

Settlement Study – Part 1



Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan Update

Consultation Draft – September 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is important to define the role of towns, villages and rural settlements for the purposes of preparing and implementing planning policies and directing growth to areas where it is most sustainable and where development is most needed. The council is therefore undertaking a detailed study of the borough's settlements.

This is Part 1 of the study, which considers the sustainability of different settlements across the borough and groups them into categories. It assesses all settlements with populations of more than 150 people, which means that it does not assess the borough's smallest villages and hamlets, but includes a number of rural villages that do not currently have Settlement Policy Boundaries.

The categories reflect the relative sustainability of settlements taking into account such issues as size, availability of local services and facilities within the settlement, and accessibility to public transport and larger facilities, perhaps in nearby settlements. These categories will provide a framework for directing housing growth and other forms of development towards those settlement that have a range of services and facilities, and access to sustainable transport and employment opportunities.

The outcome of the assessment is summarised below:

1: Principal Service Centre	Basingstoke
2: Large Local Service Centre	Overton, Tadley, Whitchurch
3: Small Local Service Centre	Bramley, Kingsclere, Oakley, Old Basing
4: Large Village	North Waltham, Sherborne St John, Sherfield on Loddon, Woolton Hill
5: Small Village	Ashford Hill, Bishops Green, Burghclere, Cliddesden, Dummer, Ecchinswell, Headley, Highclere, Preston Candover, Silchester, St Mary Bourne, Upton Grey

Settlements that are identified within higher tier categories (Categories 1-3 above) are considered to be more sustainable locations for future growth, due to their relative size and access to, and provision of, a greater range of services and facilities. Many of these settlements have a role in providing amenities for residents in other nearby settlements.

Some limited growth could potentially be considered as suitable in the lower categories identified (Categories 4 and 5) in order to meet local social, economic and community needs and to maintain the vitality of these rural communities.

There are other settlements in the borough that fall outside these categories are not considered suitable for planned growth due to their population size and their limited access to facilities and services.

The suitability of different levels of growth will be considered in detail through Part 2 of the study which will consider the specific nature and character of individual settlements, including relative levels of need, past amounts of housing growth, and local constraints and opportunities relating to such issues as infrastructure provision and environmental factors. The study will help to inform and support the spatial strategy in the Local Plan Update and also future neighbourhood plans.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 The Local Plan Update (LPU) is an opportunity for the Council to update and strengthen the current adopted Local Plan (2011-2029) in a number of key areas, to facilitate local aspirations, and ensure current and future needs are met. The LPU will provide a spatial planning framework for the growth of the borough to at least 2038. The update will identify a strategy for delivering the required development to meet the statutory requirements placed on the borough at national level and also meet local needs into the future.

1.1.2 A settlement study has been undertaken to consider the relative sustainability of settlements in the borough to help guide decisions on the location and scale of future new development. The study seeks to inform housing targets for each settlement through two parts: identifying the most sustainable settlements in the borough; and the level of suitable growth for each settlement in order to ensure needs are met and that communities can continue to thrive. This is a central aim of national planning policy and is in line with the LPAs commitment to tackling climate change through the council's climate emergency declaration¹ and Horizon 2050 Vision².

1.2 Structure

1.2.1 The settlement study is formed in two parts: Part 1 relating to the approach taken to categorising the settlements based on sustainability indicators, and Part 2 which considers potentially suitable levels of growth for the borough's settlements to at least 2038. This will be based on a number of relevant factors.

1.2.2 Part 1 of the settlement study covers:

- The reasons and context for categorising the borough's settlements;
- An explanation of which settlements have been included in the study, and why;
- The identification of suitable settlement sustainability categories;
- An assessment of the information gathered to determine the placement within the categories of each settlement included in the study.

¹ <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/climateemergency>

² <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/horizon2050>

1.2.3 Part 2 of the settlement study will cover:

- An analysis of the settlements assessed in Part 1 in respect of their wider roles and functions;
- An assessment of each settlement's suitability for growth; and
- The identification of an appropriate level of achievable growth for each settlement.

1.2.4 The study's approach and outcomes will be tested through the LPU process, with the outcomes of Part 1 being initially considered through the Issues and Options consultation process. Part 2 of the study will be informed by feedback on Part 1 and will be published alongside the Draft (Regulation 18) Plan. This study will therefore form part of the evidence base for the LPU.

1.2.5 The findings of the study will need to be balanced with other factors such as the outcomes of relevant technical studies and public consultation. Specific site considerations will be dealt with separately through the LPU evidence base, including the Sustainability Appraisal, Transport Assessment and Site Assessment reports.

2. Background and Borough Context

2.1 The Borough

- 2.1.1 The borough of Basingstoke and Deane covers a wide area comprising the main settlement of Basingstoke Town with surrounding towns, villages and rural settlements set within an attractive and prominent landscape which is primarily rural in nature.
- 2.1.2 Since its designation as an expanded town in the 1960s, the borough's population has steadily increased, with the majority of the population residing in Basingstoke Town. The remainder of the population lives in the borough's rural area, including the towns and villages of Tadley, Whitchurch, Oakley, Overton, Bramley, Kingsclere and Old Basing³.

2.2 National Policy and Guidance

- 2.2.1 The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development which is summarised within the National Planning Policy Framework (2019) (NPPF) as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 2.2.2 The NPPF is not prescriptive on how to categorise settlements in terms of relative sustainability. However, the NPPF does set out (paragraph 8) three overarching objectives of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental), which it says should play an active role in guiding development towards sustainable solutions, taking into account local circumstances to reflect the character, needs and opportunities of each area (paragraph 9).
- 2.2.3 At paragraph 20, the NPPF highlights that strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development to make sufficient provision for housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development and infrastructure for transport, flood risk, waste management, telecommunications and community facilities, whilst conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment (in line with the presumption in favour of sustainable development – paragraph 11).
- 2.2.4 The NPPF identifies that in rural areas, planning policies should be responsive to local circumstances and support housing developments that reflect local needs. It recognises the importance of locating housing in rural areas where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities. In doing so, it recognises that planning policies should identify opportunities for villages to grow and thrive, especially where they will support local services.

³ Based on Hampshire County Council SAPF (2019) dwelling and population no. data

Where there are groups of smaller settlements, it states that development in one village may be able to support services in a village nearby, highlighting the importance of the relationship between settlements. In addition, the NPPF is clear that local planning authorities should avoid isolated development (paragraphs 77, 78 and 79).

- 2.2.5 The NPPF emphasises the importance of minimising the length of journeys for work and leisure and increasing the opportunities for sustainable forms of transport, and states that significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport options (paragraph 103). It is the role of the Local Plan to actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling (sustainable methods of transport) and focus significant development in locations which can meet these requirements. This study seeks to achieve these aims.
- 2.2.6 The NPPF also identifies the importance of providing healthy and safe communities, including through the provision of social, recreational and cultural facilities.
- 2.2.7 A number of key paragraphs within the NPPF which relate to indicators of service and facility provision and accessibility have also been taken into consideration and are set out in Appendix A.
- 2.2.8 These aspects of national policy suggest that the LPU should plan for additional development in the rural areas where it would meet needs and enhance or maintain rural communities. Service provision and accessibility are key elements of sustainability and should inform the role of different settlements as part of a future development strategy. This has provided a fundamental basis for the settlement study.

2.3 Adopted Local Plan

- 2.3.1 The current adopted Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan (2011-29) provides the main planning policies for growth and development within Basingstoke and Deane. It identifies 19 settlements which have defined Settlement Policy Boundaries (SPBs)⁴. Within these SPBs development is acceptable in principle (Policy SS1) or subject to requirements as set out within allocation policies (Policy SS3). Elsewhere within the borough, development is restricted and subject to policies for the countryside (Policy SS6).
- 2.3.2 Whilst the current adopted Local Plan does not explicitly categorise the settlements within the borough into tiers based upon sustainability principles, Policy SS5 sets out the housing delivery strategy for the settlements outside of the principal centre of Basingstoke. The policy identifies the following

⁴ As identified through the current adopted Local Plan Policies Map: Ashford Hill, Baughurst, Bramley, Burghclere, Cliddesden, Dummer, Kingsclere, North Waltham, Oakley, Old Basing, Overton, Pamber Heath, Preston Candover, Sherborne St John, Sheffield on Loddon, St Mary Bourne, Tadley, Upton Grey, Whitchurch and Woolton Hill

levels of expected development for the largest settlements within the borough – Bramley at least 200 homes, Kingsclere at least 50 homes, Oakley at least 150 homes, Overton at least 150 homes and Whitchurch at least 200 homes⁵.

- 2.3.3 The current adopted Local Plan also identifies a need to provide a further 150 homes outside of the larger settlements listed above, within or immediately adjacent to the remaining 13 settlements⁶ with defined Settlement Policy Boundaries (SPBs)⁷. Policy SS5 sets out a requirement for each of these settlements to deliver at least 10 dwellings either through windfall development⁸ or through the neighbourhood plan process by site allocation.
- 2.3.4 This study therefore provides an evidence base to review and update the council's current approach to categorising settlements, based upon their sustainability, and to reflect latest national guidance and best practice.

⁵ These settlements were identified as 'growth centres'.

⁶ Ashford Hill, Burghclere, Cliddesden, Dummer, North Waltham, Old Basing, Preston Candover, Sheffield on Loddon, St Mary Bourne, Sherborne St John, Tadley (including Baughurst and Pamber Heath), Upton Grey Woolton Hill.

⁷ A boundary surrounding a settlement which separates the main built-up area (where there is a general presumption in favour of sustainable development) from open countryside (where development is more tightly controlled).

⁸ A development of 10 units or more within the SPB, or a development of 5 units or more outside of the SPB.

3. Approach and Methodology

3.1 Outline of approach

3.1.1 Part 1 of the settlement study seeks to group settlements into categories based upon their sustainability. This has been informed by a wide range of information on issues such as the size of settlements within the borough, the availability and accessibility of services and facilities, each settlement's relative accessibility (particularly by sustainable transport methods) and their relationship with, and access to, larger settlements for access to a wider range and choice of services and facilities, transport and employment opportunities.

3.1.2 The key stages of the assessment are outlined below:

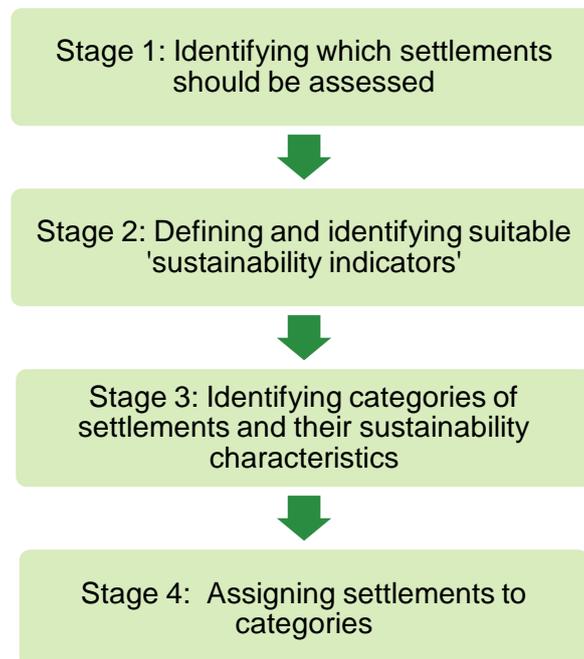


Figure 1: Methodology for Part 1 of the Settlement Study

3.1.3 Information on the provision of services and facilities has been obtained from evidence sources available to the LPA, including online and GIS information, information obtained through a Town and Parish Council questionnaire and Neighbourhood Plans and their evidence base. In combination, this evidence provides a representative local context for each settlement considered.

3.1.4 A detailed methodology is set out below, broken down by stage.

3.2 Stage 1: Identifying which settlements should be assessed

- 3.2.1 The borough has a large number of towns, villages and hamlets, several of which are very small, with no facilities or services. The first stage of the study considered which settlements should be assessed, ensuring the focus was on the largest and most sustainable settlements.
- 3.2.2 The smallest settlements were therefore filtered out based upon the size of their population⁹. As a baseline, it was considered appropriate to include all the settlements given a housing requirement by Policy SS5 of the adopted Local Plan, as they had previously been considered sufficiently sustainable to accommodate planned growth. The smallest of these settlements was Preston Candover with 180 residents. The settlement population data demonstrates that there is a clear size difference between this and the next smallest settlement in the borough (which has fewer than 100 residents). This was therefore considered to be an appropriate cut off point for the study (the cut-off was rounded down to a population of 150, as this would have ensured the study would have included other settlements of a similar scale to Preston Candover, had they existed).
- 3.2.3 The approach outlined captures all existing towns and villages which have a SPB and also a number of other rural villages which do not currently have defined boundaries, but which do have sizeable populations and where opportunities may exist to enhance and sustain their community into the future.
- 3.2.4 Based upon this approach, 24 settlements¹⁰ in the borough were considered as part of the study (Table 1). Settlements which do not currently have defined SPBs in the adopted Local Plan are highlighted in bold.

Ashford Hill	Headley	Sherborne St John
Bishops Green	Highclere	Sherfield on Loddon
Bramley	Kingsclere	Silchester
Burghclere	North Waltham	St Mary Bourne
Cliddesden	Oakley	Tadley ¹¹
Dummer	Old Basing	Upton Grey
Ecchinswell	Overton	Whitchurch
Hannington	Preston Candover	Woolton Hill

Table 1: Settlements considered as part of the Settlement Study (alphabetical order)

⁹ Based upon Hampshire County Council's Small Area Population Forecasts (SAPF)(source: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/planning/factsandfigures/population-statistics/small-area-pop-stats.htm>). Where settlements had SPBs, the population was calculated in that area. For settlements without an SPB, it was based upon an approximation of the built-up area.

¹⁰ In addition to Basingstoke Town (which, for the purposes of the study, includes Chineham and Sherfield Park as they immediately adjoin the SPB)

¹¹ Including Baurthurst and Pamber Heath as their built-up areas coalesce and they share a single SPB in the adopted Local Plan.

3.3 Stage 2: Defining and identifying ‘sustainability indicators’

- 3.3.1 In order to group the settlements into sustainability categories, it was necessary to consider what characteristics make a settlement sustainable.
- 3.3.2 As set out in the NPPF (and detailed in Appendix A), the sustainability of a settlement should be considered in relation to its access to services and facilities relating to retail, education, health, social, community and recreation, and its access to sustainable transport and employment opportunities.
- 3.3.3 The NPPF is clear that developments must have accessible services which support the wellbeing of current and future communities. It also emphasises the importance of local shops, meeting places, open space, sports and recreational venues, Public Houses and Places of Worship, and promotes the achievement of healthy, inclusive and safe places which are based on social interaction.
- 3.3.4 Based on the national policy paragraphs (Section 2.2 and Appendix A), the following sustainability indicators (Table 2) have been identified for the purposes of assessing the relative sustainability and function of the settlements included within this study. Key facilities and services are shown in bold.

Function	Service and Facilities
Retail Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convenience Shops • Supermarkets • Other Shop(s)/Service(s) • Post Offices
Education Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Schools • Secondary Schools • Early Years Education¹²
Healthcare Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP Surgeries • Dentists • Pharmacies
Social Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Houses
Community Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village/Community Hall • Places of Worship • Libraries
Recreation/ Sports and Leisure Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor Sports/Leisure Centres • Recreation Grounds and Sports Pitches
Employment Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Employment Areas
Sustainable Transport Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Service (daily service Monday-Saturday) • Railway Station

Table 2: List of Services and Facilities Considered

¹² Pre-schools and nurseries

- 3.3.5 In addition to identifying the separate functions which each service and facility provides, a distinction has been made within Table 2 between those services and facilities which are considered important ('key') to the day-to-day lives of residents and are required as a minimum for a given settlement to be considered to have the ability to be self-sustaining, and by virtue, more sustainable. These Key Services and Facilities are likely to be accessed by many people in the community on a daily basis and provide important social and economic opportunities which reduce the need to travel. The Key Services and Facilities provide a retail function (convenience shop or post office), an education function (primary school), a social function (public house), and a community meeting function (village/community hall).
- 3.3.6 The NPPF also encourages development to be located where it is accessible and promotes the use of sustainable transport methods. However, it also recognises (paragraph 84) that development in rural areas may have to be found adjacent to or beyond existing settlements, and in location that are not well served by public transport. In addition, it expresses that villages may support the services in a village nearby [in respect of sustainable development and the location of rural housing] (paragraph 78). However, the NPPF does not define what is considered to be 'accessible' or a reasonable distance to travel for community needs, for the purposes of assessing settlements and access to services and facilities.
- 3.3.7 On the basis of the above, and for the purposes of the study, 'accessibility' to a facility or service from a given settlement has been defined in the following ways:
- All services and facilities are considered to be part of the settlement where they are located within, immediately adjacent to, or within a 800m radius (10 minute walking distance)¹³ of the settlement;
 - Where a key service or facility¹⁴ is not present, it is considered accessible where it is located within 5 km (3.1 miles) of the settlement; and
 - Where a non-key service or facility is not present, it is considered accessible where it is located within 8 km (5 miles) of the settlement.
- 3.3.8 For the purposes of the study, distances have been measured by road using Google Maps.
- 3.3.9 A detailed methodology for how each of the sustainability indicators has been identified and assessed is provided within Appendix B.

¹³ As defined within the National Design Guidance (October, 2019) pages 20 & 24 and Manual for Streets (2007), Paragraph 4.4.1

¹⁴ A convenience shop, post office, primary school, Public House, community/village hall or bus stop with a daily service Monday to Friday (as defined in Table 2)

3.4 Stage 3: Identifying characteristics for the sustainability categories

- 3.4.1 The next stage of the study identified categories in which to group settlements with similar levels of sustainability, using the indicators identified at Stage 2. These categories are based on whether settlements meet minimum requirements rather than using a scoring system where points would be awarded for each facility. It is considered that an approach that takes into account the type and range of facilities is a more accurate indicator of a settlement's sustainability than the number of facilities present.
- 3.4.2 From an overview of the borough, it was recognised that there was a clear difference between settlements that functioned as 'service centres' (by providing facilities and services that would serve a wider area) and 'villages' (which contained more basic facilities to meet some of their own needs). However, even within these broad categories there were significant differences in terms of the scale of the settlements and the amount and range of facilities.
- 3.4.3 On this basis, the service centres were broken down into three categories. The largest and most sustainable settlements have been defined as Principal Service Centres, which provide facilities with a borough-wide catchment such as a hospital, comparison retail and high order leisure facilities.
- 3.4.4 At the level below this were 'Large Local Service Centres', which provide for its community and surrounding smaller settlement's day-to-day retail, health, leisure, community, employment and transport needs. The third, and lowest tier of service centre (Small Local Service Centres) are smaller centres which generally only met more localised needs.
- 3.4.5 The villages have been divided into 'large' and 'small' villages in relation to their size and their level of services and facilities. Stage 2 identified the services and facilities that were most important for meeting the day-to-day needs of residents. These served four functions:
- Retail: Convenience shop or post office
Education: Primary School
Social: Public House
Community Facility: Village or Community Hall
- 3.4.6 Larger Villages are considered to be settlements with a population in excess of 750, and key facilities that satisfy three or more of the above functions, including a community facility (which was considered particularly important for bringing a community together). Where a village does not contain facilities that meet all of the above functions, the fourth is required to be accessible within 5km of the settlement, recognising the NPPF's support for settlements to support services in nearby villages.

3.4.7 In recognition of their lower categorisation, Smaller Villages are only required to contain facilities that satisfy two or more of the above functions (one of which has to be a meeting place), with a third within 5km of the settlement. Any settlements that do not meet these basic criteria have been filtered out of the study at this stage.

3.4.8 The requirements of each category are summarised in the table below:

Sustainability Category	Characteristics
1: Principal Service Centre	<p>The settlement acts as a Principal Service Centre for the borough, supporting an extended catchment area¹⁵. It has a distinct town centre containing the widest range and choice of services, facilities and employment opportunities in the borough and is well connected to other regional centres.</p> <p>As a minimum, a Principal Service Centre includes a transport hub for bus and rail, hospitals, supermarkets, leisure and sports centres and further education facilities, as well all the services and facilities identified within Large and Small Local Service Centres.</p>
2: Large Local Service Centre	<p>The settlement acts as Large Local Service Centre providing a hub for its community and surrounding smaller settlements in respect of day-to-day retail, health, leisure, community, employment and transport needs.</p> <p>The settlement will have a population of over 4,000 residents with a distinct centre containing all the identified Key Services and Facilities¹⁶ in addition to the following amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A supermarket (or choice of convenience shops); • A wide choice of shops and services (over 20 options); • A GP surgery and a pharmacy • A secondary school (or if there is not, it must be within 8km of a secondary school, and served by a school bus); • Early years education; • A place of worship; • A library; • Outdoor recreation/sports pitches; • A bus service running Monday to Sunday directly connecting to Basingstoke Town (with at least twenty

¹⁵ Includes all surrounding settlements and those outside of the borough (particularly within districts immediately adjoining the borough boundary)

¹⁶ As set out in Table 2, this includes a convenience shop, a post office, a primary school, a Public House and a community or village hall

	<p>services during peak commuting times¹⁷), or a railway station.</p> <p>If they are not present within the settlement, there must be a dentist, and indoor sports and leisure facilities within an accessible distance (8 km).</p>
3: Small Local Service Centre	<p>The settlement acts as a Small Local Service Centre and provides Key Services and Facilities which meet the basic day-to-day needs of the community and wider Parish.</p> <p>The settlement will have a population of over 2,000 residents and will contain Key Services and Facilities¹⁸ that meet all four of the identified day-to-day functions, in addition to the following amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choice of other shops or services; • A GP surgery • A place of worship; • Outdoor recreation/sports pitches; and • A bus service running at least once a day Monday to Saturday with a direct connection to Basingstoke Town. <p>If it is not present within the settlement, a secondary school must be accessible within 8km or served from the settlement by a school bus.</p> <p>If they are not present within the settlement, additional healthcare facilities (pharmacies and dentists) and indoor sports and leisure facilities must be within an accessible distance (8km).</p>
4: Large Village	<p>The settlement acts as a Large Village with a population of over 750 residents, which serves a limited local catchment, contains basic services and facilities and has limited provision of sustainable transport.</p> <p>The settlement contains Key Services and Facilities providing at least three of the four identified functions (community facility, retail, educational, social) and includes a community or village hall.</p> <p>If the settlement does not contain Key Services and Facilities providing all four functions, the fourth must be accessible within 5km of the settlement.</p>
5: Small Village	<p>The settlement acts as a Small Village with a population of at least 150 residents. The settlement contains very</p>

¹⁷ 6:30am – 9:30am and 4:00pm – 7:00pm Monday to Friday

¹⁸ As set out in Table 2, this includes a convenience shop, a post office, a primary school, a Public House and a community or village hall

	<p>limited services and facilities and relies on larger villages and service centres for day-to-day needs and principal centres for higher-tier services.</p> <p>The settlement contains Key Services and Facilities providing at least two of the four identified functions (community facility, retail, educational, social) and includes a community or village hall.</p> <p>If the settlement does not contain Key Services and Facilities providing three functions, the third must be accessible within 5km of the settlement.</p>
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3.5 Stage 4: Assigning settlements to categories

3.5.1 Following a review of the relevant factors identified by the study, each of the settlements was placed into one of the five categories outlined above, reflecting their individual characteristics and relative sustainability. This is shown in Table 5.

Category Tier	Proposed Designation	Proposed Settlement(s)
1	Principal Service Centre	Basingstoke
2	Large Local Service Centre	Overton, Tadley, Whitchurch
3	Small Local Service Centre	Bramley, Kingsclere, Oakley, Old Basing
4	Large Village	North Waltham, Sherborne St John, Sherfield on Loddon, Woolton Hill
5	Small Village	Ashford Hill, Bishops Green, Burghclere, Cliddesden, Dummer, Ecchinswell, Headley, Highclere, Preston Candover, Silchester, St Mary Bourne, Upton Grey

Table 5: Proposed Settlement Categories

3.5.2 Although Hannington was scoped into the study by reason of its size, it does not meet the minimum requirements of a ‘Small Village’. Although the settlement contains Key Services and Facilities providing two functions (a village hall and a Public House), the settlement is located more than 5 km away from any other Key Services of facilities (the nearest primary school and convenience shop are located over 6 km away in Kingsclere). The settlement therefore falls outside the settlement categories.

3.5.3 The following section provides a summary of why each settlement has been placed in a particular sustainability category based on the characteristics within Table 4 of this study.

Category 1: Principal Service Centre

- 3.5.4 Basingstoke is the only Principal Service Centre in the borough. It is home to almost half of the borough's residents and provides a wide range of retail, educational, healthcare, social, community and leisure facilities and services, as well as employment opportunities and sustainable transport connections to settlements outside the borough.
- 3.5.5 Beyond the borough, Newbury, Andover and Reading have the characteristics of Principal Service Centres and meet some of the needs of the borough's residents.

Category 2: Large Local Service Centres

- 3.5.6 The settlements identified as Large Local Service Centres are Overton, Tadley and Whitchurch.
- 3.5.7 Overton, Tadley and Whitchurch are identified within the current adopted LP retail policy as district centres; having a significant role in maintaining and enhancing prosperity, serving the day-to-day needs of their local populations but also providing access to services for neighbouring areas across and beyond the borough. Due to their wide range and choice of retail, education, healthcare, leisure, employment and sustainable transport services and facilities, these settlements act as 'hubs' for surrounding settlements both within and beyond the Parish boundary.
- 3.5.8 All three settlements have direct public transport connections to Basingstoke Town, either through having a railway station or a frequent bus service. They also have reliable access to some of the other local and principal centres both within the borough (including Bramley, Kingsclere, Oakley and Old Basing) and the wider south east (including Andover and Newbury).
- 3.5.9 A summary of relevant characteristics of each settlement is outlined below:

Settlement	Summary
Overton	<p>Overton meets the characteristics of Category 2 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 4,110 residents and the following amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Key Services and Facilities (community halls, a choice of convenience shops; a post office, a primary school and Public Houses); • Wide range of shops or services (more than 20 in total); • Within 8km of Testbourne secondary school which is accessible by school bus; • Early years education facilities; • A GP surgery and a pharmacy;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Places of worship; • A library; • Recreation ground/sports pitches; and • Connection to Basingstoke by bus (running Monday-Sunday), and via rail. <p>Overton is also within accessible distance (8 km) of a dentist and indoor sports and leisure facilities (all in Whitchurch).</p> <p>Overton is located between Basingstoke and Whitchurch which both have Strategic Employment Areas.</p>
Tadley	<p>Tadley meets the characteristics of Category 2 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 14,960 residents (including the parts of Baughurst and Pamber Heath within the same Settlement Policy Boundary) and the following combined range of amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Key Services and Facilities (community halls, a choice of convenience shops; a post office, primary education and Public Houses); • A supermarket and choice of convenience shops; • Wide range of shops or services (more than 20 in total); • A secondary school (Hurst). • Early years education facilities; • A GP surgery and a pharmacy; • A dentist; • Places of Worship; • A library; • Indoor sport and leisure facilities; • Recreation ground/sports pitches; • A bus service providing a direct connection to Basingstoke running Monday-Sunday. • The bus service has more than 20 daily services during peak hours Monday-Friday. <p>Whilst Tadley does not contain a defined Strategic Employment Area, it immediately adjoins a large employment site at AWE Aldermaston (in West Berkshire), which is a significant employer within the borough.</p>
Whitchurch	<p>Whitchurch meets the characteristics of Category 2 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 5,050 residents and the following amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Key Services and Facilities (community halls, a choice of convenience shops; a post office, primary education and Public Houses);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide range of shops or services (more than 20 in total); • A secondary school (Testbourne Community School). • Early years education; • A GP surgery and a pharmacy; • A dentist; • Places of worship; • A library; • Indoor sport and leisure facilities; • Recreation ground/sports pitches; • Connection to Basingstoke by bus (running Monday-Sunday), and via rail. <p>The settlement also contains a Strategic Employment Area at Ardglen Road Industrial Estate.</p>
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Category 3: Small Local Service Centres

3.5.10 The settlements identified as Small Local Service Centres are Bramley, Kingsclere, Oakley and Old Basing. Each have access to all the identified Key Services and Facilities which are valued by the community and provide support to communities within the wider Parish, however they contain more limited options for education, healthcare and leisure services and facilities than the Large Local Service Centres. These settlements also provide a level of sustainable transport provision which is considered to provide a realistic alternative to the private vehicle (running Monday to Saturday as a minimum).

3.5.11 In respect of employment opportunities, Kingsclere, Old Basing and Bramley are also all located within close proximity to Strategic Employment Areas which enhance the economy.

3.5.12 A summary of relevant characteristics of each settlement is outlined below:

Settlement	Summary
Bramley	<p>Bramley meets the characteristics of Category 3 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 3,430 residents and contains Key Services and Facilities that meet all four identified day-to-day functions (community hall, a convenience shop; a post office, primary education and a Public House), in addition to the following amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choice of other shops or services; • A GP surgery • A place of worship; • Recreation ground/sports pitches; and • A bus service running at least once a day Monday to Saturday connecting to Basingstoke Town;

	<p>Bramley is also within an accessible distance (8 km) of a secondary school (Everest Community Academy), a pharmacy and a dentist and indoor sports and leisure centres (Basingstoke Town).</p> <p>The settlement also contains a mainline railway station and a Strategic Employment Area (Campbell Court).</p>
Kingsclere	<p>Kingsclere meets the characteristics of Category 3 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 2,930 residents and contains Key Services and Facilities that meet all four identified day-to-day functions (community hall, a convenience shop; a post office, primary education and a Public House), in addition to the following amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choice of other shops or services; • A GP surgery and a pharmacy • A dentist • A place of worship; • Recreation ground/sports pitches; <p>A bus service running at least once a day Monday to Saturday connecting to Basingstoke Town;</p> <p>Whilst the nearest secondary school is over 8 km from the settlement (The Clere, in Burghclere), the village is served by a school bus.</p> <p>Kingsclere is also within an accessible distance (8 km) of indoor sports and leisure facilities (Tadley).</p> <p>In addition to the above, the settlement also contains a library.</p> <p>The settlement also contains a Strategic Employment Area at Kingsclere Park.</p>
Oakley	<p>Oakley meets the characteristics of Category 3 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 4,840 residents and contains Key Services and Facilities that meet all four identified day-to-day functions (community/village halls, a convenience shop; a post office, primary education and Public Houses), in addition to the following amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choice of other shops or services; • A GP surgery and a pharmacy; • A Places of Worship; • Recreation ground/sports pitches; • A bus service running at least once a day Monday to Sunday connecting to Basingstoke Town;

	Oakley is also within an accessible distance (8 km) of a secondary school (Cranbourne), a pharmacy and a dentist and indoor sports and leisure centres (all within Basingstoke Town).
Old Basing	<p>Old Basing meets the characteristics of Category 3 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 4,040 residents and contains Key Services and Facilities that meet all four identified day-to-day functions (community/village halls, a convenience shop, primary education and Public Houses), in addition to the following amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choice of other shops or services; • A GP surgery and a pharmacy; • A Places of Worship; • Recreation ground/sports pitches; • A bus service running at least once a day Monday to Saturday connecting to Basingstoke Town; <p>Old Basing is within accessible distance (8 km) of a secondary school (Costello), dentist and indoor sports and leisure centres (all within Basingstoke Town).</p> <p>The settlement also contains a Strategic Employment Area at Hatch Industrial Park.</p>

Category 4: Large Villages

3.5.13 The settlements identified as Large Villages are North Waltham, Sherborne St John, Sherfield on Loddon and Woolton Hill.

3.5.14 Whilst public transport is available in these settlements it is acknowledged that services are limited and less frequent, particularly where there is a large distance between the settlement and the larger urban areas, or the settlement is not located on a main road. Due to their smaller scale and sustainability level, access to healthcare facilities is also limited and it is necessary to travel to larger settlements in Categories 1-3 for some of these facilities. Therefore, whilst these settlements contain the basic facilities to meet residents' day-to-day needs, they are reliant upon service centres for higher order facilities and services.

Settlement	Summary
North Waltham	North Waltham meets the characteristics of Category 4 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population of 780 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least three different functions including:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A convenience shop; • A primary school; and • A Public House. <p>As the settlement includes Key Services and Facilities that provide all four functions it is not required to be within accessible distance (5 km) of any other key service or facility.</p>
Sherborne St John	<p>Sherborne St John meets the characteristics of Category 4 in respect of population and service and facility provision. It has a population size of 760 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet three different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A primary school; and • A Public House. <p>The settlement is within accessible distance (5 km) of convenience shops in Basingstoke (a fourth type of key service and facility).</p>
Sherfield on Loddon	<p>Sherfield on Loddon meets the characteristics of Category 4 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 1,280 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least three different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A convenience shop and post office; and • A Public House. <p>The settlement is within accessible distance (5 km) of Bramley primary school (the fourth type of key service and facility).</p>
Woolton Hill	<p>Woolton Hill meets the characteristics of Category 4 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 1,880 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least three different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A convenience shop and a post office; • A primary school; and • A Public House. <p>As the settlement includes Key Services and Facilities that provide all four key functions it is not required to be within accessible distance (5 km) of any other key service or facility.</p>

Category 5: Small Villages

3.5.15 The settlements identified as Small Villages are Ashford Hill, Bishops Green, Burghclere, Cliddesden, Dummer, Ecchinswell, Headley, Highclere, Preston Candover, Silchester, St Mary Bourne and Upton Grey.

3.5.16 The residents of these settlements are reliant upon private vehicles as there are low levels of public transport provision and limited services which run infrequently during the day and, in most circumstances, only run a couple of times a week.

3.5.17 A summary of relevant characteristics of each settlement is outlined below:

Settlement	Summary
Ashford Hill	<p>Ashford Hill meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 190 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that provide at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A primary school; and • A Public House. <p>As the settlement includes Key Services and Facilities providing three functions it is not required to be within accessible distance (5 km) of any other key service or facility.</p>
Bishops Green	<p>Bishops Green meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 690 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; and • A convenience shop. <p>The settlement is within accessible distance (5 km) of a key service or facility providing a third function: the primary school in Ecchinswell.</p>
Burghclere	<p>Burghclere meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 530 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A primary school; and • A Public House.

	As the settlement includes three Key Services and Facilities it is not required to be within accessible distance (5 km) of any other key service or facility.
Cliddesden	<p>Cliddesden meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 410 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; and • A Public House. <p>The settlement is within accessible distance (5 km) of a third key service or facility: a primary school immediately to the south west of the settlement.</p>
Dummer	<p>Dummer meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 280 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; and • A Public House. <p>Whilst the settlement does contain a post office, this service is only available on a Wednesday morning, which is not sufficient to 'count' towards the category's requirements</p> <p>The settlement is within accessible distance (5 km) of a third type of key service or facility: a convenience shop (3.7 km) in North Waltham.</p>
Ecchinswell	<p>Ecchinswell meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 210 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A convenience shop; • A primary school; and • A Public House. <p>As the settlement includes Key Services and Facilities that provide all four functions it is not required to be within accessible distance (5 km) of any other key service or facility.</p>
Headley	Headley meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 440 residents and meets the requirement

	<p>of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; and • A convenience shop and post office. <p>The settlement is within accessible distance (5 km) of a third key service or facility: a Public House (1.7 km) to the south of the settlement, near Kingsclere.</p>
Highclere	<p>Highclere meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 390 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; and • A Public House. <p>The settlement is within accessible distance (5 km) of a third key service or facility: primary education (1.9 km) in Woolton Hill.</p>
Preston Candover	<p>Preston Candover meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 150 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A convenience shop and a post office; • A primary school; and • A Public House. <p>As the settlement includes Key Services and Facilities that provide all four functions it is not required to be within accessible distance (5 km) of any other key service or facility.</p>
Silchester	<p>Silchester meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 590 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A primary school; and • A Public House. <p>As the settlement includes three Key Services and Facilities it is not required to be within accessible distance (5 km) of any other key service or facility.</p>

St Mary Bourne	<p>St Mary Bourne meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 540 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A convenience shop and post office • A primary school; and • A Public House. <p>As the settlement includes Key Services and Facilities that provide all four functions, it is not required to be within accessible distance (5 km) of any other key service or facility.</p>
Upton Grey	<p>Upton Grey meets the characteristics of Category 5 in respect of population and service and facility provision, as it has a population size of 410 residents and meets the requirement of providing Key Services and Facilities that meet at least two different functions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community/village hall; • A convenience shop; and • A Public House. <p>As the settlement includes three Key Services and Facilities it is not required to be within accessible distance (5 km) of any other key service or facility.</p>

4. Conclusions

4.1 Summary of Key Findings

- 4.1.1 Taking the approach set out within this study, five sustainability categories have been identified (Table 10), reflecting the relative sustainability of the borough's settlements. These categories, and the settlements that fall within each are summarised below.

Category Tier	Settlement(s)
1: Principal Service Centre	Basingstoke
2: Large Local Service Centre	Overton, Tadley, Whitchurch
3: Small Local Service Centre	Bramley, Kingsclere, Oakley, Old Basing
4: Large Village	North Waltham, Sherborne St John, Sherfield on Loddon, Woolton Hill
5: Small Village	Ashford Hill, Bishops Green, Burghclere, Cliddesden, Dummer, Ecchinswell, Headley, Highclere, Preston Candover, Silchester, St Mary Bourne, Upton Grey

Table 9: Basingstoke and Deane LPU Sustainability Categories

- 4.1.2 The study has identified Overton, Tadley and Whitchurch to be the most sustainable locations for future growth (Category 2: Large Local Service Centres), after Basingstoke Town. This is due to their wide range of all types of services and facilities, direct transport connections by bus, and also rail (in respect of Whitchurch and Overton) to principal centres within and outside the borough, subsequent employment opportunities and the supportive role they play in the wider hinterland.
- 4.1.3 Bramley, Kingsclere, Oakley and Old Basing have been categorised as Small Local Service Centres, providing (or are within accessible (5 km) distance of) all the Key Services and Facilities to fulfil the day to day needs of residents and provide a limited range of other facilities.
- 4.1.4 North Waltham, Sherborne St John, Sherfield on Loddon and Woolton Hill have been identified as being smaller in scale and level of service and facility provision and are therefore categorised as Large Villages. Due to their relative scale these settlements are not able to provide a full range of identified Key Services and Facilities, are unable to meet all the day-to-day needs of residents, and generally have restricted public transport options. These settlements are particularly reliant on other settlements, to fulfil their retail, education healthcare, employment and leisure needs.

- 4.1.5 Settlements which are considered as Small Villages (Category 5) only provide basic and limited Key Services and Facilities and are not considered to have an appropriate level of sustainability to be considered suitable for significant levels of growth. These settlements are generally reliant on service centres for non-Key Services and Facilities. For smaller Key Services and Facilities, residents of these settlements are able to travel shorter distances to other larger and more sustainable settlements in the wider parish to meet their day-to-day needs.

4.2 Next steps

- 4.2.1 The study seeks to assist with identifying suitable sustainable settlements where the LPU could support future growth. National guidance is clear that development should be focused on locations which are, or can be made, sustainable.
- 4.2.2 Part 2 of the study will consider further the wider role of each settlement, taking into account their particular characteristics and constraints to inform decisions on suitable levels of future growth. The information collated within Part 1 of this study does not provide a complete representation of the local context, opportunities or constraints of the categorised settlements, or the likely appropriate levels of growth they could accommodate.
- 4.2.3 In addition, it is acknowledged that five identified settlements within the sustainability categories (Bishops Green, Ecchinswell, Headley, Highclere and Silchester) do not currently have defined SPBs. If Part 2 of the study identifies that growth should be planned in those settlements, new settlement policy boundaries will need to be identified to bring them in line with other settlements identified in this study.

APPENDIX A

Sustainability indicators identified by national policy (NPPF, 2019)

Paragraph	Key Indicators
<p>Paragraph 8: Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways [...] b) a social objective – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health social and cultural well-being.</p>	<p>Health facilities Pharmacy Library Post Office Open space Convenience shop</p>
<p>Paragraph 72: The supply of large numbers of new homes can often be best achieved through planning for larger scale development, such as new settlements or significant extensions to existing villages and towns, provided they are well located and designed, and supported by the necessary infrastructure and facilities.</p>	<p>Convenience shops Supermarkets Health facilities Open space Play parks Public Houses Places of worship Community meeting space/halls Library Post Office</p>
<p>Paragraph 83: Planning policies and decisions should enable: [...], d) the retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural building, public houses and places of worship.</p>	<p>Convenience shops Supermarkets Health facilities Open space Play parks Public Houses Places of worship Community meeting space/halls Library Post Office</p>
<p>Paragraph 91: Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which a) promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other [...]; c) enable and support healthy lifestyle, especially where this would address identified local health and wellbeing needs – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling.</p>	<p>Sports/recreation facilities/playing fields/open space General supermarkets Health facilities Community meeting space/halls Places of worship Public Houses</p>

<p>Paragraph 92: To provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities and ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services;</p>	<p>Play parks Sports/recreation facilities/playing fields/open space Public Houses Places of worship Community meeting space/halls Employment opportunities</p>
<p>Paragraph 94: It is important that a sufficient choice of school places is available to meet the needs of existing and new communities.</p>	<p>Primary school Secondary school Colleges</p>
<p>Paragraph 96: Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities.</p>	<p>Open space Recreation grounds/field/open Indoor leisure and sports centres</p>
<p>Paragraph 103: Significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. [...] However, opportunities to maximize sustainable transport solutions will vary between urban and rural areas, and this should be taken into account in both plan-making and decision-making.</p>	<p>Public transport provision Walking and cycling facilities</p>
<p>Paragraph 104: Planning policies should support an appropriate mix of uses across an area, and within larger scale sites, to minimise the number and length of journeys needed for employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities.</p>	<p>Employment opportunities Public transport access Distances to main employment centres</p>
<p>Paragraph 112: Advanced, high quality and reliable communications infrastructure is essential for economic growth and social well-being. Planning policies and decisions should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections.</p>	<p>High speed broadband services</p>

APPENDIX B

Methodology for identifying facilities and services

The following table explains how facilities and services were identified and ‘counted’ in Appendix C.

Sustainability Indicator	Methodology
<p>Retail Facilities</p>	<p>The study identifies the provision of retail facilities, including convenience shops, supermarkets, other shops and services and post offices.</p> <p>The study distinguishes between local convenience shops and supermarkets by using the Government’s Sunday Trading thresholds¹⁹, which defines food retailers as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local convenience shops (for top-up shopping) < 280sqm floorspace. • Supermarkets (for weekly food shops and a wider range of goods) > 280sqm floorspace. <p>Other retail services and facilities have been defined in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post offices – must be open 5 days a week to be considered to serve a key function within the community. • Other shops and services – which meet other local retail needs including butchers, news agents, hairdressers and cafes. <p>Home offices, where sales take place online, have not been considered within the scope of this study.</p> <p>Sources: Town and Parish Council Questionnaire Post offices: https://www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder GIS and Land charges register</p>
<p>Education Services</p>	<p>The study identifies the provision of education facilities at primary (including infant/junior) and secondary levels.</p> <p>Where a school is not present in the settlement, rather than recording the nearest provision, it records distance to the catchment school (as defined by the Local Education Authority).</p>

¹⁹ Government legislation defines a large shop as having over 280sqm of floorspace (<https://www.gov.uk/trading-hours-for-retailers-the-law>). As such this study considers large shops to be supermarkets (supporting larger weekly shopping) and those below 280sqm as being convenience shops (supporting top-up shopping habits).

	<p>Early years provision has been recorded based upon the responses in the Town and Parish Council questionnaires.</p> <p>Further and Higher Education institutions have not been considered within the scope of the study. These facilities are not based upon catchments and it is accepted that greater distances will need to be travelled to access such facilities given the low level of provision across the borough.</p> <p>Private fee-paying education provision has not been considered within the scope of the study.</p> <p>Sources: LEA and HCC catchment data (https://maps.hants.gov.uk/SchoolCatchmentAreaFinder/) Town and Parish Council Questionnaire</p>
<p>Healthcare Services</p>	<p>The study identifies the provision of healthcare facilities including GP surgeries, dental practices and pharmacies. In order to be counted the facilities are required to accommodate bookable appointments at least five days a week.</p> <p>Access to a hospital has not been specifically considered as part of the study. Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital is the local hospital for the borough. Some settlements are in closer proximity to hospitals outside of the borough boundary however, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital has an A&E department. It is therefore considered to be the nearest hospital offering all necessary facilities for the majority of the borough's residents. The hospital is located to the north-west of Basingstoke Town, and its accessibility is reflected by the level of connectivity each settlement has to the town, including the level of public transport provision.</p> <p>Private healthcare provision has not been considered within the scope of the study.</p> <p>Sources: Information from Local CCGs and NHS (https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-gp, https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist and https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-pharmacy) Town and Parish Council Questionnaire</p>
<p>Social Facilities</p>	<p>Social facilities provide a distinctive element of community life to support bringing people together and improving the local economy. For the purposes of the study social facilities includes Public Houses which have been separated from other community facilities (those listed below) to distinguish between the different functions they provide.</p> <p>Sources:</p>

	GIS and Town and Parish Council Questionnaire
Multi-Functional Community Facilities	<p>Community facilities are an important part of community life and the vitality of towns and villages, particularly in rural settlements. The study identifies the provision of community facilities which provide a multi-functional use, including Places of Worship, community/village halls and libraries.</p> <p>The facilities must be open to the public. Private fee-paying social clubs have not been considered for the purposes of the study.</p> <p>Sources: BDBC data (https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/communitycentres) Hampshire Libraries data (https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/libraryfinder?search=yes)</p>
Recreation/ Sports and Leisure Facilities	<p>Sports, leisure and recreation form an important part of residents' lives within the borough. Therefore, access to these services and facilities has been considered as part of the study. The facilities need to be registered with the council and include both privately owned and council owned premises (which are open to the public). The provision includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor Sports Centres • Leisure Centres • Recreation Grounds • Sports Pitches <p>Sources: BDBC data (https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/leisure and https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/future-planning) Town and Parish Council Questionnaires</p>
Employment Facilities	<p>The settlement study identifies the Strategic Employment Areas outside of Basingstoke Town and located within the borough (as defined within the current adopted Local Plan).</p> <p>Larger settlements are likely to have a greater number of commercial premises. The majority of the borough's defined employment areas are located in and around Basingstoke Town SPB²⁰, with provision also in Bramley, Kingsclere and Whitchurch. Those settlements located in close proximity to, or which are able to access these settlements by good sustainable transport connections, are therefore more likely to benefit from access to these</p>

²⁰ Including asing View, Brighton Hill Industrial Estate, Chineham Business Park, Daneshill East, Daneshill West, Hampshire International Business Park, Houndmills, Land North of Daneshill East, Land South of Chineham Business Park, Moniton Trading Estate, Viables Business Park, West Ham Industrial Estate.

	<p>employment areas when compared to more remote settlements.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, it is considered unreasonable to base or define a settlement’s sustainability on the location of a place of employment as the opportunity may not provide a service for the majority of a community (particular in an area with an ageing population) and it is difficult to accurately estimate the number of opportunities available within a defined settlement area. This is a matter which will become more challenging to measure as lifestyles evolve to more remote working opportunities.</p> <p>Therefore, for the purposes of the study, it has been assumed that access to employment opportunities will be greater in settlements with a larger population and with sites identified for employment²¹. However, connectivity to employment opportunities elsewhere in the borough has also been considered.</p> <p>Sources: Local Plan Policies Map / GIS Economic Needs Assessment (2015)</p>
<p>Sustainable Transport Services</p>	<p>National and local planning policy support the use of sustainable transport²² and ensuring developments have access to these sustainable transport opportunities. This is expressed through national guidance and best practice for sustainable development (including the LPAs own climate emergency declaration and Horizon 2050 Vision). However, it is acknowledged, particularly for those settlements in rural areas, that private vehicles will be relied upon to a greater extent due to these settlements having a less reliable public transport systems at present and their greater need to travel to larger settlements for a wider range of services and facilities.</p> <p>Long-distance journeys will more likely be carried out by bus and rail, whereas residents are more likely to walk and cycle shorter distances for recreation and leisure purposes. Therefore, this study primarily focuses on bus and rail for sustainable transport purposes. It considers good accessibility to be a direct transport connection to the main principal centre of the borough, particularly during peak times (with over 20 services during 06:30-09:30am and 04:00-07:30pm Monday to Friday), or access to a railway station. However, walking and cycling are acknowledged through the approach to defining accessibility (paragraph 3.3.6).</p>

²¹ As identified within the current adopted Local Plan 2011-2029

²² For the purposes of the study, sustainable transport methods includes walking, cycling, bus and rail services

	<p>More sustainable settlements are considered to have more frequent bus or rail services which offer a realistic alternative to private vehicles. Whilst a bus service (Monday-Saturday) is considered an important day-to-day service, the location and presence of a bus stop is not considered a reasonable indicator of sustainability in isolation from other services and facilities, which is supported by the NPPF (paragraph 84).</p> <p>Other transport services (including community bus services) are not considered to be reliable alternatives to private vehicles given their limited frequency and operational hours (only benefitting a particular sector of the community). However, school run catchment bus services have been considered for secondary schools, given the large catchments that they cover, and greater distances residents are required to travel.</p> <p>Sources: Bus timetables Town and Parish Council Questionnaires GIS</p>
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APPENDIX C

Matrix of services and facilities in settlements

Explanation note:

All settlements have been indicated throughout the matrix by their initials (as shown in column one of the matrix) and have been used to identify the next nearest location for a range of key and non-Key Services and Facilities, which have been identified within this study. Where the next nearest facility is located outside of the borough this is identified by its full name, for clarity.

The schools identified for each settlement are the catchment schools.

Where a service or facility is limited to certain days of the week, initials have been used to identify when the service or facility is operational. This is identified by the day of the week initial as follows: **M** (Monday), **T** (Tuesday), **W** (Wednesday), **T** (Thursday), **F** (Friday), **Sa** (Saturday) and **S** (Sunday).

Google Maps has been used to calculate distances. Distance measurements to each of the nearest services and facilities were taken from the shortest calculated routes from Google's chosen central point of each settlement by road. These measurements are recorded in kilometres (km). It was assumed that the Google Maps calculated routes were physically appropriate for the detail required for this study and the likely methods of travel.

Data sources are set out within Appendix B.

*Tadley also includes those parts of Baughurst and Pamber Heath within the same Settlement Policy Boundary.

Facility/Service	Asford Hill (AH)	Bishops Green (BG)	Bramley (BR)	Burghclere (BU)	Cliddesden (CL)	Dummer (DU)	Ecchinswell (EC)	Hannington (HA)	Headley (HE)	Highclere (HI)	Kingsclere (KI)	North Waltham (NW)	Oakley (OA)	Old Basing (OB)	Overton (OV)	Preston Candover (PC)	Sherborne St John (SSJ)	Sherfield on Loddon (SOL)	Silchester (SI)	St Mary Bourne (SMB)	Tadley (TAD)*	Upton Grey (UG)	Whitchurch (WH)	Wootton Hill (WH)
Population (SAPF, 2019)	190	690	3,430	530	410	280	210	210	440	390	2,930	780	4,840	4,040	4,110	180	760	1,280	590	540	14,960	410	5,050	1,880
Retail Facilities																								
Convenience Shop	0 4.1 km (TAD)	1	1	0 5.2 km (WH)	0 2.6 km (BAS)	0 3.7 km (NW)	1	0 6.2 km (KI)	1	0 2.4 km (WH)	3	1	1	2	2	1	0 3.2 km (BAS)	1	0 3.5 km (TAD)	1	4	1	2	1
Supermarket	0 5.2 km (TAD)	0 7km (Newbury)	0 6.9 km (BAS)	0 6.7 km (Newbury)	0 2.6 km (BAS)	0 3.8 km (BAS)	0 10.8 km (Newbury)	0 11.3 km (TAD)	0 8.5 km (Newbury)	0 8.7 km (Newbury)	0 9.7 km (TAD)	0 6.2 km (BAS)	0 6 km (BAS)	0 km (BAS)	4 12.7 km (BAS)	0 9.2 km (BAS)	0 4.8 km (BAS)	0 5.3 km (BAS)	0 3.5 km (TAD)	0 11 km (Andover)	1	0 8.5 km (BAS)	0 12.6 km (Andover)	0 8 km (Newbury)
Other Shop/Service	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	8	5	20+	0	0	3	0	0	20+	0	20+	0
Post Office	0 4.3 km (HE)	0 1.4 km (HE)	1	0 5.2 km (WH)	0 4.4 km (BAS)	0 3.5km (BAS)	0 3.4 km (KI)	0 6.2 km (KI)	1	0 2.4 km (WH)	1	0 6 km (BAS)	1	0 3.7 km (BAS)	1	1	0 2.6 km (BAS)	1	0 1.8 km (TAD)	1	3	0 6.2 km (Hook)	1	1
Education Services																								
Primary School	1	0 4.2 km (EC)	1	1	0 1.4 km	0 3.9 km (NW)	1 0.3 km	0 5.9 km (KI)	0 5.5 km (EC)	0 1.9 km (WH)	1	1	1	1	1	1	0 3.5 km (BR)	1	0 0.3 km	1	3	0 6.1km (Long Sutton)	1	1
Secondary School	0 10.6 km (BU)	0 5.1 km (BU)	0 7.3 km (BAS)	1 0.6 km	0 2.7 km (BAS)	0 6.7 km (BAS)	0 4.9 km (BU)	0 16.2 km (BU)	0 6.4 km (BU)	0 6 km (BU)	0 9.4 km (BU)	0 9.1 km (BAS)	0 6.4 km (BAS)	0 3.1 km (BAS)	0 6.6 km (WHI)	0 10.3 km (Alresford)	0 1.8 km (BAS)	0 7.6 km (BAS)	0 6.2 km (TAD)	0 9.2 km (WHI)	1	0 3.3 km (Hook)	1	0 5.6 km (BU)
Early Years	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	7	0	3	2
Healthcare Services																								
GP Surgery	0 5.2 km (TAD)	0 5.6 km (KI)	1	0 5.3 km (Newbury)	0 2.7 km (BAS)	0 4 km (BAS)	0 3.4 km (KI)	0 6.3 km (KI)	0 4.3 km (KI)	0 2.6 km (Newbury)	1	0 5.8 km (OA)	1	3	1	0 8.7 km (BAS)	0 3 km (BAS)	0 3.9 km (BR)	0 4 km (TAD)	0 3.2 km (Andover)	2	0 6.1 km (Hook)	1	1
Dentist	0 4.7 km (TAD)	0 5.8 km (KI)	0 5.5 km (BAS)	0 5.6 km (Newbury)	0 2.7 km (BAS)	0 4 km (BAS)	0 3.5 km (KI)	0 6.4 km (KI)	0 4.5 km (KI)	0 7.4 km (Newbury)	1	0 6 km (BAS)	0 4 km (BAS)	0 1 km (BAS)	0 6.3 km (WHI)	0 8.7 km (BAS)	0 3 km (BAS)	0 3.9 km (BR)	0 4.1 km (TAD)	0 8.9 km (WHI)	1	0 6.2 km (BAS)	1	0 6.9 km (Newbury)
Pharmacy	0 5.2 km (TAD)	0 5.8 km (KI)	0 5.3 km (BAS)	0 5.3 km (Newbury)	0 2.7 km (BAS)	0 3.8 km (BAS)	0 3.4 km (KI)	0 6.3 km (KI)	0 4.3 km (KI)	0 5.7 km (Newbury)	1	0 5.3 km (BAS)	1	1	1	0 8.7 km (BAS)	0 2.6 km (BAS)	0 4 km (BAS)	0 3.4 km (TAD)	0 8.5 km (WHI)	3	0 6 km (Hook)	1	0 5.3 km (Newbury)
Social Facilities																								
Public House	1 0.6 km	0 3.8 km (Newbury)	1	1	1	1	1	1	0 1.7 km (near KI)	1	3	1	2	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	5	1	4	1

Facility/Service	Asford Hill (AH)	Bishops Green (BG)	Bramley (BR)	Burghclere (BU)	Cliddesden (CL)	Dummer (DU)	Ecchinswell (EC)	Harrington (HA)	Headley (HE)	Highclere (HI)	Kingsclere (KI)	North Waltham (NW)	Oakley (OA)	Old Basing (OB)	Overton (OV)	Preston Candover (PC)	Sherborne St John (SSJ)	Sherfield on Loddbn (SOL)	Silchester (SI)	St Mary Bourne (SMB)	Tadley (TAD)*	Upton Grey (UG)	Whitchurch (WHH)	Woolton Hill (WH)
Community Facilities																								
Community/Village Hall	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	4	2
Place of Worship	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	10	1	2	2
Library	0 4.6 km (KI)	0 5.8 km (KI)	0 12.1 km (BAS)	0 6.3 km (Newbury)	0 4.4 km (BAS)	0 8.4 km (BAS)	0 3.5 km (KI)	0 5.9 km (KI)	0 4.8 km (KI)	0 8.5 km (Newbury)	1	0 7.4 km (OV)	0 6.5 km (OV)	0 4.5 km (BAS)	1	0 9.7 km (Alresford)	0 8.9 km (BAS)	0 9.1 km (BAS)	0 3.3 km (TAD)	0 8.8 km (WHI)	1	0 6.1 km (Hook)	1	0 7.8 km (Newbury)
Recreation / Sports and Leisure Facilities																								
Indoor Sports/Leisure Centres	N 12.2 km (Newbury)	N 6.9 km (Newbury)	0 6.9 km (BAS)	N 6.9 km (Newbury)	N 5.5 km (BAS)	N 1.9 km	N 11 km (TAD)	N 15.2 km (BAS)	N 8 km (Newbury)	N 2.3 km (WH)	N 7.5 km (TAD)	N 7.5 km (BAS)	N 6.1 km (BAS)	N 4 km (BAS)	N 6.4 km (WHI)	N 10.5 km (Alresford)	N 5 km (BAS)	N 5 km (BAS)	N 3.5 km (TAD)	N 9.3 km (WHI)	Y	N 8.5 km (BAS)	Y	Y
Recreation Grounds/Sports Pitch	Y	Y	Y	Y	N 7.8 km (BAS)	Y 0.7 km	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y 0.75 km	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Employment Facilities																								
Strategic Employment Areas	0 5.1 km (KI)	0 5.1 km (KI)	1 (Campbell Court)	0 10.8 km (KI)	0 3.6 km (BAS)	0 7.3 km (BAS)	0 3.6 km (KI)	0 6.5 km (KI)	0 3.8 km (KI)	0 14.3 km (KI)	1 (Kingsclere Park)	0 9.1 km (BAS)	0 4.5 km (BAS)	1 (Hatch Industrial Park)	0 6.5 km (WHI)	0 10.9 km (BAS)	0 4.8 km (BAS)	0 4.9 km (BAS)	0 6.4 km (BR)	0 9.2 km (WHI)	0 9.2 km (BR), also adjacent to AWE	0 5.7 km (OB)	1 (Ardglen Road Industrial Estate)	0 13.9 km (KI)
Sustainable Transport Services																								
Bus Service (minimum of one bus service a day M-Sa)	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y 0.5 km	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y
Main Bus Services Route No. (day of service)	56 (W&F)	103 (M-F)	14 (M-Sa)	7 (M-F)	C41 (W&F)	16 (M,W&F)	0	54 (W)	Link (M-Sa)	7 (M-Sa)	Link (M-Sa)	16 (M,W&F)	76 & 11 (M-S)	10 (M-Sa), 55 (M-F)	76 & 80M (M-S), 74 (T&Th)	C41 (W&F)	2 (M-S)	14 (M-Sa)	14 (M-Sa)	C3 (M,W,F&S), C8 (T&Th)	2 (M-S), 14 (M-Sa)	0	76 (M-S), 86 (M-F)	7 (M-Sa)
Railway Station	0 18.3 km (BAS)	0 6.5 km (Newbury)	1	0 6 km (Newbury)	0 5.8 km (BAS)	0 11.4 km (BAS)	0 10.2 km (Newbury)	0 8.1 km (OV)	0 7.9 km (Newbury)	0 8.1 km (Newbury)	0 12.9 km (WHI)	0 8.7 km (OV)	0 7.8 km (OV)	0 3.8 km (BAS)	1	0 14.3 km (BAS)	0 4.4 km (BAS)	0 3.5 km (BR)	0 5.2 km (BR)	0 9.8 km (WHI)	0 9.8 km (BAS)	0 9.5 km (BAS)	1	0 7.7 km (Newbury)

