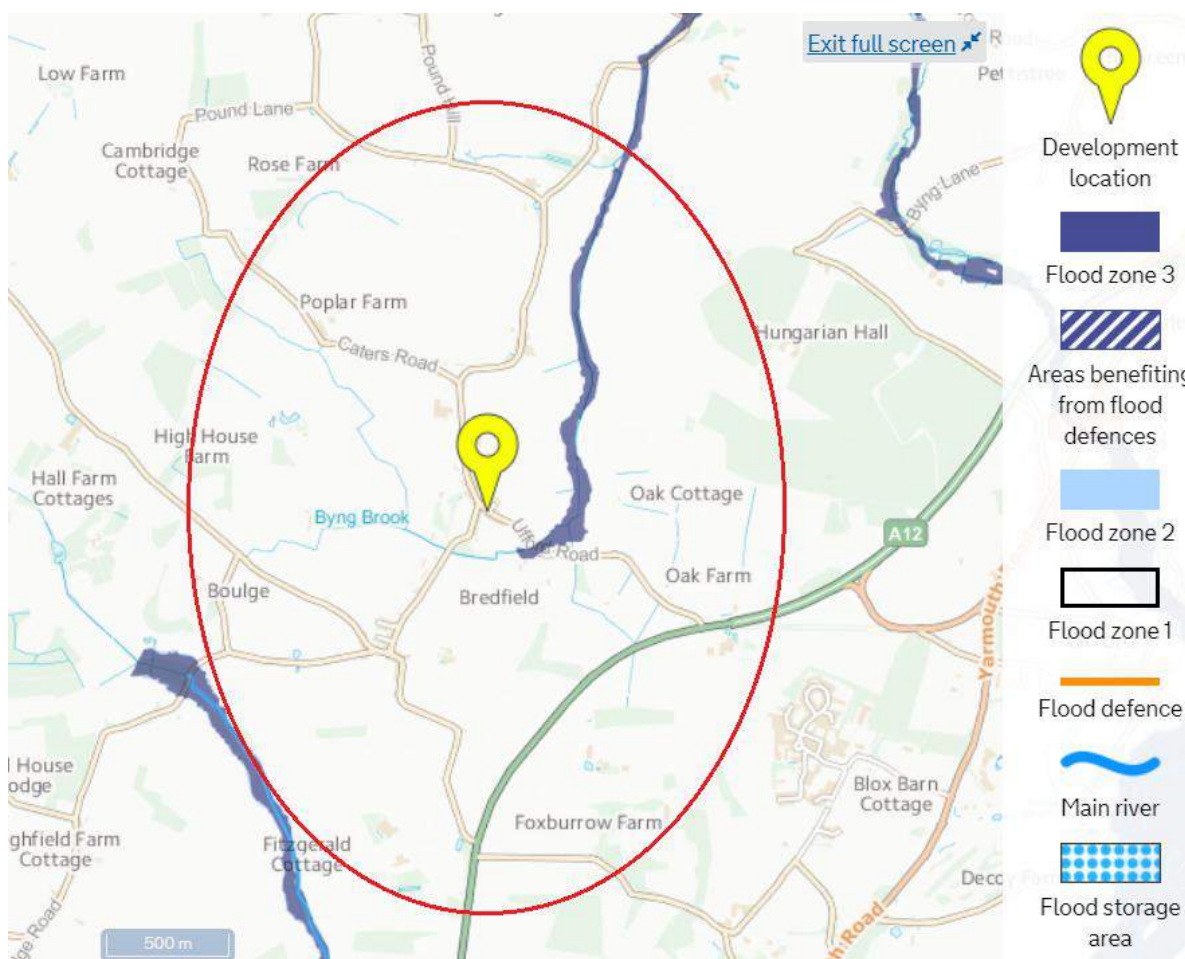
<sup>13</sup> UK Climate Projections (2009) East of England 2050s Medium Emissions Scenario [online] available at: <<http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/23954?emission=medium>> [last accessed 14/02/18]

- The central estimate of change in winter mean precipitation is 14% and summer mean precipitation is -17%.

Resulting from these changes, a range of risks may exist for the Neighbourhood Plan area and wider region. These include:

- Effects on water resources from climate change;
- Adverse effect on water quality from low stream levels and turbulent stream flow after heavy rain;
- Increased risk of flooding, including increased vulnerability to 1:100 year floods;
- A need to increase the capacity of wastewater treatment plants and sewers;
- Soil erosion due to flash flooding;
- Loss of species that are at the edge of their southerly distribution;
- Spread of species at the northern edge of their distribution;
- Increased demand for air-conditioning;
- Increased drought and flood related problems such as soil shrinkages and subsidence;
- Risk of road surfaces melting more frequently due to increased temperature; and
- Flooding of roads.

Figure 4.1: Fluvial flood risk within the Neighbourhood Plan area (approx. area shown in red)<sup>14</sup>



<sup>14</sup> Environment Agency (2018): 'Flood map for planning', [online] available from: <https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/> [last accessed 14/02/18]

Figure 4.2: Surface water flood risk within the Neighbourhood Plan area (approx. area shown in red)<sup>15</sup>

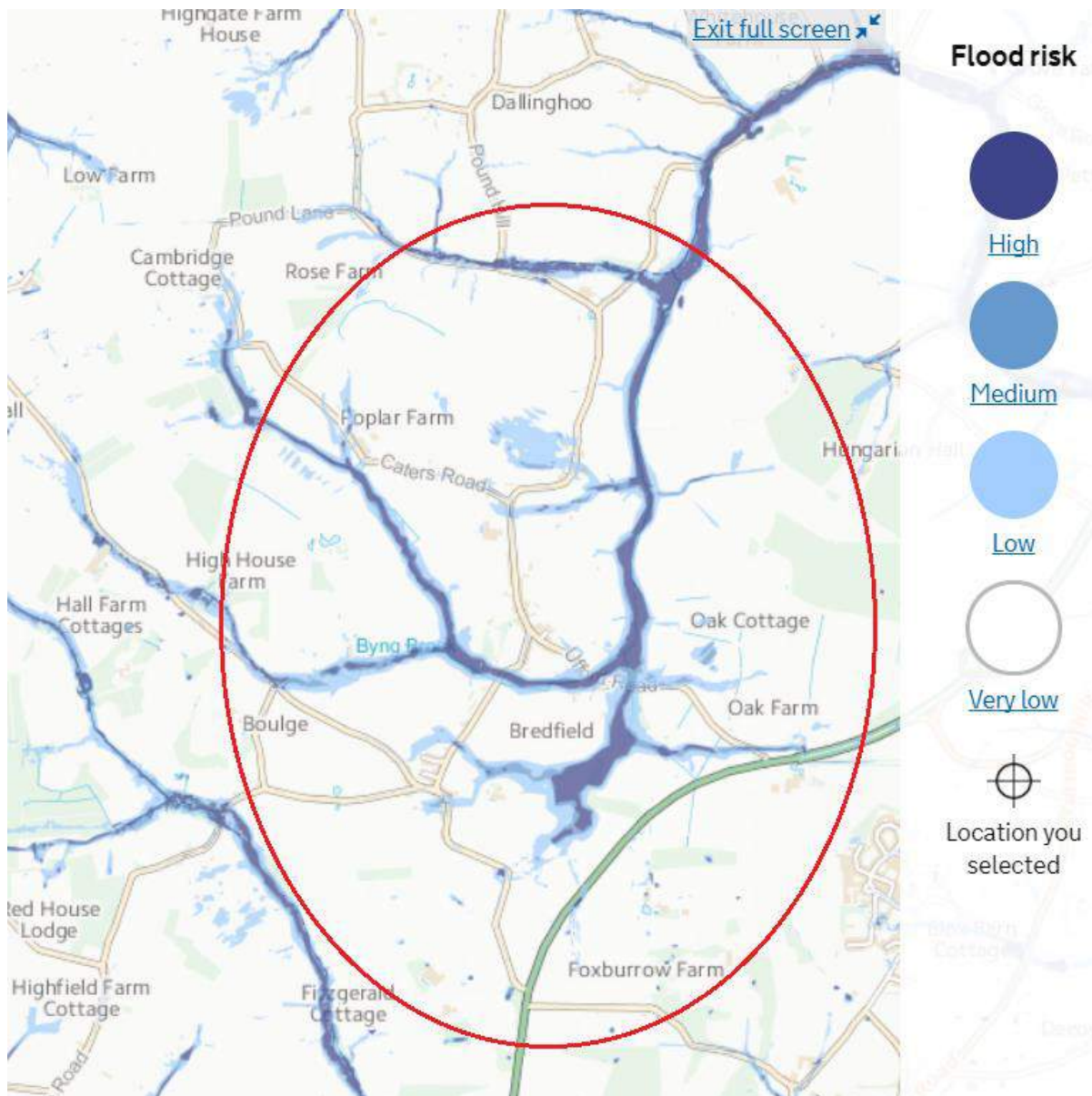


Figure 4.1 shows that a significant majority of the Neighbourhood Plan area is located within the lowest risk Flood Zone 1 showing that there is a >0.1% chance (1 in 1000) of fluvial flooding in any given year. A very small proportion of the Neighbourhood Plan area lies within Flood Zone 3 all of which is a narrow strip of land either side of one stretch of Byng Brook. With the exception of three properties on Ufford Road to the east of Bredfield village the existing built area of the village is located away from Flood Zone 3.

Figure 4.2 shows that surface water flood risk is also low risk for many parts of the Neighbourhood Plan area, particularly the existing built area, though the area of risk is more extensive than for fluvial flooding. The main areas of risk are again adjacent to Byng Brook though unlike fluvial flooding the risk area follows almost the entire extent of Byng Brook through the Neighbourhood Plan area. There is an additional area of risk around the low-lying Horse Close Wood to the south and east of Bredfield village.

The most recently completed Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for Suffolk Coastal District in 2008 does not raise any issues of concern within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

<sup>15</sup> Environment Agency (2018): 'Long term flood risk information' [online] available from: <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/map> [last accessed 14/02/18]

## Summary of future baseline

Climate change has the potential to increase the occurrence of extreme weather events in the Neighbourhood Plan area, with increases in mean summer and winter temperatures, increases in mean precipitation in winter and decreases in mean precipitation in summer. This is likely to increase the risks associated with climate change, with an increased need for resilience and adaptation.

A Critical Drainage Area (CDA) is a discrete geographic area where multiple and interlinked sources of flood risk causes flooding in one or more Local Flood Risk Zones (LFRZ) during severe weather. There could be potential for the Environment Agency or Suffolk Coastal District Council to consider designating CDAs in the Neighbourhood Plan area in the future should issues such as surface water capacity become problematic<sup>16</sup>.

In terms of climate change contribution it is unlikely that modest development would either significantly contribute to or mitigate overall greenhouse gas emissions generated in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

## SEA objectives and appraisal questions

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Reduce the level of contribution to climate change made by activities within the Neighbourhood Plan area	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit the number of journeys made?</li> <li>• Limit the need to travel?</li> <li>• Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport?</li> <li>• Increase the number of new developments meeting or exceeding sustainable design criteria?</li> <li>• Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources?</li> <li>• Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable resources?</li> </ul>
Support the resilience of the Neighbourhood Plan area to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that inappropriate development does not takes place in areas at higher risk of flooding, taking into account the likely future effects of climate change?</li> <li>• Improve and extend green infrastructure networks in the plan area to support adaptation to the potential effects of climate change?</li> <li>• Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff (either within the plan area or downstream)?</li> <li>• Ensure the potential risks associated with climate change are considered through new development in the Neighbourhood Plan area?</li> <li>• Increase the resilience of biodiversity in the area to the effects of climate change, including through enhancements to ecological networks?</li> </ul>

<sup>16</sup> GOV.UK (2017): 'Flood Risk Assessment in Flood Zone 1 and Critical Drainage Areas', [online] available to view via: <<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessment-in-flood-zone-1-and-critical-drainage-areas>> [Last accessed 30/01/18]



## 5. Landscape and Historic Environment

### Focus of Theme:

- Landscape and townscape character and quality
- Designated and non-designated sites and areas
- Setting of cultural heritage assets
- Archaeological assets

### Headline sustainability issues

- None of the Neighbourhood Plan area is within an AONB and is no part of the Neighbourhood Plan area is within the setting of an AONB.
- There are no scheduled monuments, registered parks and gardens or registered battlefields within the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 16 listed buildings can be found throughout the Neighbourhood Plan area of which four which are Grade II\* and 12 are Grade II.

### Policy context

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- Protect and enhance valued landscapes, giving particular weight to those identified as being of national importance.
- Heritage assets should be recognised as an 'irreplaceable resource' that should be conserved in a 'manner appropriate to their significance', taking account of 'the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits' of conservation, whilst also recognising the positive contribution new development can make to local character and distinctiveness.
- Set out a 'positive strategy' for the 'conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment', including those heritage assets that are most at risk.
- Develop 'robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area. Such policies should be based on stated objectives for the future of the area and an understanding and evaluation of its defining characteristics'.
- Consider the effects of climate change in the long term, including in terms of landscape. Adopt 'proactive strategies' to adaptation and manage risks through adaptation measures including well planned green infrastructure.

The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England<sup>17</sup> sets out its vision for the historic environment. It calls for those who have the power to shape the historic environment to recognise its value and to manage it in an intelligent manner in light of the contribution that it can make to social, economic and cultural life.

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<sup>17</sup> HM Government (2010) The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England [online] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-governments-statement-on-the-historic-environment-for-england> last accessed [12/02/18]

## Baseline summary

### Summary of current baseline

#### Landscape

The Neighbourhood Plan area is around two miles to the north west of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) at its closest point. However, the urban areas of Melton, Woodbridge and Ufford lie between the AONB and Bredfield which, when considered alongside the generally low, flat landform of the area, means that Bredfield is not within the setting of the AONB.

The Neighbourhood Plan area lies within the South Norfolk and High Suffolk Claylands National Character Area (NCA). National Character Areas (NCAs) are landscape areas which share similar characteristics, following natural lines in the landscape rather than administrative boundaries. Developed by Natural England, NCA profiles describe the natural and cultural features that shape each of these landscapes, providing a broad context to its character.

The following key characteristics of the South Norfolk and High Suffolk Claylands NCA are of particular relevance to the Neighbourhood Plan area<sup>18</sup>:

- The character of the area is strongly informed by the flat clay plateau on which it sits.
- The area's watercourses are generally small and gentle.
- Views across the area are generally open and rural with few extensive areas of woodland.

The Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment identifies that the Neighbourhood Plan area lies mostly within a typology area of Ancient Rolling Farmland, the key characteristics of which include the rolling arable landscape, a network of winding lanes and a dispersed settlement pattern. A small area at the northern extent of the Neighbourhood Plan area lies within a typology area of Ancient Estate Claylands, characterised by ancient patterns of field enclosures, parklands and ancient semi-natural woodland. The Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment is a county-wide document completed by Suffolk County Council in 2008 and updated in 2011. It remains the most recent Landscape document in the Suffolk Coastal evidence base.

#### Historic Environment

Historic England is the statutory consultee for certain categories of listed building consent and all applications for scheduled monument consent. The historic environment is protected through the planning system, via conditions imposed on developers and other mechanisms.

The Neighbourhood Plan area has an attractive historic environment with a number of characterful buildings throughout. There are 16 listed buildings in total, twelve at Grade II and four at Grade II\*.

The Grade II\* listed buildings are as follows:

1. Church of St Andrew
2. High House
3. Bredfield Place
4. Stables north east of Bredfield House

The National Heritage List for England<sup>19</sup> records no scheduled monuments in the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan area.<sup>20</sup>

There are no designated historic parks and gardens in the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan area.

<sup>18</sup> Natural England (2013): 'NCA Profile 84: 'South Norfolk and High Suffolk Claylands' [online] available to download via: <<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6106120561098752?category=587130>> [last accessed 12/02/18].

<sup>19</sup> Historic England: National Heritage List for England: <<http://list.historicengland.org.uk>>

<sup>20</sup> Historic England (2017): 'Registered Parks and Gardens' [online] available at: <<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/registered-parks-and-gardens/>>



There are no Conservation Areas within the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan area.

Since 2008, Historic England has released an annual Heritage at Risk Register. The Heritage at Risk Register highlights the Grade I, Grade II and Grade II\* listed buildings, scheduled monuments, historic parks and gardens, registered battlefields, wreck sites and conservation areas deemed to be 'at risk'. The 2017 Heritage at Risk Register for the East of England<sup>21</sup> does not record any historic features within the Neighbourhood Plan area as being at risk.

Figure 5.1 overleaf shows the designated landscapes and designated historic environment assets located within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### Summary of future baseline

New development in the Neighbourhood Plan area has the potential to impact on the character and setting of cultural heritage assets through factors such as inappropriate design and layout. New development could also have the potential to lead to incremental changes in landscape and townscape character and quality in and around the Neighbourhood Plan area. However, the planning system already has tools to offer a degree of protection to landscape and heritage assets and their settings and new development does not necessarily need to be harmful to the significance of these assets.

Whilst there are only a limited range of formal protective designations in the Neighbourhood Plan area its distinctive and attractive character could potentially be negatively impacted by development with inappropriate design and layout. It could therefore be important to look for opportunities for new development to be designed and laid out in such a way that the historic character of the village and the wider distinctive landscape in which it is located is respected and, where possible, enhanced.







### SEA objectives and appraisal questions

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect, maintain and enhance the cultural heritage resource within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including the historic environment and archaeological assets.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve and enhance buildings and structures of architectural or historic interest?</li> <li>• Support the integrity of the historic setting of key buildings and scheduled monuments of cultural heritage interest?</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance local diversity and character?</li> <li>• Support access to, interpretation and understanding of the historic environment?</li> </ul>
Protect and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the integrity of local landscape character?</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance landscape and townscape features?</li> </ul>

<sup>21</sup> Historic England (2016): 'Heritage at Risk 2016 Register – East of England', [online] available to download via: <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/har-2017-registers/>

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**LEGEND**

-  Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan Area
-  Conservation Area
-  Listed building
-  Grade I
-  Grade II\*
-  Grade II

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Purpose of Issue  
**DRAFT**

Client  
**BREDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

Project Title  
**SCOPING REPORT FOR THE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF THE BREDFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Drawing Title  
**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE DESIGNATIONS**

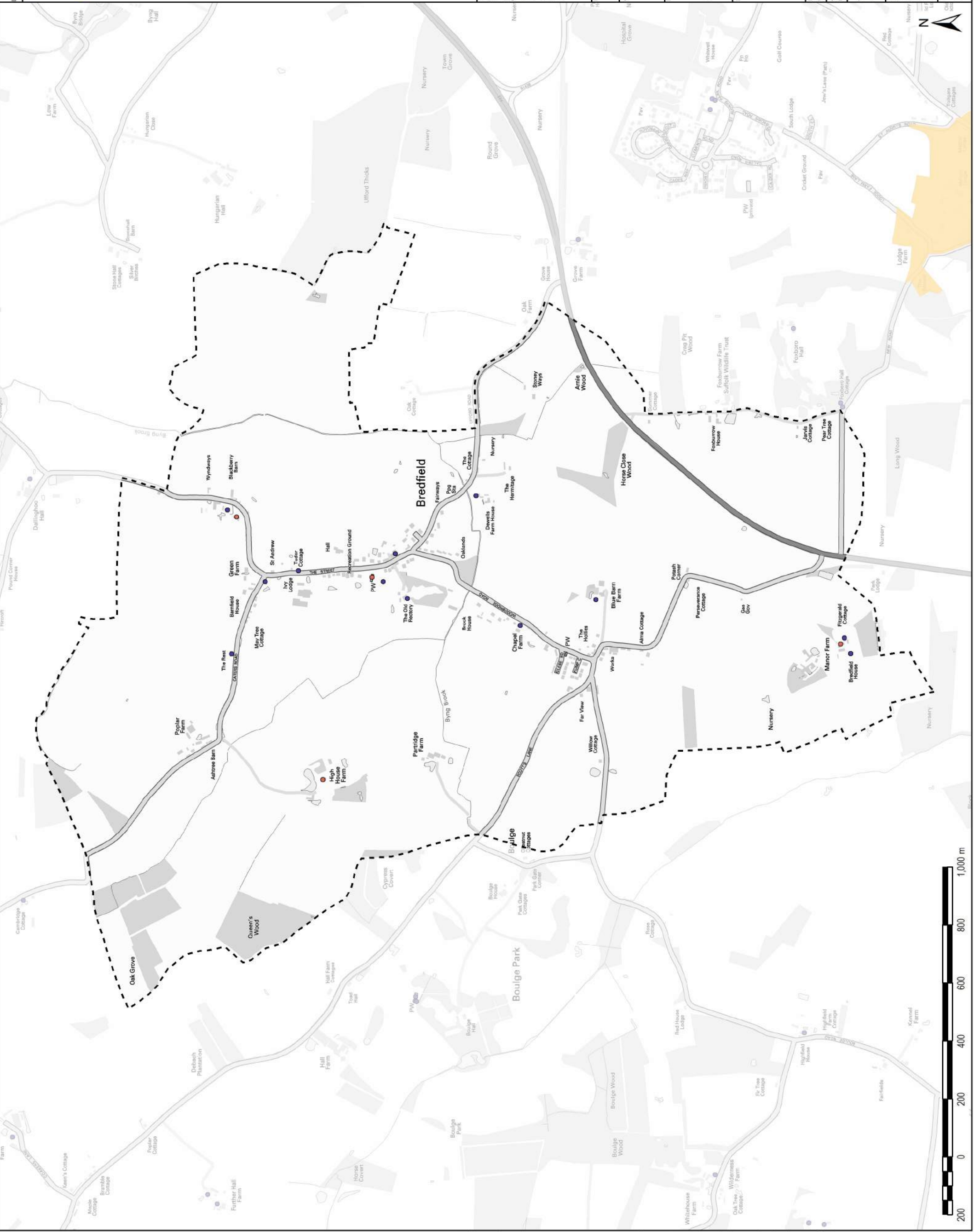
Drawn	Checked	Approved	Date
CN	JW	NCB	07/12/2017
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**FIGURE 5.1**

Box  
**01**



## 6. Land, Soil and Water Resources

### Focus of Theme:

- Soils resource
- Waste management
- Watercourses
- Water availability
- Water quality

### Headline sustainability issues

- A significant proportion of the Neighbourhood Plan area is underlain by land classified as the best and most versatile agricultural land.
- An area of the Neighbourhood Plan area to the south of Bredfield Village is within ground water Source Protection Zone 3 (total catchment).
- The entire Neighbourhood Plan area is designated as a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone for both ground water and surface water.

### Policy context

The EU's Soil Thematic Strategy<sup>22</sup> presents a strategy for protecting soils resources in Europe. The main aim of the strategy is to minimise soil degradation and limit associated detrimental effects linked to water quality and quantity, human health, climate change, biodiversity, and food safety.

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) drives a catchment-based approach to water management. In England and Wales there are 100 water catchments and it is Defra's intention is to establish a 'framework for integrated catchment management' across England. The Environment Agency is establishing 'Significant Water Management Issues' and recently presented second River Basin Management Plans to ministers. The plans seek to deliver the objectives of the WFD namely:

- Enhance the status and prevent the further deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetlands which depend on aquatic ecosystems;
- Promote the sustainable use of water;
- Reduce the pollution of water, especially by 'priority' and 'priority hazardous' substances; and
- Ensure the progressive reduction of groundwater pollution.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- Protect and enhance soils. The value of best and most versatile agricultural land should also be taken into account.
- Prevent new or existing development from being 'adversely affected' by the presence of 'unacceptable levels' of soil pollution or land instability and be willing to remediate and mitigate 'despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate'.
- Encourage the effective use of land' through the reuse of land which has been previously developed, 'provided that this is not of high environmental value'. Whilst there is no longer a national requirement to build at a minimum density, the NPPF requires local planning authorities to 'set out their own approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances'.

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<sup>22</sup> European Commission (2006) Soil Thematic Policy [online] available at: <[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index_en.htm)> [last accessed 09/02/18]

- Produce strategic policies to deliver the provision of a variety of infrastructure, including that necessary for water supply.
- The NPPF does not contain any specific waste policies as waste planning policy is addressed via the National Waste Management Plan.

Other key documents at the national level include Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England<sup>23</sup>, which sets out a vision for soil use in England, and the Water White Paper<sup>24</sup>, which sets out the Government's vision for a more resilient water sector. It states the measures that will be taken to tackle issues such as poorly performing ecosystems, and the combined impacts of climate change and population growth on stressed water resources. In terms of waste management, the Government Review of Waste Policy in England<sup>25</sup> recognises that environmental benefits and economic growth can be the result of a more sustainable approach to the use of materials.

## Baseline summary

### Summary of current baseline

#### Land quality

The Neighbourhood Plan area does not have a history of heavy industrial land use. This does not preclude the potential for localised soil or groundwater contamination to be present, particularly on land surrounding the built up area.

#### Quality of Agricultural Land

The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) classifies land into six grades (plus 'non-agricultural' and 'urban'), where Grades 1 to 3a are recognised as being the 'best and most versatile' land and Grades 3b to 5 are of poorer quality. There is a broad east-west divide in Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan area with much of the eastern half recorded as Grade 2 and much of the western half recorded as Grade 3. The subdivision of Grade 3 into 3a and 3b has not been undertaken on a national scale including in the Neighbourhood Plan area. Grade 3 land is therefore presumed to be best and most versatile unless and until evidence can be provided to demonstrate it is 3b not 3a.

#### Watercourses

There are no major rivers flowing through the Neighbourhood Plan area. The only watercourse of note is Byng Brook, a tributary of the River Deben. Byng Brook flows south-north to the east of Bredfield village.

Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs) have been defined by the Environment Agency in England and Wales to protect groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs that are used for public drinking water supply. The zones show the risk of contamination from activities that might cause groundwater pollution in the area. Land to the south of Bredfield village is located within Zone 3 'Total Catchment', defined as the area around a source within which all groundwater recharge is presumed to be discharged at the source.

The EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC) requires member states to identify areas where groundwater has nitrate concentrations of more than 50 mg/l nitrate or is thought to be at risk of nitrate contamination. These areas are designated as Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZs) and as such are recognised as being at risk from agricultural nitrate pollution. Member states are required to establish Action Programmes in order to reduce and prevent further nitrate contamination. The entire

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<sup>23</sup> Defra (2009) Safeguarding our Soils: A strategy for England [online] available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-our-soils-a-strategy-for-england>> [last accessed 09/02/18]

<sup>24</sup> Defra (2011) Water for life (The Water White Paper) [online] available at <<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm82/8230/8230.pdf>> [last accessed 09/02/18]

<sup>25</sup> Defra (2011) Government Review of Waste Policy in England [online] available at: <<http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb13540-waste-policy-review110614.pdf>> [last accessed 09/02/18]

Neighbourhood Plan area is situated within the Deben NVZ for surface water and the Sandlings and Chelmsford NVZ for groundwater.

## Summary of future baseline

Given the limited opportunities for development within the existing physical limits of Bredfield village it is likely that potential allocations will necessarily be situated on land in agricultural use. Development within the Neighbourhood Plan area could therefore have the potential to impact areas of the best and most versatile agricultural land though there may be opportunities to avoid developing Grade 2 agricultural land by directing development toward areas of Grade 3 instead.

It is considered unlikely that limited development in the Neighbourhood Plan area will have a significant impact on the wider area's Nitrate Vulnerable Zone designation.

## SEA objectives and appraisal questions

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Ensure the efficient and effective use of land.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the use of previously developed land?</li> <li>Avoid the development of the best and most versatile agricultural land, which in the parish may comprise Grade 2 and 3a agricultural land?</li> </ul>
Promote sustainable waste management solutions that encourage the reduction, re-use and recycling of waste.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit the amount of waste produced and support the minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste?</li> <li>Maximise opportunities for local management of waste in order to minimise export of waste to areas outside?</li> <li>Encourage recycling of materials and minimise consumption of resources during construction?</li> </ul>
Use and manage water resources in a sustainable manner.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support improvements to water quality?</li> <li>Minimise water consumption?</li> <li>Protect groundwater resources</li> </ul>



## 7. Population and Community

### Focus of Theme

- Population size
- Population density
- Age structure
- Deprivation
- House prices and affordability
- Homelessness
- Education and skills

### Headline sustainability issues

- Between 2001 and 2011 Bredfield's population grew at a rate of 10%, faster than Suffolk Coastal district (8%), the East of England region (8.5%) and England as a whole (7.9%).
- Bredfield has a sizable older population with 58% of residents aged 45 and over and 34% of the population aged 60 and over.
- Deprivation is lower in Bredfield in all dimensions than the district, regional and national averages.
- Bredfield residents are more qualified than the national average with 44% achieving Level 4 qualifications or above compared to a national position of 27%
- Car ownership in Bredfield was 95.7% in 2011, significantly higher than Suffolk Coastal district (86%), the East of England region (81.5%) and England as a whole (74%). This reflects the village's rural location, its limited public transport links and its relative affluence.

### Policy context

- Bredfield is identified as a 'Local Service Centre' in the adopted Suffolk Coastal Core Strategy (2013) which is tier 4 of 6 in the District's settlement hierarchy<sup>26</sup>.
- The adopted Suffolk Coastal Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies DPD (2017) includes a new housing allocation of 10 dwellings in Bredfield by the end of the plan period in 2027 based on completions between 2010 and 2015 and extant permissions. The SAASP DPD identifies that the Neighbourhood Plan will "need to allocate land for new housing development" to deliver this growth<sup>27</sup>.

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<sup>26</sup> Suffolk Coastal District Council, 2013: <http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Planning/Suffolk-Coastal-Local-Plan/Core-Strategy-and-DMP/SCDC-Local-Plan-July-2013.pdf> (page 75) [Last accessed 08/02/18]

<sup>27</sup> <http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Planning/Suffolk-Coastal-Local-Plan/Site-Allocations-and-Area-Specific-Policies/Adopted-Version-Sites-DPD-January-2017.pdf> (page 23) [Last accessed 08/02/18]

## Baseline summary

### Summary of current baseline

#### Population

Table 7.1 Population growth 2001-2011

	Bredfield	Suffolk Coastal	East	England
2001	309	115,141	5,388,140	49,138,831
2011	340	124,298	5,846,965	53,012,456
Population change '01-'11	10.03%	7.95%	8.52%	7.88%

Source: ONS, Census 2011: Population Density 2011 (Table QS102EW); Population Density 2001 (Table UV02)

Table 7.1 illustrates that population growth of around 10% in Bredfield outstripped that at a district, regional and national level between 2001 and 2011. However, this growth was from a very small baseline and population remains low. The net gain of 41 people in the Neighbourhood Plan area over the census cycle is small in absolute terms. Just 0.27% of the population of Suffolk Coastal district were living in the Neighbourhood Plan area at the 2011 census.

#### Age structure

Table 7.2 Age structure (2011)

	Bredfield	Suffolk Coastal	East	England
0-15	16.5%	17.6%	19.0%	18.9%
16-24	9.4%	8.9%	10.9%	11.9%
25-44	16.5%	21.0%	26.4%	27.5%
45-59	23.2%	21.4%	19.8%	19.4%
60+	34.4%	31.1%	23.9%	22.3%
Total Population	340	124,298	8,634,750	53,012,456

Source: Census 2011: Age Structure (Table KS102EW)

The age structure of Bredfield includes notable differences from district, regional and national levels as there are a notably higher number of older residents. 57.6% of residents were 45 years old or above at the 2011 census, a far greater proportion than the England national average of 41.7%.

Correspondingly, the proportion of younger residents was much smaller than elsewhere in 2011 with only 25.9% of residents aged between 16 and 44 compared with a national average of 39.4%.

#### Household deprivation

Census statistics measure deprivation across four 'dimensions' of deprivation, summarized below:

- **Employment:** Any person in the household (not a full-time student) that is either unemployed or long-term sick.
- **Education:** No person in the household has at least a level 2 qualification and no person aged 16-18 is a full-time student.



- **Health and Disability:** Any person in the household that has generally 'bad' or 'very bad' health, or has a long term health problem.
- **Housing:** The household accommodation is either overcrowded (with an occupancy rating of -1 or less), in a shared dwelling or has no central heating.

Table 7.3 Relative household deprivation dimensions

	Bredfield	Suffolk Coastal	East	England
Household not deprived	57.3%	46.9%	47.7%	42.5%
Deprived in 1 dimension	31.2%	33.9%	32.2%	32.7%
Deprived in 2 dimensions	10.9%	16.1%	16%	19.1%
Deprived in 3 dimensions	0.7%	3%	3.7%	5.1%
Deprived in 4 dimensions	0%	0.2%	0.4%	0.5%

Source: Census 2011: Households by Deprivation Dimensions 2011 (Table QS119EW)

The 2011 census data illustrates that Bredfield has fewer instances of deprivation across all dimensions than at district, regional and national levels. There is a significant difference between the proportion of households in Bredfield which are not deprived (57.3%) and the proportion of the wider Suffolk Coastal district which is not deprived (46.9%); Suffolk Coastal is much closer to the regional average (47.7%) and national average (42.5%).

### Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015 (IMD) is an overall relative measure of deprivation constructed by combining seven domains of deprivation according to their respective weights, as described below. The seven deprivation domains are as follows:

- **Income:** The proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income, including those individuals that are out-of-work and those that are in work but who have low earnings (satisfying the respective means tests).
- **Employment:** The proportion of the working-age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market, including those individuals who would like to work but are unable to do so due to unemployment, sickness or disability, or caring responsibilities.
- **Education, Skills and Training:** The lack of attainment and skills in the local population.
- **Health Deprivation and Disability:** The risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health. Morbidity, disability and premature mortality are also considered, excluding the aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation.
- **Crime:** The risk of personal and material victimisation at local level.
- **Barriers to Housing and Services:** The physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services, with indicators categorised in two sub-domains.
  1. 'Geographical Barriers': relating to the physical proximity of local services

2. 'Wider Barriers': relating to access to housing, such as affordability.
- **Living Environment:** The quality of the local environment, with indicators falling categorised in two sub-domains.
    1. 'Indoors Living Environment' measures the quality of housing.
    2. 'Outdoors Living Environment' measures air quality and road traffic accidents.

Two supplementary indices (subsets of the Income deprivation domains), are also included:

- **Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index:** The proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families.
- **Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index:** The proportion of all those aged 60 or over who experience income deprivation.

Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are a geographic hierarchy designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics in England and Wales. They are standardized geographies designed to be as consistent in population as possible, with each LSOA containing approximately 1,000 to 1,500 people. In relation to the IMD 2015, LSOAs are ranked out of the 32,844 in England and Wales, with 1 being the most deprived. Ranks are normalized into deciles, with a value of 1 reflecting the top 10% most deprived LSOAs in England and Wales (see **Table 7.4** below).

The Neighbourhood Plan area is located within the Suffolk Coastal 006B LSOA, code E01030200. This LSOA generally registers scores within the least-deprived 40% of LSOAs across England including several domains within the least-deprived 20%.

Despite this general trend the LSOA also registers three domains/sub-domains within the top 10% most deprived. These are the 'Barrier to Housing and Services' domain plus the 'Geographical Barriers' sub-domain and the 'Indoors' sub-domain. These domains and sub-domains measure issues such as physical proximity of local services and access to housing (including affordability). Typically rural communities, even ones which other indicators suggest are relatively affluent, score weakly on these domains and sub-domains given their relative distance from larger service centres and their relative lack of affordability.

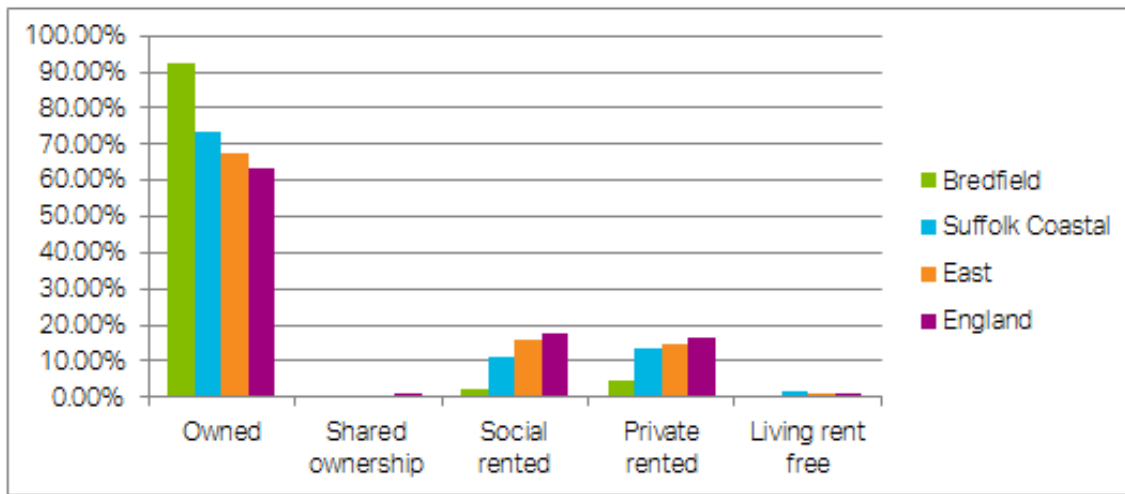
Table 7.4 Indices of Multiple Deprivation in LSOA E01030200

Decile	Rank	
7	19,730	Overall IMD
8	24,459	Income
8	23,900	Employment
9	27,101	Education, Skills and Training
10	30,048	Health, Deprivation and Disability
9	29,396	Crime
1	2,053	Barriers to Housing and Services
2	4,392	Living Environment
7	21,246	Income Deprivation Affecting Children
9	28,466	Income Deprivation Affecting Older People
8	25,090	Children and Young People Sub-domain
9	27,113	Adult Skills Sub-domain
1	590	Geographical Barriers Sub-domain
10	32,384	Wider Barriers Sub-domain
1	1,871	Indoors Sub-domain
10	32,419	Outdoors Sub-domain

Source: MHCLG (2015), 'English Indices of Deprivation', [online] available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2015> [last accessed 12/02/18]

## Housing tenure

Figure 7.1: 'Tenure by Household' <sup>28</sup>



92.75% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area own their homes, a significantly higher proportion of home ownership than is evident at district, regional and national levels. Correspondingly there is a very small rental sector in the village with only 6.6% of residents in rented accommodation with 2.2% in the social rental sector and 4.4% in the private rental sector.

## Summary of future baseline

The population of the Neighbourhood Plan area rose at a higher rate than Suffolk Coastal district, the East of England region and England between 2001 and 2011. However, given that this only represents a small increase in absolute terms this growth may be attributable to specific local factors and may not necessarily indicate a trend for similar rates of growth going forward.

The majority of residents are 45 and above (58%) with a notably smaller proportion of residents in the 25-44 age band (16.5%) when compared with the regional scale (26.5%) and the national scale (27.5%). This reflects in other figures such as home ownership (92.75% in Bredfield compared with 63.3% nationally).

This notably larger than average older population may suggest that natural population growth will be more limited than locations with a younger population.

<sup>28</sup> ONS (no date), Census 2011: Tenure-Households 2011 (Table QS405EW)

## SEA objectives and appraisal questions

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
<p>Cater for existing and future residents' needs as well as the needs of different groups in the community, and improve access to local, high-quality community services and facilities.</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities?</li> <li>Encourage and promote social cohesion and encourage active involvement of local people in community activities?</li> <li>Minimise fuel poverty?</li> <li>Maintain or enhance the quality of life of existing local residents?</li> <li>Improve the availability and accessibility of key local facilities, including specialist services for disabled and older people?</li> <li>Support the provision of land for allotments and cemeteries?</li> </ul>
<p>Reduce deprivation and promote a more inclusive and self-contained community.</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the provision of a range of house types and sizes?</li> <li>Support enhancements to the current housing stock?</li> <li>Meet the needs of all sectors of the community?</li> <li>Provide quality and flexible homes that meet people's needs?</li> <li>Promote the use of sustainable building techniques, including use of sustainable building materials in construction?</li> <li>Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities?</li> </ul>

## 8. Health and Wellbeing

### Focus of Theme:

- Health indicators and deprivation
- Influences on health and well-being

### Headline sustainability issues

- The majority of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area consider themselves to have 'very good health' or 'good health', broadly aligning to the totals for Suffolk Coastal District, the East of England and England.

### Policy context

Key messages from the NPPF include:

- The social role of the planning system involves 'supporting vibrant and healthy communities'.
- A core planning principle is to 'take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all'.
- The planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities'
- Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.
- Set out the strategic policies to deliver the provision of health facilities.
- Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

The increasing role that local level authorities are expected to play in providing health outcomes is demonstrated by recent government legislation. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred responsibility for public health from the NHS to local government, giving local authorities a duty to improve the health of the people who live in their areas. This will require a more holistic approach to health across all local government functions.

This is reflected at the local level by Suffolk County Council's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Suffolk. This provides a county-wide strategic framework for delivering better health and wellbeing outcomes for residents via the encouragement of "integrated working between healthcare, police and other public services"<sup>29</sup>. The Strategy also sets out a vision for "narrowing the differences" in outcomes between the county's most affluent and most deprived residents through "greater improvements in more disadvantaged communities".

Suffolk Coastal District Council's Leisure Strategy 2014-24 sets out the Council's approach to delivering positive health outcomes via enabling and encouraging more physical activity from residents. It provides a "strategic approach to the delivery of health living initiatives in support of the Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board's strategic aims"<sup>30</sup>.

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<sup>29</sup> Suffolk County Council, 2016: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/assets/council-and-democracy/the-council-and-its-committees/health-wellbeing-board/JHW-Refreshed-Strategy-for-Suffolk.pdf> [last accessed 13/02/18].

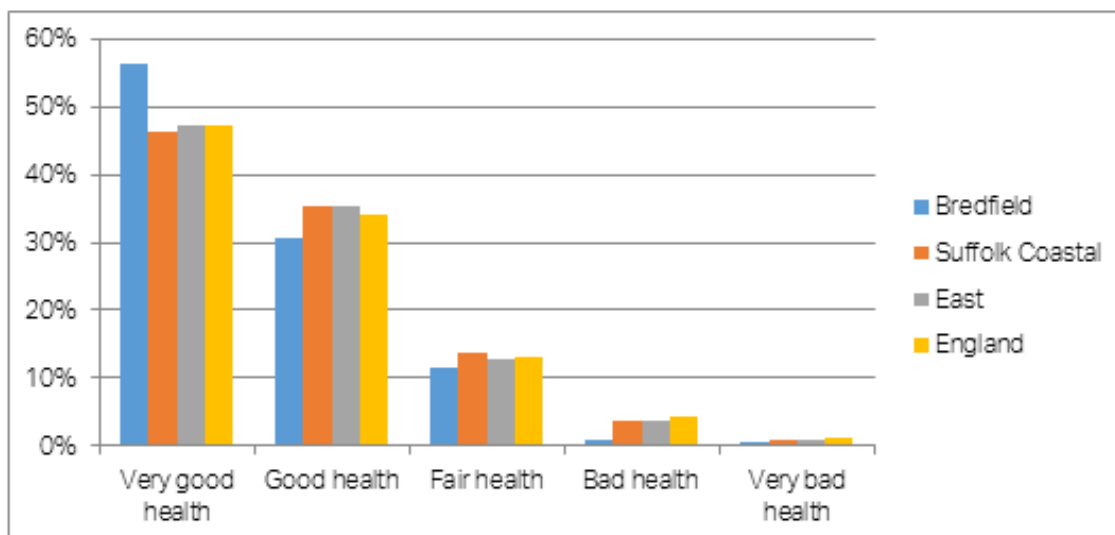
<sup>30</sup> Suffolk Coastal District Council <http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/sportandleisuredevelopment/suffolk-coastal-leisure-strategy/> [last accessed 13/02/18]

## Baseline summary

### Summary of current baseline

#### Health indicators and deprivation

Figure 8.1: 'General Health'<sup>31</sup>



Deprivation is a significant contributor to poor health and can have adverse effects on wellbeing, with elements related to poor housing quality, living environment, income and employment previously discussed in detail in Chapter 7. A total of 87.1% of residents the Neighbourhood Plan area consider themselves to be in 'very good health' or 'good health' which is slightly higher than totals for Suffolk Coastal (81.8%), the East of England (82.5%) and England (81.4%). Correspondingly, the number of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area considering themselves to have 'bad health' or 'very bad health' is just 1.5%, notably lower than the District (4.5%) and regional (4.7%) figures and significantly lower than at a national scale (5.4%). These figures indicate the Bredfield residents enjoy better than average health outcomes and have far fewer instances of poor health than the district, regional and national averages.

Table 8.1 Long-term Health Category (% of total population)

	Bredfield	Suffolk Coastal	East	England
Activities limited 'a lot'	4.7%	7.9%	7.4%	8.3%
Activities limited 'a little'	10.6%	10.6%	9.3%	9.3%
Activities 'not limited'	84.7%	81.5%	83.3%	82.4%

Source: ONS (No date), Census 2011: 'Long-term Health Problem or Disability 2011' (Table Q5303EW)

### Summary of future baseline

Health and Wellbeing outcomes for residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area are significantly stronger than at district, regional and national scales. Bad and very bad health was reported by just 1.5% of residents suggesting that a pattern of healthy lifestyle choices and behaviours has been sustained for some time. The strong correlation between positive health outcomes and affluence (the link between 'health and wealth') is acknowledged in the 2017 Health Profile for England and suggests Bredfield's relative affluence is a key determinant of the better than average health and wellbeing of its

<sup>31</sup> ONS (no date), Census 2011: 'General Health 2011' (Table QS302EW)



residents<sup>32</sup>. It is considered unlikely that limited development in the Neighbourhood Plan area would negatively impact these outcomes.

## SEA objectives and appraisal questions

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Improve the health and wellbeing residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote accessibility to a range of leisure, health and community facilities, for all age groups?</li> <li>Align to the key outcomes outlined in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy?</li> <li>Provide and enhance the provision of community access to green infrastructure, in accordance with Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards?</li> <li>Reduce noise pollution?</li> <li>Promote the use of healthier modes of travel?</li> <li>Improve access to the countryside for recreational use?</li> </ul>

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-profile-for-england/chapter-6-social-determinants-of-health>

## 9. Transportation

### Focus of Theme:

- Transportation infrastructure
- Traffic flows and congestion
- Accessibility
- Car ownership
- Travel to work

### Headline sustainability issues

- Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan area is has limited direct access to public transport networks but has good connections with the Strategic Road Network via the A12.
- There are two railway stations within 15 minutes' drive of the village at Melton and Woodbridge. Both stations are on the East Suffolk line and are served by hourly services to and from London Liverpool Street (via Ipswich).
- The village has a limited bus service. First Group's number 70 service has five services a day between Bredfield and Woodbridge and four services a day between Bredfield and Ipswich. No other bus routes serve the village. There are two bus stops in each direction within Bredfield village, all served exclusively by the number 70.
- High HGV flows through the Neighbourhood Plan area between the A12 and B1078 are of community concern.
- Additional issues of community concern include the level of traffic from neighbouring villages travelling through the Neighbourhood Plan area during peak hours and rising levels of traffic on the A12 which can cause difficulties joining the A12 from the Woodbridge Road and Ufford Road junctions.
- Bredfield village is on the Ipswich to Fakenham section of National Cycle Route 1. A number of Public Rights of Way crisscross the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### Policy context

European and UK transport policies and plans place emphasis on the modernisation and sustainability of the transport network. Specific objectives include reducing pollution and road congestion through improvements to public transport, walking and cycling networks and reducing the need to travel. National policy also focuses on the need for the transport network to support sustainable economic growth.

At the local level, each Local Transport Authority in England and Wales has a statutory duty to produce and adopt a Local Transport Plan through the Local Transport Act 2000, as amended by the Local Transport Act 2008.

The Suffolk Local Transport Plan 2011-2031 was adopted in 2011 and published in two parts. Part 1 "sets out the county council's long-term transport strategy to 2031" whilst Part 2 consists of "an implementation plan, setting out how the strategy could be delivered over the short, medium and long term"<sup>33</sup>.

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<sup>33</sup> Suffolk County Council (2011), Suffolk Local Transport Plan 2011-2031 Part 1 Transport Strategy [online] via <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/assets/Roads-and-transport/public-transport-and-transport-planning/2011-07-06-Suffolk-Local-Plan-Part-1-lr.pdf> [last accessed 08/02/18]

The Local Transport Plan acknowledges that “much of Suffolk Coastal is rural and this presents some issues for access to services by public transport”. The Plan identifies the importance of the A12 as a “key north/south route and a link for the market towns and villages in the district”<sup>34</sup>.

No specific policies or strategies within the Suffolk Local Transport Plan identify Bredfield as a focus of concern or of particular planned interventions or actions.

## Baseline summary

### Summary of current baseline

#### Rail network

Bredfield has no direct access to the rail network. There are two railway stations within 15 minutes’ drive of the village at Melton and Woodbridge. Both stations are on the East Suffolk line and are served by hourly services to and from London Liverpool Street (via Ipswich).

#### Bus Network

First Group operates five number 70 services a day between Bredfield and Woodbridge and four services a day between Bredfield and Ipswich Monday to Saturday. No services operate on Sundays. There are two bus stops in each direction in Bredfield village, one stop in each direction located outside the Castle pub in the north of the village and one stop in each direction outside the chapel in the south of the village. Journey time to Woodbridge is around 15 minutes. Journey time to Ipswich is longer at 40-50 minutes.

There are no services between Woodbridge and Bredfield during normal peak commuting hours. There is one service each way between Ipswich and Bredfield during normal peak commuting hours. Scope to commute by bus is therefore limited during normal peak hours.

#### Road network and congestion

The A12 passes through the south eastern corner of the Neighbourhood Plan area and provides Bredfield’s primary access to the Strategic Road Network. Bredfield village has two direct points of access to the A12 via junctions with Woodbridge Road to the south of the village and Ufford Road to the east of the village. Rising levels of traffic on the A12 are understood to contribute to increasingly challenging conditions for joining the A12 from these local junctions.

Local roads provide access to Bredfield from the north. The local road network to the north of the Neighbourhood Plan area is predominantly single carriageway and of low capacity and is understood to become congested during peak commuting hours.

There is not understood to be a particular issue with traffic congestion within the Neighbourhood Plan area. However, the 2006 Bredfield Parish Plan identifies high traffic flows along Woodbridge Road between the A12 and B1078 with HGV traffic of particular concern<sup>35</sup>. It is understood that these concerns remain.

Tourist accommodation both within the Neighbourhood Plan area at Moat Barn camping and caravan site and adjacent to the Neighbourhood Plan area at Partridge Lodge hotel and at the yurt camp site is anecdotally understood to generate additional traffic during peak seasons. Additional tourist accommodation is anticipated to come forward within the Neighbourhood Plan period which could have potential to increase seasonal traffic further.

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<sup>34</sup> As per footnote 12 above.

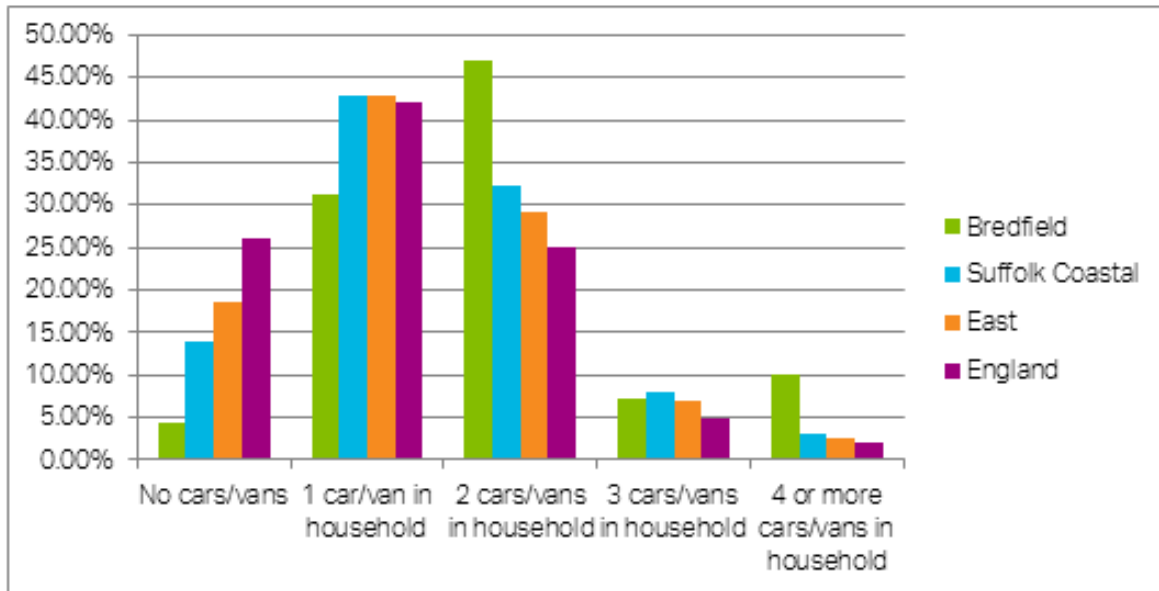
<sup>35</sup> Bredfield Parish Council (2006), Bredfield Parish Plan, page 16 : <http://bredfield.onesuffolk.net/assets/Uploads/PDF-folder/Parish-Plan.pdf> [last accessed 08/02/18]

### Cycle and footpath network

National Cycle Route 1 runs through the Neighbourhood Plan area, part of continuous 1,695 mile long-distance route running all the way from Dover to the Shetland Islands. Bredfield lies on the Ipswich to Fakenham section of the route.

### Availability of cars and vans

Figure 9.1: 'Car and van ownership'<sup>36</sup>



Car ownership in Bredfield is high with 95.7% of households owning at least one car. This is higher than Suffolk Coastal (86%) and the East of England region (81.5%) and significantly higher than England as a whole (74%).

Over 10% of households in Bredfield own 4 or more cars which is over three times the district average (3%), nearly four times the regional average (2.6%) and around five times the national average (2%).

<sup>36</sup> ONS (no date), Census 2011: 'Car or Van Availability 2011', (Table QS416EW)

## Travel to work

Figure 9.2: 'Method of Travel to Work'<sup>37</sup>

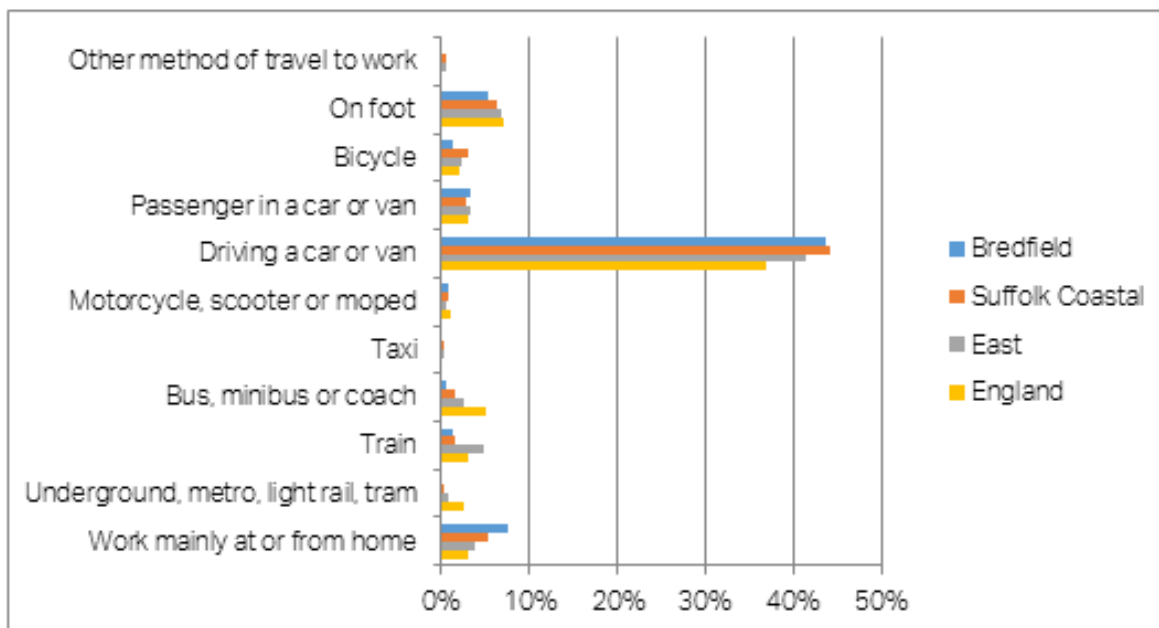


Figure 9.2 illustrates that the most common method of travelling to work in the Neighbourhood Plan area is via driving a car or van (43.6%), slightly lower than the figure for Suffolk Coastal (44.1%) though higher than the East of England region (41.4%) and England as a whole (36.9%). Walking and cycling combined represent a smaller proportion of people’s travel to work choices in Bredfield (6.4%) than in Suffolk Coastal (9.4%), the East of England region (9.2%) and England as a whole (9%). There are also a higher proportion of residents who work mainly from home in Bredfield (7.6%) than Suffolk Coastal (5.3%), the East of England region (3.8%) and England (3%). These figures highlight Bredfield’s reliance on car and van use for travelling to work which is further reinforced by the very low combined public transport commuting figures for Bredfield (1.6%) in comparison to Suffolk Coastal (3.2%), East of England (8.1%) and England (10.6%).

## Summary of future baseline

New development has the potential to modestly increase traffic within the Neighbourhood Plan area, particularly as Bredfield’s public transport options are limited and development allocated in the Neighbourhood Plan alone would be unlikely to be of sufficient scale to support an increase in the frequency of local bus services. The Neighbourhood Plan area is therefore likely to have a reliance on car and van use which is consistent with current levels.

The Neighbourhood Plan area’s high rate of car ownership including particularly high rates of multiple car ownership suggests residents are well adapted to relatively weak public transport provision locally. This could suggest that there is limited imperative to deliver improvements to public transport connectivity in future.

Whilst recognising the limited frequency of local bus services there is still potential for new development which is located near to the village’s existing bus stops to help contribute to maximum accessibility for non-peak hour commuters and other users.

Development located away from the busy Woodbridge Road corridor in the south of the village will be less likely to be directly impacted by the existing high HGV traffic flows between the A12 and B1078. Correspondingly, there may be potential for any new development along the Woodbridge Road corridor to increase vehicle movements directly onto Woodbridge Road, potentially increasing the risk of interactions with HGV traffic and other road users.

<sup>37</sup> ONS (no date), Census 2011: 'Method of Travel to Work 2011' (Table QS701EW)

Whilst limited future development within the Neighbourhood Plan area is unlikely to make a significant impact on local road conditions there could be potential for new development within the Neighbourhood Plan area to be impacted by future increases in traffic on the A12 via increased difficulty accessing the A12.

## SEA objectives and appraisal questions

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Promote sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel.	Will the option/proposal help to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel?</li><li>• Enable sustainable transport infrastructure enhancements?</li><li>• Facilitate working from home and remote working?</li><li>• Improve road safety?</li><li>• Reduce the impact on residents from the road network?</li></ul>



## 10. Next steps

### Subsequent stages for the SEA process

Scoping (the current stage) is the second stage of the SEA process<sup>38</sup>

1. Screening;
2. Scoping;
3. Assess reasonable alternatives, with a view to informing preparation of the draft plan;
4. Assess the draft plan and prepare the Environmental Report with a view to informing consultation and plan finalisation;
5. Publish a 'statement' at the time of plan adoption in order to 'tell the story' of plan-making / SEA (and present 'measures decided concerning monitoring')

The next stage will involve appraising reasonable alternatives for the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan. This will consider alternative spatial strategy and policy approaches for the Neighbourhood Plan. The findings of the appraisal of these alternatives will be fed back to the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (the Neighbourhood Plan group) so that they might be taken into account when preparing the draft plan.

Once the draft ('pre-submission version') plan has been prepared by the Neighbourhood Plan group, it will be subjected to SEA and the Environmental Report prepared for consultation alongside it.

Following consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan and the Environmental Report, the Neighbourhood Plan will be finalised and submitted to Suffolk Coastal District Council for subsequent Independent Examination.

### Consultation on the Scoping Report

Public involvement through consultation is a key element of the SEA process. At this scoping stage, the SEA Regulations require consultation with statutory consultation bodies but not full consultation with the public.

The statutory consultation bodies are the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England. The Scoping Report has been released to these three statutory consultees.

Consultees are invited to comment on the content of this Scoping Report, in particular the evidence base for the SEA, the identified key issues and the proposed SEA Framework.

### Download and viewing details

Once published this Scoping Report will be available on the Bredfield Neighbourhood Plan website at: <http://bredfield.onesuffolk.net/neighbourhood-plan/>

Copies can be requested from Chris McNulty on [chris.mculty@aecom.com](mailto:chris.mculty@aecom.com)

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<sup>38</sup> In accordance with the stages set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance

