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Appendix N: Definitions of significance

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
1. Housing To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of Ashfield.	• Will it provide sufficient new homes taking into account need and demand? • Will it support the range of housing types and sizes, including affordable, to meet the needs of all sectors in the community? • Will it create sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities? • Will it promote high standards of design and construction? • Will it reduce the number of unfit homes? • For a heritage asset will it help to reduce the number of vacant buildings through adaptive re-use? • Will it meet the needs of the travelling community?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would provide a significant increase to housing supply and would provide access to decent, affordable housing for residents with different needs. The policy/proposal would deliver sufficient pitches to meet the requirements for Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would provide an increase to housing supply and would provide access to decent, affordable housing for residents with different needs. The policy/proposal would make use of/improve existing buildings or unfit, empty homes. The policy/proposal would promote high quality design. The policy/proposal would promote a range of housing types. The policy/proposal would deliver pitches to meet the requirements for Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of affordable, decent housing available.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the amount of affordable, decent housing available.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
2. Health To improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities.	- Will it increase life expectancy? - Will it reduce health inequalities? - Will it improve access to services? - Will it protect and enhance open spaces of amenity and recreational value? - Will it increase the opportunities for recreational physical activity? - Will it encourage healthy lifestyles, including travel and food choices?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would have strong and sustained impacts on healthy lifestyles and improve well-being through physical activity, recreational activity, improved environmental quality, etc. Different groups within the society are taken into consideration. The policy/proposal would significantly help to ensure sites are located in close proximity to a range of important health services and suitable neighbouring uses. The policy/proposal would provide a significant amount of new health services, open space and/or other physical activity.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would promote healthy lifestyles and improve well-being through physical activity, recreational activity, improved environmental quality, etc. Different groups within the society are taken into consideration. The policy/proposal would aid in ensuring sites that would be within close proximity to a GP's facility and/or open space. The policy/proposal would aid in the creation of sites that have suitable neighbouring uses. The policy/proposal would provide a health facility and/or some amount of open space. The policy/proposal would encourage physical activity by supporting the creation of other, physical recreational activities besides open space.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective. It is anticipated that the policy/proposal will neither cause nor prevent the delivery of healthier communities.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would encourage unhealthy lifestyles and/or potentially reduce life expectancy. The policy/proposal would reduce the accessibility of services, health services and open space.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in a significant loss in services, health services and/or open space. The policy/proposal would result in the creation of a development that has the potential to significantly negatively affect its surroundings.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
3.Historic Environment To conserve and enhance Ashfield's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	- Will it conserve and/or enhance designated heritage assets, non-designated heritage assets, and their setting? - Will it respect, maintain and strengthen local character and distinctiveness? - Lead to the repair and adaptive reuse of a heritage asset? - Will it increase social benefit (e.g. education,	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would protect and enhance the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with national designations (including their setting). The policy/proposal will make use of historic buildings, spaces and places through sensitive adaption and re-use allowing these distinctive assets to be accessed.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would protect and enhance the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with regional or local designations (including their setting). The policy/proposal will increase access of historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.

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	participation, citizenship, health and wellbeing) derived from the historic environment? • Will it provide better opportunities for people to access and understand local heritage and to participate in cultural activities? • Will it increase the economic benefit from the historic environment? • Will it ensure that repair/maintenance is sympathetic to local character?	-	Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with regional or local designation. The policy/proposal would temporarily restrict access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with national designation or result in the destruction of heritage assets (national, regional, local). The policy/proposal would permanently restrict access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
4.Community Safety To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	• Will it help to create a safe environment? • Will it reduce crime and the fear of crime? • Will it contribute to a safe secure environment? • Does it design out crime?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly help to reduce crime/fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. The policy/proposal would significantly help to encourage social inclusion. The policy/proposal would significantly contribute towards road safety for all users.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would help to reduce crime/fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. The policy/proposal would help to encourage social inclusion.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective. It is anticipated that the policy will neither cause nor prevent the delivery of safer communities.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would increase crime/fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. The policy/proposal would reduce social inclusion and road safety.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would significantly increase crime/fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. The policy/proposal would significantly reduce social cohesion and road safety.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
5.Social Inclusion Deprivation To improve social inclusion and to close the gap between the most deprived areas	- Will it address the Indices of Multiple Deprivation and the underlying indicators? - Promote effective integration with existing communities?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would provide a significant amount of affordable housing. The policy/proposal would provide a significant amount of housing that is comprised of various housing types. The policy/proposal would contribute to the creation of new key services and/or facilities (e.g. health, educational and/or leisure). The policy/proposal would significantly improve social and environmental conditions within deprived areas and support regeneration.

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and the rest of Ashfield.	• Provide for affordable housing? • Provide for an appropriate housing mix? • Will it improve accessibility to key local services and facilities, including health, education and leisure? • Will it improve accessibility to shopping facilities?	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would contribute to the creation of additional services (e.g. shopping/commercial facilities). The policy/proposal would provide an amount of affordable housing. The policy/proposal would provide an amount of housing that is comprised of various housing types. The policy/proposal would improve social and environmental conditions within deprived areas.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective. It is anticipated that the policy will neither cause nor prevent the delivery of safer communities.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in the loss of affordable housing and/or a reduction in the variety of housing types available. The policy/proposal would result in a loss of additional services (e.g. shopping/commercial facilities). The policy/proposal would reduce the accessibility, availability and quality of existing community facilities and services.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in a significant loss of affordable housing and/or a reduction in the variety of housing types available. The policy/proposal would result in the loss of key services (e.g. health, educational and/or leisure). The policy/proposal would result in new residential development being inaccessible to existing services and facilities.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

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6. Biodiversity & Green Infrastructure To conserve, enhance and increase biodiversity levels and Green & Blue Infrastructure	- Will it protect SPAs SAC and SSSI? - Will it protect, maintain and enhance or provide mitigation for sites designated for their local nature conservation interest? - Does the plan seek to prevent habitat & wildlife corridor fragmentation? - Does it provide opportunities for provision & enhancement of priority habitat or species? - Does it provide opportunities for provision & enhancement of green space / green infrastructure?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would have a positive effect on European or national designated sites, habitats or species e.g. enhancing habitats, creating additional habitat or increasing protected species population. The policy/proposal would create new habitat and link it with existing habitats or significantly improve existing habitats to support local biodiversity. The policy/proposal would have major positive effects on protected geologically important sites. The policy/proposal would significantly enhance the County's green infrastructure network.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would have a positive effect on regional or local designated sites, habitats or species. The policy/proposal would improve existing habitats to support local biodiversity. The policy/proposal would have positive effects on protected geologically important sites. The policy/proposal would enhance the County's green infrastructure network.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.

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	• Will it lead to a loss of or damage to a designated geological site? • Will it conserve and enhance biodiversity taking into account the impacts of climate change? • Will it promote carbon sequestration?	-	Negative	The policy/proposal would have negative effects on regional or local designated sites, habitats or species e.g. short term loss of habitats, loss of species and temporary effects on the functioning of ecosystems. The proposed policy would lead to short-term disturbance of existing habitat but would not have long-term effects on local biodiversity. The proposed policy would have minor negative effects on protected geologically important sites. The policy/proposal would adversely affect the County's green infrastructure network.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would have negative effects on European or national designated sites, habitats and/or protected species (i.e. on the interest features and integrity of the site, by preventing any of the conservation objectives from being achieved or resulting in a long term decreases in the population of a priority species). These effects could not be reasonably mitigated. The policy/proposal would result in significant, long term negative effects on non-designated sites (e.g. through significant loss of habitat leading to a long term loss of ecosystem structure and function). The policy/proposal would have significant negative effects on protected geologically important sites. The policy/proposal would have a significant adverse effect on the County's green infrastructure network.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

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7.Landscape To protect enhance and manage the character and appearance of Ashfield's landscape /townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.	- Will it maintain and/or enhance the local distinctiveness and character of landscape? - Will it recognise and protect the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside? - Will it promote development that is in scale and proportionate to host settlement? - Will it promote sites that are well planned or soft landscaped in such a way as to positively enhance the environment? - Will it protect the strategic function of the Green Belt?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would offer potential to significantly enhance landscape/townscape character. The policy/proposal would ensure the long term protection of the Green Belt.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would offer potential to enhance landscape/townscape character.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would have an adverse effect on landscape/townscape character.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would have a significant adverse effect on landscape/townscape character. The policy/proposal would result in inappropriate development in the Green Belt or affect the permanence of the Green Belt boundary.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
8.Natural Resources To minimise the loss of natural resources including soils, greenfield land	- Will it use land that has been previously developed (brownfield land)? - Will it protect and enhance the best and	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage significant development on previously developed land (PDL). The policy/proposal would result in existing land / soil contamination being removed. The policy/proposal would avoid the sterilisation of mineral resources. The policy/proposal would ensure a sufficient supply of minerals.

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and the best quality agricultural land.	most versatile agricultural land? • Will it prevent soil degradation & contamination? • Will it impact on a minerals safeguarded area?	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage development on PDL.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in development on greenfield land or would create conflicts in land-use. The policy/proposal would result in the loss of agricultural land. The policy/proposal would increase the demand for local resources.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land. The policy/proposal would result in significant development on greenfield land. The policy/proposal would result in land contamination. The policy/proposal would result in the sterilisation of mineral resources. The policy/proposal would significantly increase the demand for local resources. The policy/proposal would result in inappropriate development within a Minerals Safeguarding Area.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
9. Air & noise pollution	• Will it limit or reduce emissions of air pollutants & improve air quality?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly improve air quality. The policy/proposal would significantly reduce noise pollution.
To reduce air pollution and the	• Will it limit or reduce noise pollution?	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would improve air quality. The policy/proposal would reduce noise pollution.

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proportion of the local population subject to noise pollution.		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would reduce air quality. The policy/proposal would increase noise pollution.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce air quality. The policy/proposal would significantly increase noise pollution.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
10.Water Quality To conserve and improve water quality and quantity.	- Will it reduce water consumption? - Will it maintain or enhance water quality? - Will it implement SUDs, where appropriate, to avoid run off of polluted water to water courses or aquifers?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly aid in reducing water consumption. The policy/proposal would significantly enhance water quality (by reducing wastewater, surface water runoff and pollutant discharge so that the quality) and enable all WFD targets to be met.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal encourages the use of SUDs. The policy/proposal would aid in reducing water consumption. The policy/proposal would enhance water quality.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in water consumption. The policy/proposal would decrease water quality by for example, increasing the amount of waste water, surface water runoff and pollutant discharge.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would significantly increase water consumption. The policy/proposal would significantly negatively affect water quality. The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the current WFD classification.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
11.Waste To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials.	- Will it move management of waste up the waste hierarchy? - Will it help in increase waste recovery and recycling? - Will it reduce waste in the construction industry?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of waste generated through prevention, minimisation and re-use. The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill through recycling and energy recovery.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of waste going to landfill through recycling and energy recovery. The policy/proposal would encourage the use of sustainable materials.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased amount of waste going to landfill.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in a significantly increased amount of waste going to landfill.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
12. Climate Change and Flood Risk To adapt to climate change by reducing and manage the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to people, property and the environment.	- Will it manage or reduce flooding? - Will it attenuate the flow and run off of water? - Does it avoid locations within Flood Zones 2 and 3? - Will it promote Sustainable Drainage systems? - Will it impact on of ground and surface water flooding? - In relation to heritage assets does it integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation measures into the historic environment sensitively? - Will it support mitigation and adaption measures that increase biodiversity resilience?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce flood risk to new or existing infrastructure or communities (currently located within the 1 in 100 year floodplain).
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce flood risk to new or existing infrastructure or communities (currently located 1 in 1000 year floodplain).
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased flood risk within the 1 to 1000 year floodplain. The policy/proposal would result in development being located within Flood Zone 2.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased flood risk within the 1 to 100 year floodplain. The policy/proposal would result in development being located within Flood Zone 3.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

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13.Climate Change and Energy Efficiency To adapt to climate change by minimise energy usage and to develop Ashfield's renewable energy resource, reducing dependency on non-renewable sources.	• Will it improve energy efficiency of new buildings? • Will it support the generation and use of renewable energy? • Will it increase carbon admissions. • Will it encourage the use of clean, low carbon, energy efficient technologies?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce energy consumption or increase the amount of renewable energy being used/generated. The policy/proposal would significantly encourage the use of clean, low carbon forms of energy. The policy/proposal would significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Ashfield.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce energy consumption or increase the amount of renewable energy being used/generated. The policy/proposal would encourage the use of clean, low carbon forms of energy. The policy/proposal would reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Ashfield.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in developments that increase unsustainable energy use. The policy/proposal would increase greenhouse gas emissions from Ashfield.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in developments that significantly increase unsustainable energy use. The policy/proposal would significantly increase greenhouse gas emissions from Ashfield.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
14.Travel and Accessibility To improve travel choice and accessibility, reduce the need for travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys.	• Will it utilise and enhance existing transport infrastructure? • Will it help to develop a transport network that minimises the impact on the environment? • Will it potentially reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging alternative modes of transport? • Will it give rise to a significant net increase in private car journeys? • Will it have access to pedestrian & cycle routes for localised leisure opportunities?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly improve existing transport infrastructure and/or create new, high quality and sustainable infrastructure (i.e. cycle routes, bus routes etc). The policy/proposal would significantly reduce need for travel. The policy/proposal would create opportunities/incentives for the use of sustainable travel/transport of people/goods.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would improve existing transport infrastructure and/or create new, high quality and sustainable infrastructure (i.e. cycle routes, bus routes etc). The policy/proposal would reduce need for travel. The policy/proposal would encourage the use of sustainable travel/transport of people/goods.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would negatively affect existing transport infrastructure. The policy/proposal would increase the need to travel by less sustainable forms of transport, increasing toad traffic and congestion.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would significantly negative affect existing transport infrastructure e.g. loss of public transport facilities. The policy/proposal would significantly increase the need to travel by less sustainable forms of transport.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
15. Employment To create high quality employment opportunities including opportunities for increased learn and skills to meet the needs of the District.	- Will it provide employment opportunities for local people? - Will it provide land and buildings of a type required by businesses? - Will it support and improve education/training facilities to meet local needs? - Will it contribute towards meeting skill shortages? - Will it improve access to employment by means other than single occupancy car?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly encourage investment in businesses, people and infrastructure which would lead to a more diversified economy, maximising viability of the economy in the County and reducing out-commuting (e.g. it would deliver over 1ha of employment land). The policy/proposal would significantly encourage education/training related development to allow for skill shortages/local needs to be addressed.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage investment in businesses, people and infrastructure which would lead to a more diversified economy, maximising viability of the economy in the County and reducing out-commuting (e.g. it would deliver under 1ha of employment land). The policy/proposal would provide an amount of education/training related development to allow for skill shortages/local needs to be addressed.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in a loss of employment land (e.g. it would result in under 1ha of employment land being lost). The policy/proposal would result in the loss of an amount of education/training related development, allowing for skill shortages/local needs to be exacerbated.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in a significant loss of employment land (e.g. it would result in over 1ha of employment land being lost). The policy/proposal would result in a significant loss of an amount of education/training related development, allowing for skill shortages/local needs to be exacerbated.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
16. Economy To Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	- Will it improve business development and enhance competitiveness? - Will it make land and property available to encourage investment and enterprise taking into account current and future working environments? - Will it provide supporting infrastructure? - Will it provide business clusters? - For a heritage asset will it promote heritage-led regeneration?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage a significant amount of employment land that is enhanced by supporting infrastructure.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage an amount of employment land that is enhanced by supporting infrastructure.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in the loss of a small amount of employment land and/or deliver employment land that is not supported by necessary infrastructure.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in a significant loss of employment land and deliver employment land that is not supported by necessary infrastructure.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.

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		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
17. Town Centres Increase the vitality and viability of Ashfield's town centres.	- Will it improve the vitality of existing town? - Will it improve the viability of existing town centres? - Will it provide for the needs of the local community? - Will it make the town centre a place to attract visitors?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly improve the vitality of town centres and/or make them more attractive to potential tourists.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would improve the vitality of town centres and/or make them more attractive to potential tourists.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would reduce the vitality of town centres and/or make them less attractive to potential tourists.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the vitality of town centres and/or make them significantly less attractive to potential tourists.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.