



# Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan

Scoping Report

Malborough Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

July 2017

## Quality information

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## Revision History

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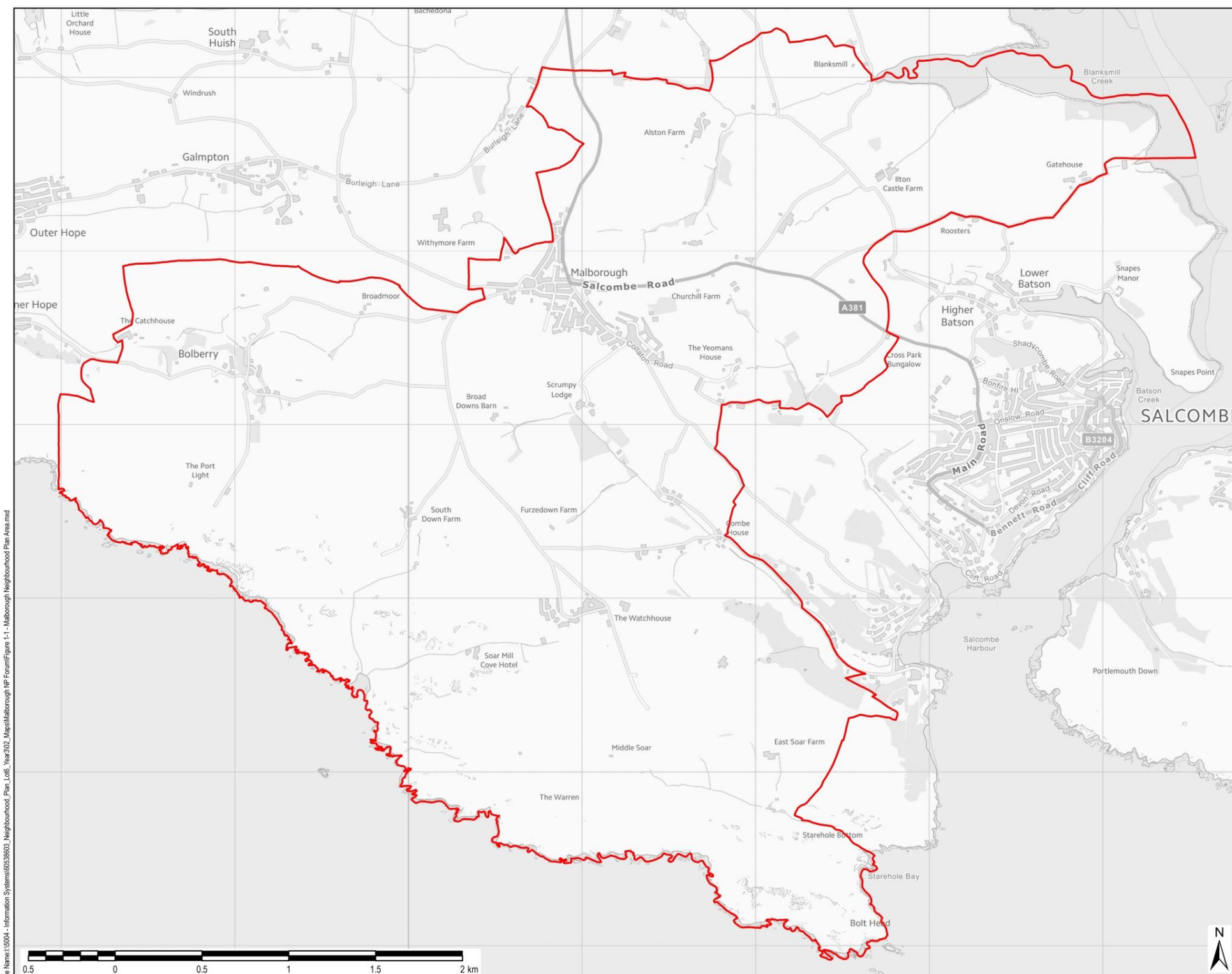
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## Acronyms

AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
HWRC	Household Waste Recovery Centre
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide
DPD	Development Plan Document
EU	European Union
GhG	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation
LCA	Landscape Character Area
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
NCA	National Character Area
NERC	Natural Environment Research Council
NEWP	Natural Environment White Paper
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPPG	National Planning Policy Guidance
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NVZ	Nitrate Vulnerable Zone
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SPZ	Groundwater Source Protection Zone
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SuDS	Sustainable drainage systems
UKCP	UK Climate Projections
WFD	Water Framework Directive



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Malborough Neighbourhood Plan Area

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Project Title  
**MALBOROUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Drawing Title  
**MALBOROUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA**

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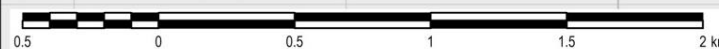
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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

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

The Malborough Neighbourhood Plan is currently being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Malborough Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of South Ham District Council's emerging Local Plan, which is the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan. It is currently anticipated that the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to South Hams District Council later in 2017.

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

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

Name of Responsible Authority	Malborough Parish Council
Title of Plan	Malborough Neighbourhood Plan
Subject	Neighbourhood Planning
Purpose	<p>The Malborough Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The plan will be in general conformity with the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan.</p> <p>The emerging Malborough Neighbourhood Plan will be used to guide and shape development within the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan area.</p>
Timescale	To 2034
Area covered by the plan	The Neighbourhood Plan area covers the parish of Malborough in south Devon (Figure 1.1).
Summary of content	The Malborough Neighbourhood Plan will set out a vision, strategy and range of policies for the Neighbourhood Plan area.
Plan contact point	<p>Debbie Ede, Malborough Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group</p> <p>Email via: <a href="mailto:malboroughparishcouncil@btinternet.com">malboroughparishcouncil@btinternet.com</a> or <a href="http://www.malboroughvillage.org.uk/yourplancontact">http://www.malboroughvillage.org.uk/yourplancontact</a></p>

## 1.2 Relationship of the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan with the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan

The Malborough Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the emerging Plymouth and South West Devon JLP, which will supersede the South Hams Local Development Framework and cover the time period up until the year 2034. The JLP will set out the overarching strategy for the area, setting out where development will take place, what areas should be protected and how the area will change. It brings together previous work that has already been carried out by the three councils on South Hams 'Our Plan', West Devon's 'Our Plan' and the Plymouth Plan<sup>1</sup>.

The draft JLP outlines a spatial strategy for Plymouth and South West Devon through setting out provisions for the Plymouth Policy Area and the Thriving Towns and Villages Policy Area. The Malborough Neighbourhood Plan area is within the latter area.

Strategic Objective S09 within the draft JLP aims to enable the development of new homes, jobs and community infrastructure sufficient to meet the local needs of the sustainable villages identified within the areas covered in the JLP, including Malborough. Policy TTV30 supports this strategic objective, aiming to empower local residents to create strong and sustainable communities, with the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans as a means of identifying local development needs within the villages.

Notably, the latest JLP does not identify sites for development within the villages defined as 'sustainable villages', including Malborough, but takes an approach which aims to enable development to come forward in these villages which reflects their sustainability. Through this approach, it seeks to achieve a balance so that development maintains and improves the viability of the villages whilst also being of an appropriate scale – respecting their character and in particular, any landscape designations such as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

As such, the Regulation 19 consultation version of the JLP indicates that the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan area has the potential to accommodate around ten extra dwellings over the plan period, in order to limit the potential impact on the sensitive South Devon AONB landscape which partly covers the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Neighbourhood plans will form part of the development plan for the district, alongside, but not as a replacement for the Local Plan. The Joint Local Plan seeks to give communities a solid framework within which appropriate community-led planning policy documents, including neighbourhood plans, can be brought forward. Neighbourhood plans are required to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan and can develop policies and proposals to address local place-based issues. In this way it is intended for the Local Plan to provide a clear overall strategic direction for development in South Hams District, whilst enabling finer detail to be determined through the neighbourhood planning process where appropriate.

## 1.3 Vision for the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan

The vision for the Draft Plan is as follows;

*'Malborough wants all new development to make a positive contribution to the local community and economy. It should support and add to the assets of the community and enhance and protect the quality of the local environment. All development should recognise, protect and promote what makes Malborough special.'*

The objectives for the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan are as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> Plymouth and South West Devon (2016): 'Joint Local Plan Newsletter – July 2016', [online] available to access via: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKSWDEVON/bulletins/152f75e> last accessed [08/03/17]

## Housing and Development

1. *'To encourage, facilitate and integrate a steady stream and mix of new housing (affordable, social and market) to meet evidenced needs of local people'*
2. *'New build schemes will insist on high quality design that sit comfortably with, and respond to, local surroundings, the landscape and existing buildings. Development must protect and enhance the quality of the local environment.'*
3. *'To encourage co-housing and community development providing long term affordability is secured'*
4. *'To identify sites to promote this development and provide detail on type, appearance, number and scheduling of development.'*

## Green Objectives

1. *'All new development (including extension, refurbishment or change of use schemes of existing buildings that require Planning permission) should be energy efficient and sustainable.'*
2. *'That all proposals for new housing will be required to demonstrate provision of appropriate new facilities on site and provision of, or contributions to, off-site facilities.'*
3. *'Become a greener, more self-reliant and sustainable parish.'*

## Open Spaces, the Environment, Heritage and Community Facilities

1. *'Secure and protect the rural nature of the Parish, protecting its environs and landscapes in perpetuity.'*
2. *'Identify land where development would be inappropriate and/or where it may be necessary to limit freedom to change the uses of land and/or buildings.'*
3. *'Continue to grow both choice and provision of diverse and recreational activities to promote health and well-being for all ages with particular emphasis on the young and the elderly.'*
4. *'Any new development should reinforce the character and quality of Malborough'*

## Employment

1. *'Protect and support existing employment'*
2. *'Protect the existing economic uses of buildings used by the general public (eg: shop, pubs and post office), support and promote their use.'*
3. *'Encourage low impact new employment opportunities.'*

## Communications, Infrastructure and Transport / Getting Around

1. *'To ensure that all new development enhances access to, and future proofs, local services'*
2. *'To ensure that any new housing has good pedestrian access into the village and good connections with existing facilities and housing stock'*
3. *'To ensure that car parking within the village is sufficient and supports the viability of the village centre'*

## 1.4 SEA explained

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

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

Two key procedural requirements of the SEA Regulations are that:

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

### This scoping report

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

## 1.5 SEA 'scoping' explained

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

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

## 1.6 Structure of this report

### Key sustainability issues

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

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

The selected environmental themes incorporate the 'SEA topics' suggested by Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive<sup>2</sup>. These were refined to reflect a broad understanding of the anticipated scope of plan effects.

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

### SEA Framework to assess policy proposals

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

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

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<sup>2</sup> The SEA Directive is 'of a procedural nature' (para 9 of the Directive preamble) and does not set out to prescribe particular issues that should and should not be a focus, beyond requiring a focus on 'the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors' [our emphasis]

## 2. Air Quality

### Focus of Theme:

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

### 2.1 Headline sustainability issues

- Air quality in the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan area is good, with no significant issues identified
- There are no Air Quality Management Areas within the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- Traffic and congestion have the potential to increase emissions and reduce air quality in the area; however air pollution is at a very low baseline so likely effects are unlikely to be significant.

Due to the absence of significant and tangible air quality issues in the Neighbourhood Plan area, air quality has been scoped out for the purposes of the SEA process.

### 2.2 Sustainability context

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

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

DEV2 – Air, Water, Soil Noise and Land within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP states that developments should:

*"Avoid or mitigate against harmful environmental impacts and health risks from air, water, land and noise pollution."* and

*"Where located in an Air Quality Management Area, mitigate its impact through positively contributing towards the implementation of measures contained within air quality action plans and transport programmes, and through building design and layout which helps minimise air quality impacts."*

In terms of the local context, South Hams is required to monitor air quality across the county under Section 82 of the Environment Act (1995), report regularly to Defra and take action where nationally set levels are likely to be exceeded. Monitoring is undertaken to assess levels of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, ozone, benzene and particulates. Where exceedances exist, areas are declared as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) and local authorities are required to produce an Action Plan to improve air quality in the area.

The South Hams Air Quality Strategy (revised 2007) considers actions to *"Work towards a safer, cleaner, healthier and distinctive environment."* The strategy describes principal objectives for air quality in the district and summarises the proposed approaches to delivery and monitoring. These objectives are as follows;

1. *To meet the air quality objectives laid down in the National Air Quality Strategy.*

2. *To provide an effective service for responding to and resolving air quality complaints and enquiries.*
3. *To work in partnership with operators and regulate processes prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act (1990) and Pollution Prevention Control (1999) Acts in line with DEFRA's requirements and best practice.*
4. *To raise public awareness of Air Quality Issues and to promote behaviour aimed at improving air quality.*
5. *Identify and address air quality issues through the Local Development Framework and Development Control process'.*

## 2.3 Baseline summary

### 2.3.1 Summary of current baseline

There are no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in the Neighbourhood Plan area. The closest AQMA is the Ivybridge AQMA which covers all properties fronting onto Western Road, Ivybridge<sup>3</sup>. The area was declared in 2009 for exceeding annual mean Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>).

Whilst air quality in South Hams is generally very good, there are some relatively high levels of NO<sub>2</sub> close to some busy roads, however these areas are not within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### 2.3.2 Summary of future baseline

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

Areas of particular sensitivity to increased traffic flows are likely to be the village centre and the routes with the largest congestion issues. However these effects may be offset in part by factors such as measures implemented through the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034, and the South Hams Air Quality Strategy, which may alter traffic flows and encourage public transport use. The existing baseline for air pollutants is also very low in Malborough; as such any increases are not likely to lead to air quality issues in the village.

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<sup>3</sup> Defra (2017) Ivybridge AQMA (South Hams District Council) [online] available at: [https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/details?aqma\\_id=510](https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/details?aqma_id=510) [last accessed 05/06/17]

### 3. Biodiversity and geodiversity

#### Focus of Theme:

- Nature conservation designations
- Habitats
- Species
- Geodiversity

#### 3.1 Headline sustainability issues

- The east of the Neighbourhood Plan area lies within the Salcombe to Kingsbridge Estuary SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential development.
- Locally important wildlife sites feature within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including nine County Wildlife Sites.
- The integrity of the Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats present both in and around the Neighbourhood Plan area should be preserved and protected in order to prevent the loss, fragmentation and deterioration of the distinctive ecological value of Malborough.

#### 3.2 Sustainability context

At the European level, the EU Biodiversity Strategy<sup>4</sup> was adopted in May 2011 in order to deliver an established new Europe-wide target to '*halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020*'.

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

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

The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP)<sup>5</sup> sets out the importance of a healthy, functioning natural environment to sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal well-being. It was in part a response to the UK's failure to halt and reverse the decline in biodiversity by 2010 and it signalled a move away from the traditional approach of protecting biodiversity in nature reserves to

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<sup>4</sup> European Commission (2011) Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 [online] available at: <[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/pdf/EP\\_resolution\\_april2012.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/pdf/EP_resolution_april2012.pdf)> last accessed [06/06/17]

<sup>5</sup> Defra (2012) The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (Natural Environment White Paper) [online] available at: <<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm80/8082/8082.pdf>> last accessed 06/06/17]

adopting a landscape approach to protecting and enhancing biodiversity. The NEWP also aims to create a green economy in which economic growth and the health of our natural resources sustain each other and markets, business and Government better reflect the value of nature. It includes commitments to:

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

Reflecting the commitments within the Natural Environment White Paper and the EU Biodiversity Strategy, 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services' aims to '*halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people*'<sup>6</sup>.

The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034 policy DEV28 – Protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation, within the Joint Local Plan states '*Development should support the conservation, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and geodiversity across the Plan Area.*' Furthermore, DEV27 – Nationally protected landscapes, SPT11 – Strategic Approach to the Environment, and DEV 30 – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows, are all related to biodiversity or geodiversity.

In 1998 The Nature of Devon-Biodiversity Action Plan was published, identifying 29 key wildlife habitats and 251 key species as a priority for conservation action. Action Plans were produced for the 17 habitats and 20 species identified as requiring a county wide approach to their conservation. Devon's Biodiversity Action Plan was updated to include Geodiversity in 2009.

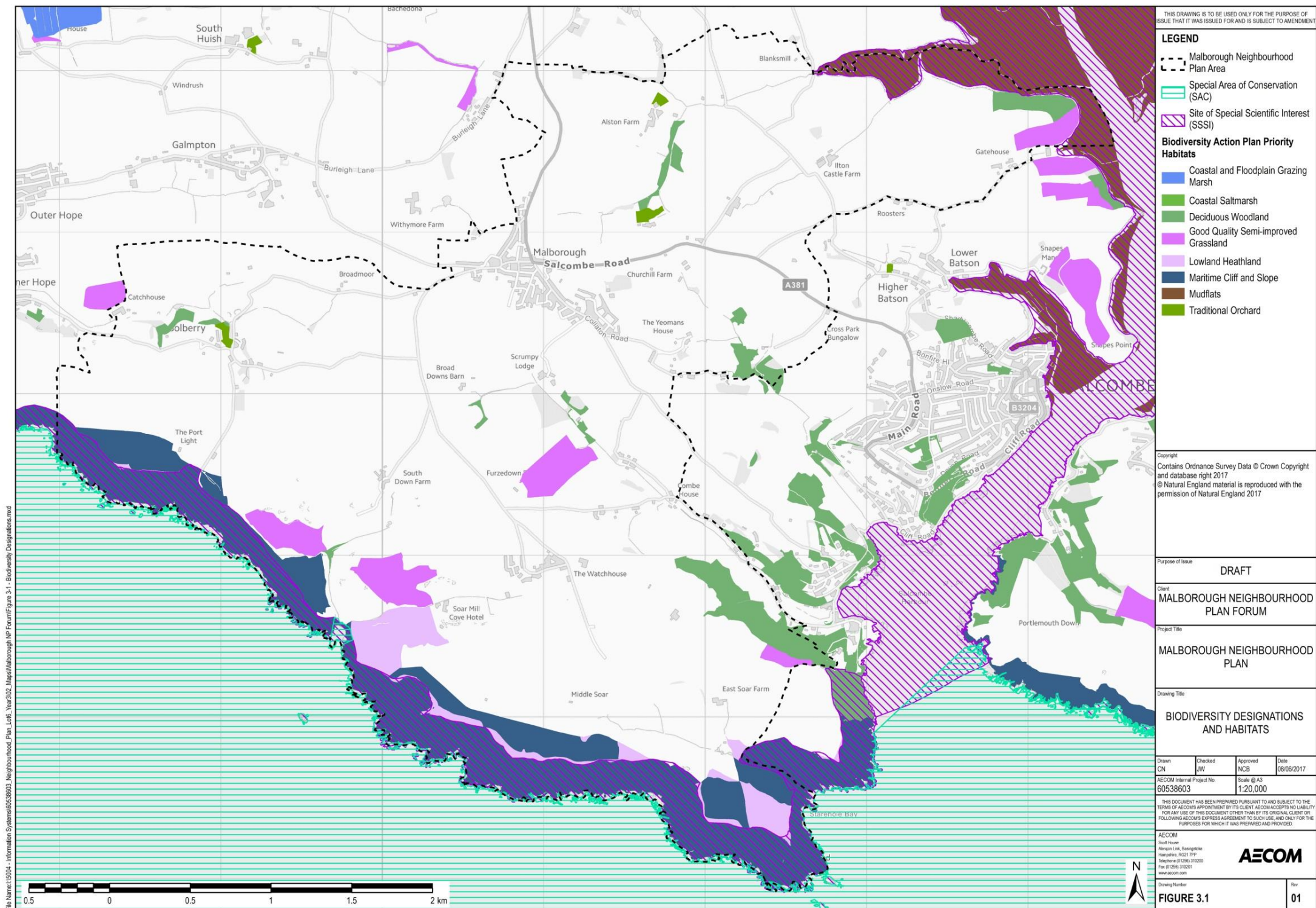
The Devon Biodiversity and Geodiversity Action Plan<sup>7</sup> is presented in 8 volumes:

- *Introduction to the revised edition*
- *Section A: Summary*
- *Section B: A vision for variety*
- *Section C: Planning for biodiversity and geodiversity conservation in Devon*
- *Section D: A review of Devon's wildlife and geological heritage*
- *Section E: Setting out priorities*
- *Section F: Turning plans into action*
- *Appendix i: 'Priority Species' & 'Species of Conservation Concern' in Devon.*

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<sup>6</sup> DEFRA (2011): 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services', [online] Available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/biodiversity-2020-a-strategy-for-england-s-wildlife-and-ecosystem-services>> last accessed [06/06/17]

<sup>7</sup> Devon Council (2009) Biodiversity and Geodiversity Action Plan [online] available at <<https://new.devon.gov.uk/environment/wildlife>> last accessed [06/06/17]



## 3.3 Baseline summary

### 3.3.1 Summary of current baseline

The Neighbourhood Plan area includes the Bolt Head to Bolt Tail Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) along its southern boundary. This nationally designated site contains habitats and species listed in the annexes of both the European Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and the European Birds Directive (79/409/EEC). Additionally, the Neighbourhood Plan area contains locally designated sites and a variety of BAP Priority Habitats and Species, discussed below.

#### *South Devon Shore Dock Special Area of Conservation (SAC)*

SACs are protected sites that are designated under the EC Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and by the UK government<sup>8</sup>. Part of the 332.12ha South Devon Shore Dock SAC is located adjacent to the south east boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area at its closest point near Soar Mill Cove. The character of this area comprises 30% marine areas (sea inlets) and 70% shingles (sea cliffs).

#### *Bolt Head to Bolt Tail SSSI*

The 195.7ha Bolt Head to Bolt Tail SSSI is located along the southern boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area, and was notified in 1986 under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The SSSI is nationally important for its high botanical value due to the presence of a range of rare and local flowering plants and lichens, as well as its invertebrate fauna for breeding birds. Bolt Head to Bolt Tail SSSI also lies within the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The citation for the SSSI states<sup>9</sup>:

*This site is of high botanical value due to the presence of many rare or local flowering plants and lichens and is also important for its invertebrate fauna and for breeding birds.*

*The bedrock consists of mineral-rich Lower Devonian schists forming cliffs rising to some 120 m for about 9 km, facing mostly south west. On the cliffs there is a thin layer of well drained loamy brown-earth soil supporting maritime rock-crevice, maritime grassland, maritime heath and scrub communities. Broadleaved woodland occurs at the sheltered north-east end.*

*The maritime grassland communities are characterised by Red Fescue Festuca rubra with Thrift Armeria maritima, Yorkshire Fog Holcus lanatus, Sea and Buckshorn Plantain Plantago maritima and P. coronopus, Wild Carrot Daucus carota and Bluebell Hyacinthoides non-scripta. Bloody Cranesbill Geranium sanguineum also occurs.*

*The grassland often fades out on to bare rock, or merges with heathland of Heather Calluna vulgaris, Bell Heather Eric cinerea and Western Gorse Ulex gallii. These plant communities contain a number of nationally rare or uncommon species such as Carrot Broomrape Orobanche maritima, Upright Chickweed Moenchia erecta, Autumn Squill Scilla autumnalis, Portland Spurge Euphorbia portlandica and Sea Storks-bill Erodium maritimum.*

*The rocks support a wide variety of lichens, including an assemblage with Mediterranean affinities. Rare species include Cladonia convoluta and C. forma. Teloschistes flavicans, Roccella fuciformis, R. phycopsis and Buellia leptoclinoides.*

*There are many areas of bracken Pteridium aquilinum and of scrub species such as Gorse Ulex europaeus, Blackthorn Prunus spinosa, Hawthorn Crataegus monogyna and Bramble Rubus fruticosus. North of Bolt Head, facing the Salcombe Estuary, there is a stretch of woodland dominated by Sessile Oak Quercus petraea, with some Ash Fraxinus excelsior, Beech Fagus sylvatica and Sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus.*

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<sup>8</sup> Joint Nature Conservation Committee (no date): Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) [online] available at: <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-23> last accessed [09/06/17]

<sup>9</sup> Natural England (no date): Bolt Head to Bolt Tail SSSI [online] available at: <https://necmsi.esdm.co.uk/PDFsForWeb/Citation/1002127.pdf> last accessed [05/06/17]

*The invertebrate fauna contains many species limited mainly to southerly coastal sites. Three nationally rare species of ant are found namely *Solenopsis fugax*, *Strongylongnathus testaceus* and *Anergates atratulus* (the latter two species being parasites in the nests of *Tetramorium caespitum*). The Grey Bush Cricket *Platycleis denticulata* is plentiful and there are two native species of cockroach *Ectobius pallidus* and *Ectobius panzeri*.*

*The scrub provides nesting cover for Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirlus* and other birds, while Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* and Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* breed on the cliffs and rocks.'*

The most recent condition assessment of this SSSI was undertaken in 2017 and 90% of the area is classified as 'favourable', with the remaining 10% of the SSSI is classified as 'unfavourable-recovering'.

Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) are a GIS tool/dataset which maps zones around each SSSI according to the particular sensitivities of the features for which it is notified. They specify the types of development that have the potential to have adverse impacts at a given location. Natural England is a statutory consultee on development proposals that might impact on SSSIs.

The Neighbourhood Plan area falls within an IRZ for the Bolt Head to Bolt Tail SSSI, however this does not include residential development.

### *Salcombe to Kingsbridge Estuary SSSI*

The 651.5ha Salcombe to Kingsbridge Estuary SSSI is located adjacent to the south east boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area at its closest point, and was notified in 1987 under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The SSSI is nationally important for its diverse intertidal and sub-tidal flora and invertebrate fauna, with some outstanding examples of these species in the north east Atlantic. The citation for the SSSI states<sup>10</sup>:

*The Salcombe-Kingsbridge Estuary possesses a very rich and diverse intertidal and subtidal flora and invertebrate fauna, with certain communities being outstanding examples of their type in the North-east Atlantic.*

*Originally an unglaciated river valley, the Estuary has been partly drowned following the post-glacial rise in sea level, and is now a sheltered marine inlet or 'ria'. The lower estuary is partially separated from the open sea by a submerged sandbar and is characterised by rocks and sandy bays, while the upper estuary comprises mainly intertidal mudflats. The streams flowing into the creek heads are small and over the majority of the estuary marine conditions prevail so that many truly marine plants and animals are found which seldom occur intertidally in estuaries elsewhere.*

*The majority of the upper estuary intertidal area comprises soft sediments, colonized in parts by green algae *Enteromorpha* and *Ulva* spp. and bordered by brown algae *Fucus* spp. The sediments, although generally exposed to underwater currents, are sheltered from wave action so that some, particularly around the Salt Stone, support exceptionally rich invertebrate faunas. These include large populations of tube-living and burrowing worms, burrowing bivalves, and beds of the Daisy Anemone *Cereus pedunculatus*. On muds and gravels extensive growths of sponges such as *Hymeniacidon perlewe* and *Halichondria bowerbanki* have developed, in turn colonized by a wide range of species including the sea squirt *Phallusia mamillata*. At and below the low water mark populations of the Proboscis Worm *Golfingia elongata* and the burrowing crustaceans *Upogebia deltaura* and *Callinassa* spp. occur in silty sand, and the Angular Crab *Goneplax angulata* in sandy mud, while small stones are frequently colonized by sea squirts.*

*The sand and mud of the lower shore along both sides of Salcombe Harbour, particularly at Hill Bay and Ditch End Cove, support communities extremely rich in burrowing fauna and there is a long history of study here. At and below low water mark the sand is colonized extensively in places by Eel-grass *Zostera marina* and by the Sea Potato *Echinocardium cordatum* with its commensal bivalve *Montacuta ferruginosa*.*

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<sup>10</sup> Natural England (no date): Bolt Head to Bolt Tail SSSI [online] available at: <https://necmsi.esdm.co.uk/PDFsForWeb/Citation/1002127.pdf> last accessed [05/06/17]

*The rocky shores of the estuary support communities typical of sheltered mouth-of-the estuary conditions, but are particularly rich in marine algae. The Salt Stone is one of the few British localities for the red alga Chondria coerulescens, and Castle Rocks possess an exceptional flora which include the kelp Laminaria ochroleuca and, among red algae, Gracilaria foliifera and all four British species of Gigartina. The overhangs and gullies of the Castle Rocks support a rich fauna including the cowry Trivia arctica, the Sea Gerkin Cucumaria saxicola and many sponges and crustacea.*

*The bed of the main channel from the entrance to Salcombe Harbour to the Salt Stone is of mixed sediments with stones and shells. The communities present are very rich in algae and animals, including several rare or unusual species. At Snapes Point and Scoble Point broken rock surfaces extend into deep water and are colonized by typical ria communities.*

*At the heads of the tributary creeks small areas of saltmarsh occur. This saltmarsh is in an early stage of development, with the flora dominated by Sea Aster Aster tripolium, Common Saltmarsh-grass Puccinellia maritima and Sea Plantain Plantago maritima.*

*The estuary is used as an overwintering ground by large numbers of wildfowl such as Wigeon Anas penelope, Teal A. cracca and Shelduck Tadorna tadorna and the intertidal mudflats are important feeding grounds for passage waders. West Charleton Marsh, separated from the estuary by a sea wall, is used for roosting and feeding by a variety of waders and wildfowl at high tide.'*

The most recent condition assessment was undertaken in 2013. Of the seven units assessed, six are classified at 'favourable', with the final unit classified as 'unfavourable – recovering'.

The north east of the Neighbourhood Plan area is within an IRZ for 'Residential development of 50 units or more' for the Salcombe to Kingsbridge Estuary SSSI. The area towards the centre of the Neighbourhood Plan area, near Malborough village, is within the IRZ for 'Residential development of 100 units or more' for the Salcombe to Kingsbridge Estuary SSSI.

### *Locally designated Sites*

In Devon, sites of local interest are designated as County Wildlife Sites (CWS). County Wildlife Sites make up approximately 4% of Devon, and are designated due to the presence of particular habitats and species, such as traditionally managed species-rich lowland meadows, upland oak woodlands, lowland fens and mires. Some sites are designated due to the presence of particular species such as curl bunting, bastard balm and great crested newt. CWS are designated through a strict criteria and data regarding the sites is collected by the Biodiversity Monitoring Framework<sup>11</sup>.

There are nine County Wildlife Sites within the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan area, these are;

- Hope Barton County Wildlife Site;
- Bolberry Down County Wildlife Site;
- Soar Valley County Wildlife Site;
- Cathole Point County Wildlife Site;
- The Warren, Malborough County Wildlife Site;
- Starehole Bottom County Wildlife Site;
- East Soar Farm County Wildlife Site;
- Tor Woods County Wildlife Site; and
- West Portlemouth County Wildlife Site.

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<sup>11</sup> Devon Biodiversity Records Centre (no date) County Wildlife Sites [online] available at: <<http://www.dbrcc.org.uk/county-wildlife-site-survey/>> last accessed [06/06/17]

### *Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats*

The Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Habitats<sup>12</sup> located within the Neighbourhood Plan include:

- Maritime Cliffs and Slopes – found along areas of coastline from Fernyhole Point to Bolt Head;
- Good Quality Semi – Improved Grassland (non-priority) – found in three patches across the central and southern areas of the Neighbourhood Plan Area;
- Lowland Heathland – found in the West Soar area and continues eastwards along the South West Coastal Path towards Starehole Bay;
- Ancient and semi-natural woodland – found in Tor Woods;
- Deciduous woodland – a number of discrete patches across the Neighbourhood Plan area, with the largest area located in the south west (Tor Woods);
- Broadleaved woodland – a couple of small areas across the Neighbourhood Plan area which are connected to deciduous woodland;
- Mixed woodland – a couple of small areas towards the centre of the Neighbourhood Plan area;
- Woodland (young trees) – a number of small areas towards the centre of the Neighbourhood Plan area around Malborough; and
- Traditional Orchards – found in three distinct areas in the north and west of the Neighbourhood Plan area: Yarde Farm, the grounds of Alston Manor House and near Karrageen Farm (Bolberry).

### *Geodiversity*

The geology of the Neighbourhood Plan area comprises primarily of Lower Devon Schists. These geological formations are characterised by thick parallel bands of minerals and are only found in the southernmost parts of Devon in the area around Salcombe and a couple of isolated areas along the coast between Start Point and Bolt Tail.

**Figure 3.1** shows the location of designated sites and BAP Priority Habitats located within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### **3.3.2 Summary of future baseline**

Habitats and species will possibly face increasing pressures from future development within the Neighbourhood Plan area, with the potential for negative impacts on the wider ecological network. This may include a loss of habitats and impacts on biodiversity networks, which may be exacerbated by the effects of climate change, which has the potential to lead to changes in the distribution and abundance of species and changes to the composition and character of habitats. Benefits for biodiversity have the potential to arise from the increasing integration of biodiversity considerations within decision making, including through The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034, the AONB Management Plan, as well as local initiatives to enhance biodiversity.

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<sup>12</sup> MAGIC (2017): 'Interactive Mapping Tool' [online] available at: <<http://www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>> last accessed [06/06/17]

### 3.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Biodiversity SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect and enhance all biodiversity and geological features.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the status of the Bolt Head to Bolt Tail SSSI, located within the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary, and that of the Salcombe to Kingsbridge Estuary SSSI, directly adjacent to the south east boundary?</li> <li>• Support the integrity of the locally designated sites of interest?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance semi-natural habitats?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance priority habitats, and the habitat of priority species?</li> <li>• Achieve a net gain in biodiversity?</li> <li>• Support enhancements to multifunctional green infrastructure networks?</li> <li>• Support access to, interpretation and understanding of biodiversity and geodiversity?</li> </ul>

## 4. Climate Change

### Focus of Theme:

- Greenhouse gas emissions by source
- Greenhouse gas emissions trends
- Effects of climate change
- Climate change adaptation
- Flood risk

### 4.1 Headline sustainability issues

- An increase in the built footprint of the Malborough Neighbourhood Plan area (associated with the delivery of new housing and employment) has the potential to increase overall greenhouse gas emissions.
- The South Hams has had slightly higher per capita emissions than that of both the South West of England and England as a whole since 2005.
- However the South Hams has also seen a greater reduction in emissions when compared with the South West and England.
- The Malborough Neighbourhood Plan should seek to increase the Neighbourhood Plan area's resilience to the effects of climate change by supporting and encouraging adaptation strategies.

### 4.2 Sustainability context

In its 2007 strategy on climate change, the European Commission assesses the costs and benefits of combating climate change and recommends a package of measures to limit global warming to 2° Celsius.<sup>13</sup> In relation to energy, the Commission recommends that the EU's energy efficiency improves by 20% and the share of renewable energy grows to 20% by 2020.

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

- *'Based on the latest understanding of current, and future, climate risks and opportunities, vulnerability and adaptation, what should the priorities be for the next UK National Adaptation Programme?'*<sup>14</sup>

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

1. Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure;
2. Risks to health, well-being and productivity from high temperatures;
3. Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry;

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<sup>13</sup> Commission of the European Communities (2007) Limiting Global Climate Change to two degrees Celsius: The way ahead for 2020 and beyond [online] available at: < <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2007:0002:FIN:EN:PDF> > last accessed [07/06/17]

<sup>14</sup> GOV UK: 'UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Report January 2017', [online] available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-climate-change-risk-assessment-2017>> last accessed [07/06/17]

4. Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity;
5. Risks to domestic and international food production and trade; and
6. New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals

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

- Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate as a 'core planning principle'.
- There is a key role for planning in securing radical reductions in greenhouse gases (GhG), including in terms of meeting the targets set out in the Climate Change Act 2008<sup>15</sup>. Specifically, planning policy should support the move to a low carbon future through:
  - Planning for new development in locations and ways which reduce GhG emissions;
  - Actively supporting energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings;
  - Setting local requirements for building's sustainability in a way that is consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy;
  - Positively promoting renewable energy technologies and considering identifying suitable areas for their construction; and
  - Encouraging those transport solutions that support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion.
- Direct development away from areas highest at risk of flooding, with development 'not to be allocated if there are reasonably available sites appropriate for the proposed development in areas with a lower probability of flooding'. Where development is necessary, it should be made safe without increasing levels of flood risk elsewhere.
- Take account of the effects of climate change in the long term, taking into account a range of factors including flooding. Adopt proactive strategies to adaptation and manage risks through adaptation measures including well planned green infrastructure.

The Flood and Water Management Act<sup>16</sup> highlights that alternatives to traditional engineering approaches to flood risk management include:

- Incorporating greater resilience measures into the design of new buildings, and retro-fitting properties at risk (including historic buildings);
- Utilising the environment in order to reduce flooding, for example through the management of land to reduce runoff and through harnessing the ability of wetlands to store water;
- Identifying areas suitable for inundation and water storage to reduce the risk of flooding elsewhere;
- Planning to roll back development in coastal areas to avoid damage from flooding or coastal erosion; and
- Creating sustainable drainage systems (SuDS)<sup>17</sup>

Further guidance is provided in the document 'Planning for SuDS'.<sup>18</sup> This report calls for greater recognition of the multiple benefits that water management can present. It suggests that successful SuDS are capable of 'contributing to local quality of life and green infrastructure'.

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<sup>15</sup> The Climate Change Act 2008 sets targets for greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions through action in the UK of at least 80% by 2050, and reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of at least 26% by 2020, against a 1990 baseline.

<sup>16</sup> Flood and Water Management Act (2010) [online] available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/29/contents>

<sup>17</sup> N.B. The provision of Schedule 3 to the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 came into force on the 1st of October 2012 and makes it mandatory for any development in England or Wales to incorporate SuDS.

<sup>18</sup> CIRIA (2010) 'Planning for SuDS – making it happen' [online] available to access via [http://www.ciria.org/Resources/Free\\_publications/Planning\\_for\\_SuDS\\_ma.aspx](http://www.ciria.org/Resources/Free_publications/Planning_for_SuDS_ma.aspx) last accessed [07/06/17]

The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034 policy DEV35 – Delivering low carbon development, states: *The need to deliver a low carbon future for Plymouth and South West Devon should be considered in the design and implementation of all developments, in support of the UK's legally binding target to reduce the UK's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% in 2050 from 1990 levels (Climate Change Act 2008).*'

## 4.3 Baseline summary

### 4.3.1 Summary of current baseline

#### *Potential effects of climate change*

The outcome of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK was released in 2009 by the UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) team<sup>19</sup>. UKCP09 gives climate information for the UK up to the end of this century and projections of future changes to the climate are provided, based on simulations from climate models. Projections are broken down to a regional level across the UK and are shown in probabilistic form, which illustrate the potential range of changes and the level of confidence in each prediction.

As highlighted by the research, the effects of climate change for the south west by 2050 for a medium emissions scenario<sup>20</sup> are likely to be as follows:

- The central estimate of increase in winter mean temperature is 2.1°C and an increase in summer mean temperature of 2.7°C; and
- The central estimate of change in winter mean precipitation is 17% and summer mean precipitation is –20%.

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

- Increased incidence of heat related illnesses and deaths during the summer;
- Increased incidence of illnesses and deaths related to exposure to sunlight (e.g. skin cancer, cataracts);
- Increased incidence of pathogen related diseases (e.g. legionella and salmonella);
- Increase in health problems related to rise in local ozone levels during summer;
- Increased risk of injuries and deaths due to increased number of storm events;
- Effects on water resources from climate change;
- Reduction in availability of groundwater for abstraction;
- Adverse effect on water quality from low stream levels and turbulent stream flow after heavy rain;
- Increased risk of flooding, including increased vulnerability to 1:100 year floods;
- Changes in insurance provisions for flood damage;
- A need to increase the capacity of wastewater treatment plants and sewers;
- A need to upgrade flood defences;
- Soil erosion due to flash flooding;
- Loss of species that are at the edge of their southerly distribution;
- Spread of species at the northern edge of their distribution;

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<sup>19</sup> The data was released on 18th June 2009: See: <<http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/>> last accessed [07/06/17]

<sup>20</sup> UK Climate Projections (2009) South West 2050s Medium Emissions Scenario [online] available at: <<http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/23687?emission=medium>> last accessed [07/06/17]

- Deterioration in working conditions due to increased temperatures;
- Changes to global supply chain;
- Increased difficulty of food preparation, handling and storage due to higher temperatures;
- An increased move by the insurance industry towards a more risk-based approach to insurance underwriting, leading to higher cost premiums for business;
- Increased demand for air-conditioning;
- Increased drought and flood related problems such as soil shrinkages and subsidence;
- Risk of road surfaces melting more frequently due to increased temperature; and
- Flooding of roads.

### *Flood Risk*

The areas at highest risk of flooding in the Neighbourhood Plan area are those on the coast in the vicinity of the coastal areas, which are in a mixture of Flood Zone 2, showing that there is between a 0.1% (1 in 1,000) and 1% (1 in 100) chance of flooding, and Flood Zone 3, showing that there is a 1% (1 in 100) or greater chance of happening each year. There are no residential properties that lie within or in close proximity to this area, and therefore the majority of the high risk area remains undeveloped. The remainder of the Neighbourhood Plan area is situated in Flood Zone 1 (low probability of flooding), showing that there is a less than 0.1% (1 in 1,000) chance of flooding each year.

**Figure 4.1** displays the flood risk areas present in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

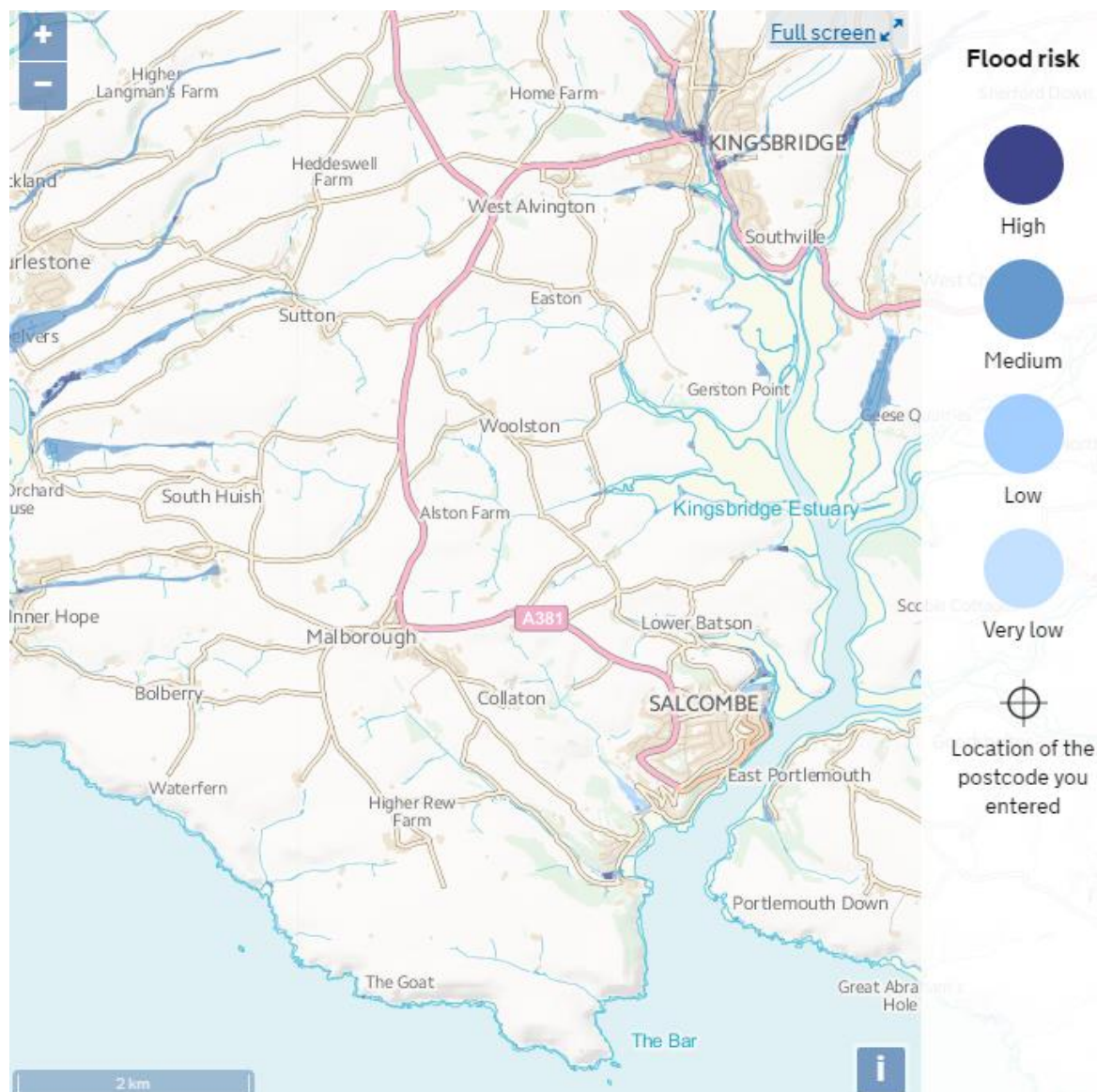


Figure 4.1: Fluvial flood risk within the Neighbourhood Plan area<sup>21</sup>

Figure 4.2 shows that some of the areas within the Neighbourhood Plan area are at medium to high risk of surface water flooding; these areas are along watercourses and minor roads.

<sup>21</sup> GOV.UK (2017): 'Long term flood risk assessment for locations in England', [online] available to access from: <<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/>> last accessed [07/06/17]

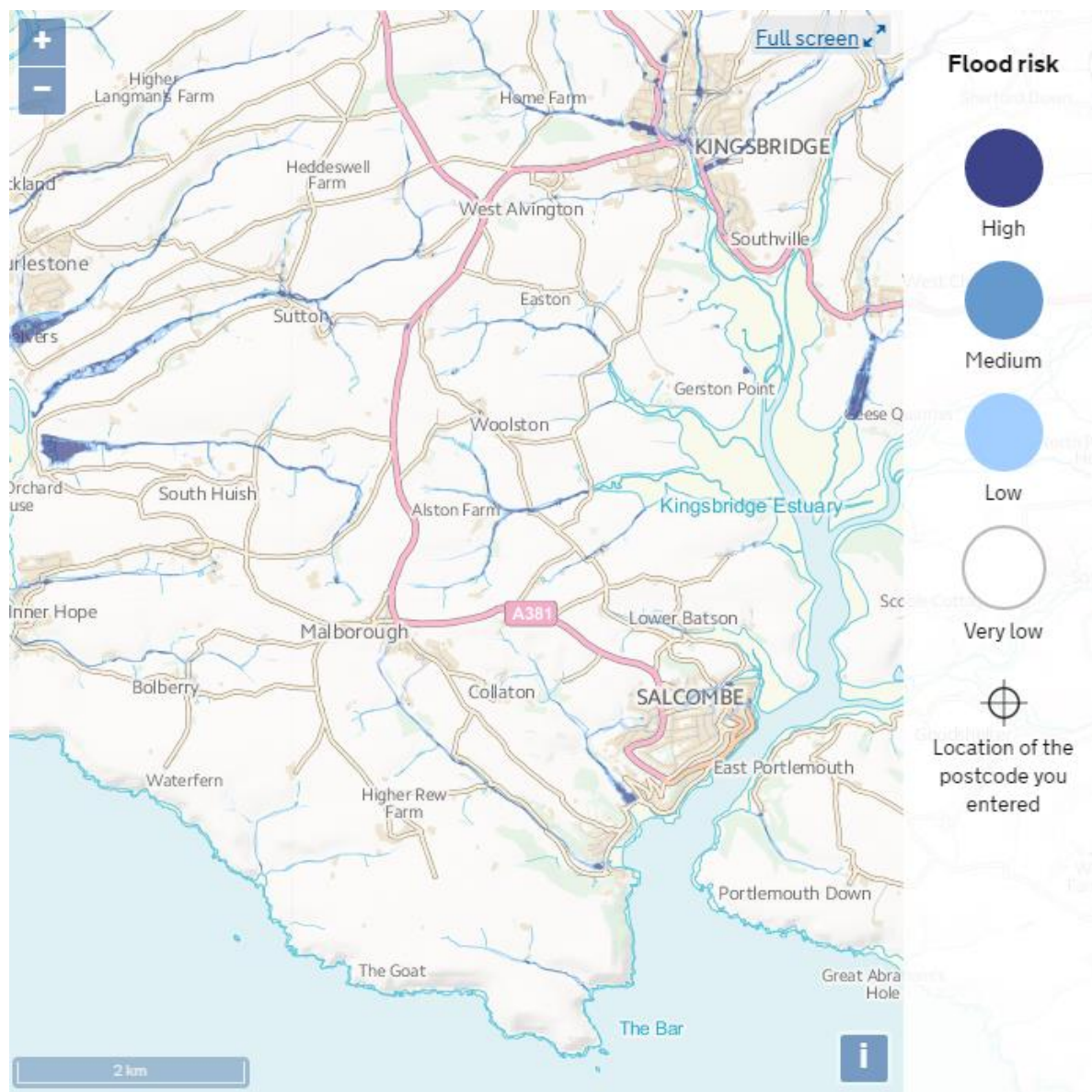


Figure 4.2: Surface water flood risk within the Neighbourhood Plan area

### Greenhouse gas emissions

In relation to greenhouse gas emissions, source data from the Department of Energy and Climate Change suggests that the South Hams has had consistently higher per capita emissions total than both the South West and England since 2005. Additionally, the South Hams however has had an increased average reduction in emissions per capita between 2005 and 2012 (18.6%) compared to the South West (16.4%) and England (a 16.6% reduction). See **Table 4.1** below for more details.

Table 4.1: Carbon dioxide emissions and sources, plus emissions per capita, 2005-2012<sup>22</sup>

	Industrial and Commercial (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Domestic (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Transport (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Total (t CO <sub>2</sub> )
<b>South Hams</b>				
2005	4.0	2.8	3.0	10.2
2006	4.1	2.8	3.0	10.2
2007	3.7	2.7	3.0	9.7
2008	3.4	2.7	2.8	9.2
2009	2.8	2.5	2.7	8.3
2010	3.0	2.6	2.7	8.6
2011	2.7	2.3	2.7	8.0
2012	2.8	2.6	2.7	8.3
<b>South West</b>				
2005	2.9	2.5	1.9	7.3
2006	2.8	2.5	1.9	7.2
2007	2.7	2.4	1.9	7.0
2008	2.6	2.3	1.8	6.8
2009	2.3	2.1	1.8	6.2
2010	2.4	2.3	1.7	6.4
2011	2.1	2.0	1.7	5.8
2012	2.2	2.2	1.6	6.1
<b>England</b>				
2005	3.0	2.5	1.7	7.2
2006	3.0	2.5	1.7	7.2
2007	2.8	2.4	1.7	6.9
2008	2.7	2.4	1.6	6.7
2009	2.4	2.2	1.5	6.1
2010	2.5	2.3	1.5	6.3
2011	2.3	2.0	1.5	5.7

<sup>22</sup> Department of Energy and Climate Change (2011) Official statistics: Local Authority carbon dioxide emissions, UK local and regional CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: subset dataset (emissions within the scope of influence of local authorities) available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-emissions-estimates> > 2005 to 2012 accessed on [07/06/17]

	Industrial and Commercial (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Domestic (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Transport (t CO <sub>2</sub> )	Total (t CO <sub>2</sub> )
2012	2.4	2.2	1.4	6.0

### 4.3.2 Summary of future baseline

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

In terms of climate change contribution, GhG emissions generated in the Neighbourhood Plan area may decrease with wider adoption of energy efficiency measures, renewable energy production and new technologies. However, increases in the built footprint of the Neighbourhood Plan area would contribute to increases in absolute levels of GhG emissions.

## 4.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Climate Change SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Promote climate change mitigation in Malborough	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit the increase in the carbon footprint of the parish from population growth?</li> <li>Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport?</li> <li>Reduce the need to travel?</li> <li>Increase the number of new developments meeting sustainable design criteria?</li> <li>Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources?</li> <li>Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable resources?</li> </ul>
Support the resilience of the Neighbourhood Plan area to the potential effects of climate change	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that no development takes place in areas at higher risk of flooding, taking into account the likely effects of climate change?</li> <li>Improve and extend green infrastructure networks in the plan area to support adaptation to the potential effects of climate change?</li> <li>Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff (either within the plan area or downstream)?</li> <li>Ensure the potential risks associated with climate change are considered through new development in the plan area?</li> <li>Increase the resilience of biodiversity in the plan area to the effects of climate change, including enhancements to ecological networks?</li> </ul>

## 5. Landscape and Historic Environment

### Focus of Theme:

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

### 5.1 Headline sustainability issues

- The entire of the Neighbourhood Plan area is located within the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- There are no Conservation Areas located within Neighbourhood Plan area, designated for special architectural and historical interest.
- The Neighbourhood Plan area has a rich historic environment, with ten scheduled monuments, and 40 listed buildings nationally designated for their cultural heritage resource.
- Future management within the Neighbourhood Plan area should seek to protect the setting of heritage assets and landscape/townscape quality.
- New development could lead to pressures on non-designated sites and townscapes, including from the loss of key built and natural features.
- Improvement in access to and enhancement of, historic environment assets and enhancements to local distinctiveness through high quality development has potential for positive benefits for tourism.

### 5.2 Sustainability context

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

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

The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England<sup>23</sup> sets out its vision for the historic environment. It calls for those who have the power to shape the historic environment to

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<sup>23</sup> HM Government (2010) The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England [online] available at: [http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/publications/6763.aspx](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/publications/6763.aspx) > last accessed [30/01/17]

recognise its value and to manage it in an intelligent manner in light of the contribution that it can make to social, economic and cultural life.

The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034 policy DEV22- Development affecting the historic environment, states: *'Development proposals will need to sustain the local character and distinctiveness of the area and conserve or enhance its historic environment, heritage assets and their settings according to their national and local significance'*. Furthermore the following policies also directly relate to the landscape and historic environment.

- DEV24 – Landscape Character,
- DEV21 – Conserving the historic environment, and
- DEV27 – Nationally protected landscapes.

Policy DEV25 – undeveloped coast is also specifically related to preventing detrimental effects on the Heritage Coast.

## 5.3 Baseline summary

### 5.3.1 Summary of current baseline

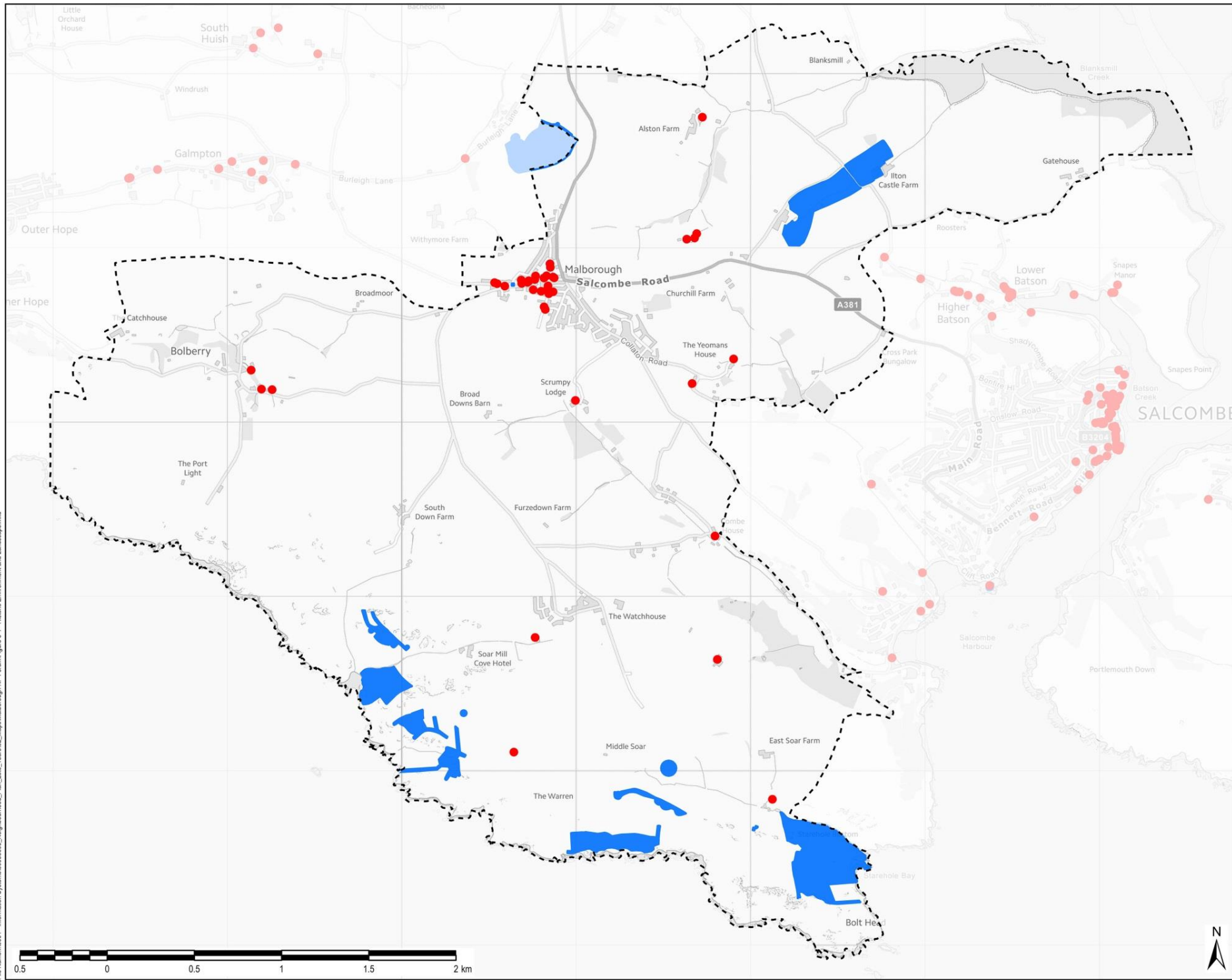
#### *Landscape*

The entire Neighbourhood Plan area lies within the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The South Devon AONB designated in 1960, is 377km<sup>2</sup> and covers coastline, estuaries, and countryside, stretching from Plymouth to Brixham. The AONB is managed by a Partnership Committee, made up of local and national organisations, and community representatives.

National Character Areas (NCAs) are landscape areas which share similar characteristics, following natural lines in the landscape rather than administrative boundaries. Developed by Natural England, NCA profiles describe the natural and cultural features that shape each of these landscapes, providing a broad context to its character. The Neighbourhood Plan area is located within NCA Profile: 151 South Devon<sup>24</sup>. The South Devon NCA is described as a plateau, dissected by steep valleys and rivers. The majority of the area consists of mixed farming, with fields bounded by Devon hedge banks and narrow winding lanes. The south of the area contains internationally important coastal and estuarine habitats.

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<sup>24</sup> Natural England (2014) National Character Area – South Devon. [Online] Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/1911063?category=587130> last accessed [25/04/17].



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**LEGEND**

- Malborough Neighbourhood
- Plan Area
- Listed building
- Record of Scheduled Monument

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Purpose of Issue  
**DRAFT**

Client  
**MALBOROUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FORUM**

Project Title  
**MALBOROUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Drawing Title  
**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE DESIGNATIONS**

Drawn	Checked	Approved	Date
CN	JW	NCB	08/06/2017

AECOM Internal Project No.  
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## Historic Environment

**Figure 5.2** (above) shows the designated landscapes and historical sites located within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Historic England is the statutory consultee for certain categories of listed building consent and all applications for scheduled monument consent. The historic environment is protected through the planning system, via conditions imposed on developers and other mechanisms. The Neighbourhood Plan area contains two Grade I listed buildings, no Grade II\* listed buildings and 38 Grade II listed buildings. The Grade I listed buildings are Church of All Saints, located in Malborough village and Yarde Farmhouse located approximately 900m to the west of Malborough village.

Scheduled monuments are sites of national importance and protected by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. According to the National Heritage List for England<sup>25</sup>, there are ten scheduled monuments in the Neighbourhood Plan area, listed below:

- Two hut circles and associated field systems and enclosure at Mousehill Brake;
- Regular aggregate field system 480m west of West Soar;
- Medieval farmstead and field system at Warren Barn, 500m south and 400m south of West Soar;
- Bowl barrow, 210m south of West Soar;
- Field systems, hut circles and four beacons, 510m south of Middle Soar;
- Medieval farmstead, boundary work and earthwork enclosures, 350m south east of Middle Soar;
- Hilltop enclosure, 380m east of Middle Soar;
- Coaxial field system, hut circles and medieval farm buildings at Starehole Bottom;
- Medieval settlement, site of quadrangular castle and relict garden between Ilton Farm and Ilton Castle Farm; and
- Animal pound, 50m south west of All Saints Church, Malborough village.

There are no registered battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Since 2008, Historic England has released an annual Heritage at Risk Register. The Heritage at Risk Register highlights the Grade I, Grade II and Grade II\* listed buildings, scheduled monuments, conservation areas, wreck sites and registered parks and gardens in England deemed to be 'at risk'. One listed building and three scheduled monuments within the Neighbourhood plan area feature on the latest Heritage at Risk Register<sup>26</sup> for South West England, published in October 2016. The condition, principal vulnerability and trend are listed in the table below:

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<sup>25</sup> Historic England: National Heritage List for England: <<http://list.historicengland.org.uk>> last accessed [06/06/2017.]

<sup>26</sup> Historic England (2016): 'Heritage at Risk Register 2016: South West', [online] available to download from: <<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/har-2016-registers/>> last accessed [06/06/17]

Heritage Asset at Risk	Condition	Principal Vulnerability	Priority / Trend
Yarde Farmhouse (Grade I)	Fair	N/A	C – Slow decay, no solution agreed
Field systems, hut circles and four beacons, 510m south west of Middle Soar	Generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems	Plant growth	Stable
Hilltop enclosure 380m east of Middle Soar	Extensive significant problems	Arable ploughing	Declining
Two hut circles and associated field systems and enclosure at Mousehill Brake	Generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems	Plant growth	Declining

There are no designated Conservation Areas located within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### 5.3.2 Summary of future baseline

New development has the potential to lead to incremental but small changes in landscape and townscape character and quality in and around the Neighbourhood Plan area. This includes from the loss of landscape features and visual impact. However, new development need not be harmful to the significance of a heritage asset, and in the context of the Neighbourhood Plan area there is opportunity for new development to enhance the historic setting of the town and better reveal assets' cultural heritage significance, educating both local residents and visitors to Malborough.

Existing historic environment designations will support a level of protection for key features and areas of historic environment interest in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

## 5.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Landscape and Historic Environment SEA theme?

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

## 6. Land, Soil and Water Resources

### Focus of Theme:

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

### 6.1 Headline sustainability issues

- There is no household waste recovery centre (HWRC) located within the Neighbourhood Plan area, with the closest being approximately 8 km to the south west.
- None of the agricultural land within the Neighbourhood Plan area is categorised as 'best and most versatile', with all areas classified as 3b or 4.
- There are no Nitrate Vulnerable Zones within the Neighbourhood Plan area, however there is one adjacent to the south west.

**Due to the absence of significant issues relating to soil and water resources in the Neighbourhood Plan area, the Land, Soil and Water Resources theme has been scoped out for the purposes of the SEA process.**

### 6.2 Sustainability context

The EU's Soil Thematic Strategy<sup>27</sup> presents a strategy for protecting soils resources in Europe. The main aim of the strategy is to minimise soil degradation and limit associated detrimental effects linked to water quality and quantity, human health, climate change, biodiversity, and food safety.

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

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

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

- Protect and enhance soils. The value of best and most versatile agricultural land should also be taken into account.
- Prevent new or existing development from being 'adversely affected' by the presence of 'unacceptable levels' of soil pollution or land instability and be willing to remediate and mitigate 'despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate'.

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<sup>27</sup> European Commission (2006) Soil Thematic Policy [online] available at: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index_en.htm) > last accessed [08/06/17]

- Encourage the effective use of land' through the reuse of land which has been previously developed, 'provided that this is not of high environmental value'. Whilst there is no longer a national requirement to build at a minimum density, the NPPF requires local planning authorities to 'set out their own approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances'.
- Produce strategic policies to deliver the provision of a variety of infrastructure, including that necessary for water supply.
- With regards to waste, the NPPF does not contain any specific waste policies as waste planning policy will be published as part of the National Waste Management Plan.

Other key documents at the national level include Safeguarding our Soils: A strategy for England<sup>28</sup>, which sets out a vision for soil use in England, and the Water White Paper<sup>29</sup>, which sets out the Government's vision for a more resilient water sector. It states the measures that will be taken to tackle issues such as poorly performing ecosystems, and the combined impacts of climate change and population growth on stressed water resources. In terms of waste management, the Government Review of Waste Policy in England<sup>30</sup> recognises that environmental benefits and economic growth can be the result of a more sustainable approach to the use of materials.

The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034 policy DEV2 – Air, water, soil, noise and land, states: *'development proposals which will cause unacceptable harm to human health or environmental quality by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability will not be permitted'*.

## 6.3 Baseline summary

### 6.3.1 Summary of current baseline

#### *Quality of agricultural land*

The Agricultural Land Classification categorises land into six grades (plus 'non-agricultural' and 'urban'), where Grades 1 to 3a are recognised as being the 'best and most versatile' land and Grades 3b to 5 are of poorer quality. In terms of the location of the best and most versatile agricultural land, the agricultural land in the Neighbourhood Plan area has been categorised as Grade 4 or 5, which is of poorer quality.

#### *Recycling centres*

There is no Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) located within the Neighbourhood Plan area. The nearest HWRC is Torr Quarry, located 7.2km to the north east of the Neighbourhood Plan area, near Kingsbridge.

#### *Watercourses*

There are no significant watercourses that flow through the Neighbourhood Plan area, however there are a number of other small waterways networking the Neighbourhood Plan area. Water supply and water provision in the area is provided by South West Water.

Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs) have been defined by the Environment Agency in England and Wales to protect groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs that are used for public drinking water supply. The zones show the risk of contamination from activities that might cause groundwater pollution in the area. In the Neighbourhood Plan area, there are no SPZs.

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<sup>28</sup> Defra (2009) Safeguarding our Soils: A strategy for England [online] available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-our-soils-a-strategy-for-england>> last accessed [07/06/17]

<sup>29</sup> Defra (2011) Water for life (The Water White Paper) [online] available at <<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm82/8230/8230.pdf>> last accessed [07/06/17]

<sup>30</sup> Defra (2011) Government Review of Waste Policy in England [online] available at: <<http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb13540-waste-policy-review110614.pdf>> last accessed [07/06/17]

The Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC) requires Member States to identify areas where groundwater has nitrate concentrations of more than 50 mg/l nitrate or is thought to be at risk of nitrate contamination. Areas associated with such groundwater are designated as Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZs) within which Member States are required to establish Action Programmes in order to reduce and prevent further nitrate contamination. There is one NVZ within the Neighbourhood Plan area, located in the north east corner of the Neighbourhood Plan area - Kingsbridge Eutrophic NVZ.

### 6.3.2 Summary of future baseline

Due to increasing legislative and regulatory requirements, there are increasing pressures to improving recycling and composting rates.

In terms of water quality, the requirements of the Water Framework Directive are likely to lead to continued improvements to water quality in watercourses in the wider area. Water quality has the potential to be affected by pollution incidents in the area, the presence of non-native species and future physical modifications to water bodies.

## 7. Population and Community

### Focus of Theme:

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

### 7.1 Headline sustainability issues

- There is an ageing population within the Neighbourhood Plan area, with a higher proportion of residents within the 60+ age group than the average for South Hams, South West and England.
- The population increase from 2001 to 2011 within the Neighbourhood Plan is significantly higher than for South Hams, and is also higher than for the South West and England.
- The Neighbourhood Plan area performs excellently in terms of the outdoor quality of life, with sufficient access to fresh air and green spaces.
- The Neighbourhood Plan area is particularly deprived with regards to geographical barriers and indoor living categories. Furthermore, 58.9% of households within Malborough are deprived in some way, which is higher than the average for South Hams, and higher than the regional and national counterparts.

### 7.2 Sustainability context

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

- To 'boost significantly the supply of housing', local planning authorities should meet the 'full, objectively assessed need for market and affordable housing' in their area. They should prepare a Strategic Housing Market Assessment to assess their full housing needs, working with neighbouring authorities where housing market areas cross administrative boundaries. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment should identify the scale and mix of housing and the range of tenures that the local population is likely to need over the plan period.
- With a view to creating 'sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities' authorities should ensure provision of affordable housing on site or externally where robustly justified.
- In rural areas, when exercising the duty to cooperate with neighbouring authorities, local planning authorities should be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs, particularly for affordable housing, including through rural exception sites where appropriate. Authorities should consider whether allowing some market housing would facilitate the provision of affordable housing to meet local needs.
- The NPPF attaches great importance to the design of the built environment. It explains how good design is a key aspect in sustainable development, and how development should improve the quality of the area over its lifetime, not just in the short term. Good architecture and landscaping are important, with the use of design codes contributing to the delivery of high quality outcomes. Design should reinforce local distinctiveness, raise the standard more generally in the area and address the connections between people and places.
- The social role of the planning system involves 'supporting vibrant and healthy communities'.

- The planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities
- Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.
- Ensure that developments create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion. Places should contain clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public spaces, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.
- Ensuring that there is a 'sufficient choice of school places' is of 'great importance' and there is a need to take a 'proactive, positive and collaborative approach' to bringing forward 'development that will widen choice in education'.

The 'Ready for Ageing?' report, published by the Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change<sup>31</sup> warns that society is underprepared for an ageing population. The report states that *'longer lives can be a great benefit, but there has been a collective failure to address the implications and without urgent action this great boon could turn into a series of miserable crises'*. The report recognises that the supply of specialist housing for the older generation is insufficient for the demand. There is a need for central and local Government, housing associations, and house builders to ensure that these housing needs are better addressed, giving as much priority to promoting an adequate market of social housing for the older generation as is given to the younger generation.

The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034 has a range of policies which are related to Population and Community, these are as follows;

- SO11 – Delivering high quality development
- SO8 – Maintaining the vitality and viability of the Smaller towns and Key Villages
- DEV9 – Meeting local housing need in the Plan Area
- DEV10 – Delivering high quality housing
- DEV32 – Meeting the community infrastructure needs of new homes
- TTV30 - Empowering local residents to create strong and sustainable communities
- SPT3 – Provision for new homes
- DEV18 – Protecting local shops and services

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<sup>31</sup> Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change (2013) Ready for Ageing? [online] available at: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/public-services-committee/report-ready-for-ageing/> last accessed [07/06/17]

## 7.3 Baseline summary

### 7.3.1 Summary of current baseline

#### Population

Table 7.1: Population growth 2001-2011<sup>32</sup>

Date	Malborough	South Hams	South West	England
2001	898	81,849	4,928,434	49,138,831
2011	971	83,140	5,288,935	53,012,456
<b>Population Change 2001-2011</b>	+8.1%	+1.6	+7.3%	+7.9%

According to the most recently available census data (see **Table 7.1**) Malborough has seen an increase in population (8.1%) between 2001 and 2011, the rate of which is higher than averages observed for the South West (7.3%) and England (7.9%), and significantly higher than the averages for the South Hams.

#### Age structure

Table 7.2: Age Structure (2011)<sup>33</sup>

	Malborough	South Hams	South West	England
<b>0-15</b>	15.0%	15.3%	17.5%	18.9%
<b>16-24</b>	7.8%	8.8%	11.3%	11.9%
<b>25-44</b>	18.0%	19.5%	24.6%	27.5%
<b>45-59</b>	21.1%	23.0%	20.1%	19.4%
<b>60+</b>	38.0%	32.8%	26.4%	22.3%
<b>Total Population</b>	971	83,140	5,288,935	53,012,456

The percentage of residents living within the Neighbourhood Plan area aged between 0-24 is 22.8%, which is lower than the average for South Hams (24.1%), and significantly lower than the regional and national averages (28.8% and 30.8% respectively). The biggest proportion of residents within Malborough are aged 60+ (38.0%), which is higher than the average for South Hams (32.8%), and higher than the regional (26.4%) and national (22.3%) counterparts. The working population of Malborough (those residents aged 25-59) is 39.1%, lower than the averages for South Hams (42.5%), the South West (44.7%) and England (46.9%). Therefore, based on the data presented in **Table 7.2**, Malborough is supporting an older population.

#### Household deprivation

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

<sup>32</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: Population Density 2011 (Table QS102EW); Population Density 2001 (Table UV02)

<sup>33</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: Age Structure 2011 (Table KS102EW)

- **Employment:** Any person in the household (not a full-time student) that is either unemployed or long-term sick.
- **Education:** No person in the household has at least a level 2 qualification and no person aged 16 - 18 is a full-time student.
- **Health and Disability:** Any person in the household that has generally 'bad' or 'very bad' health, or has a long term health problem.
- **Housing:** The household accommodation is either overcrowded (with an occupancy rating of -1 or less), in a shared dwelling or has no central heating.

Table 7.3: Relative household deprivation dimensions<sup>34</sup>

	Malborough	South Hams	South West	England
<b>Household not deprived</b>	41.1%	47.8%	44.8%	42.5%
<b>Deprived in 1 dimension</b>	38.7%	33.5%	33.2%	32.7%
<b>Deprived in 2 dimensions</b>	15.9%	15.5%	17.6%	19.1%
<b>Deprived in 3 dimensions</b>	4.1%	2.9%	4.0%	5.1%
<b>Deprived in 4 dimensions</b>	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%

Based on the most recently available census data (see **Table 7.3**), 58.9% of households within Malborough are deprived in some way, which is 6.7% higher than the average for South Hams (52.2%), and higher than the regional and national counterparts (3.7% and 1.4% higher, respectively). The percentage of households in Malborough which fall within the 'deprived in 1 dimension' and 'deprived in 2 dimensions' categories is greater than the percentages observed for South Hams, the South West and England. 4.1% of the households in the Neighbourhood Plan area are deprived in 3 dimensions, which is similar to the regional average and 1.0% lower than the national average. 0.2% of the households are deprived in 4 dimensions, which is lower than the regional and national averages.

### *Index of Multiple Deprivation*

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

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

<sup>34</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Households by Deprivation Dimensions 2011 (Table QS119EW)

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

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

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

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

The Neighbourhood Planning area all lies within E01020172: South Hams 012A.

Analysis of the data presented in Table 7.4 below reveals the following inferences:

### General Trends

The LSOA performs poorly with regard to indoor living, which falls within the top 10% most deprived areas, as well as for living environment and geographical barriers (20% most deprived). There is also a significant contrast between outdoor (top 10% least deprived) and indoor environment (top 10% most deprived). The LSOA also performs reasonably well in relation to education, health and wider barriers (all within the top 30% least deprived).

Table 7.4: Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015<sup>35</sup>

<b>LSOA: E01020172: South Hams 012A</b>		
	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Decile</b>
<b>Overall IMD</b>	19,337	(6)
<b>Income</b>	19,105	(6)
<b>Employment</b>	22,231	(7)
<b>Education, Skills and Training</b>	24,041	(8)
<b>Health Deprivation and Disability</b>	23,400	(8)
<b>Crime</b>	21,685	(7)
<b>Barriers to Housing and Services</b>	10,952	(4)
<b>Living Environment</b>	3,828	(2)
<b>Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index</b>	19,977	(7)
<b>Income Deprivation Affecting Older People</b>	20,449	(7)
<b>Children and Young People Sub-domain</b>	24,213	(8)
<b>Adult Skills Sub-domain</b>	22,138	(7)
<b>Geographical Barriers Sub-domain</b>	4,749	(2)
<b>Wider Barriers Sub-domain</b>	23,697	(8)
<b>Indoors Sub-domain</b>	1,579	(1)
<b>Outdoors Sub-domain</b>	32,732	(10)

<sup>35</sup> DCLG (2015): 'English Indices of Deprivation', [online] available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2015>> last accessed [07/06/17]

## Housing tenure

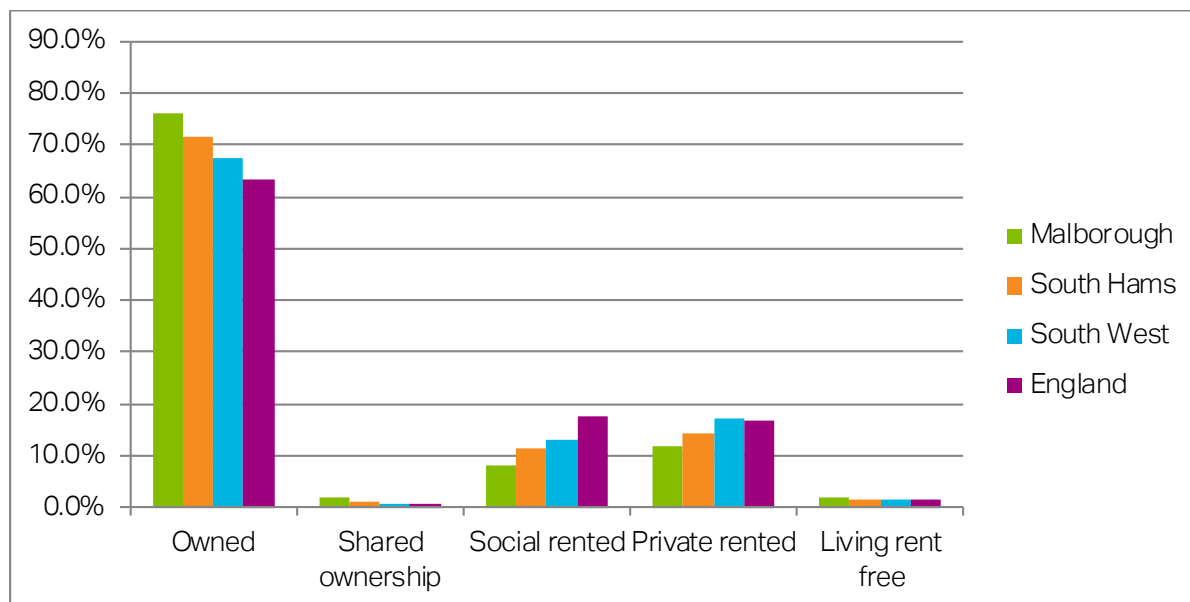


Figure 7.1: 'Tenure by Household' <sup>36</sup>

The majority of residents within Malborough (76.3%) own their home outright or with a mortgage (**Figure 7.1**), higher than the averages for South Hams (71.7%), the South West (67.4%), and the national average (63.3%). The percentage of residents living in socially rented households is approximately 8.1% which is 3.2% and 5.2% less than the averages for South Hams and the South West respectively. Furthermore, fewer people within Malborough live in privately rented households compared to the regional and national averages.

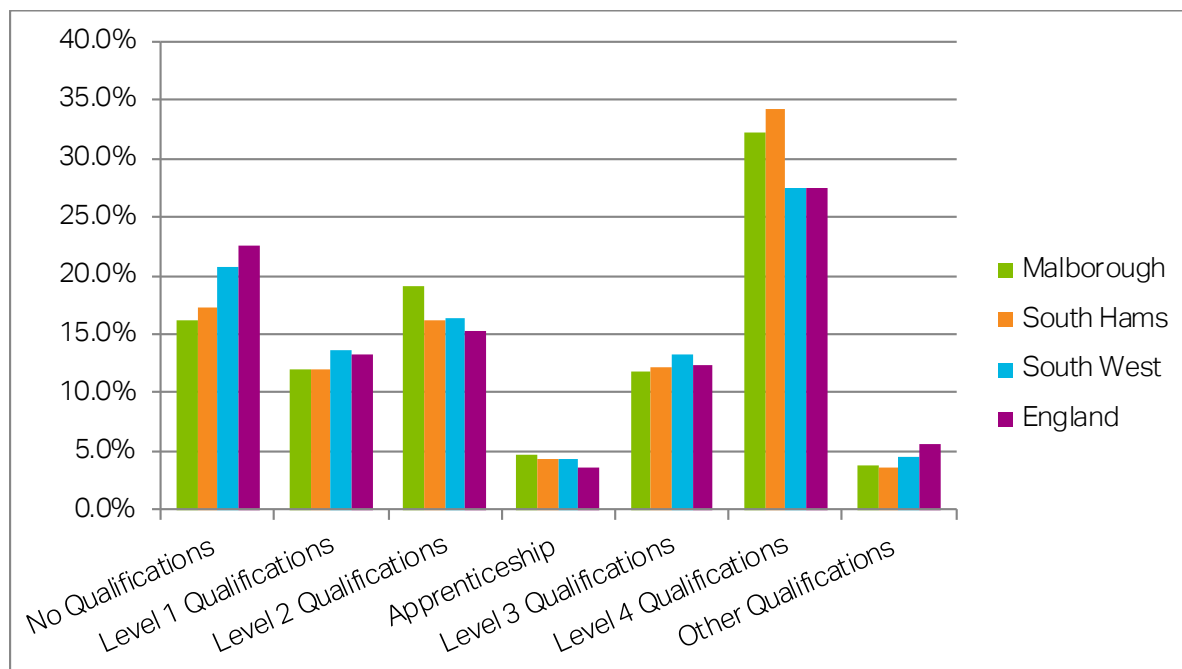
The average house price in Malborough is £196,528<sup>37</sup> which is lower than other neighbouring areas such as Salcombe and Galmpton. A Housing Needs Survey<sup>38</sup> for the Neighbourhood Plan area was undertaken in March 2016, and of the 135 residents that responded on the affordability of housing in the area, 55.6% stated that it was affordable to live in the area. However, the Housing Needs Survey also identified that, in January 2016, there were no properties for market sale that were affordable for the majority of first time buyers.

<sup>36</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: Tenure-Households 2011 (Table QS405EW)

<sup>37</sup> Rightmove (2017); House Prices in Malborough, Kingsbridge, Devon; [online] available at: <http://www.rightmove.co.uk/house-prices/Malborough.html> last accessed [12/06/17]

<sup>38</sup> SHDC (2016): Malborough Housing Needs Survey [online] available to download from: <http://www.malboroughvillage.org.uk/assets/pdf/yourplan/Malborough%20HNS%20report%20March%2023rd%202016-1%20FINAL.pdf> last accessed [12/06/17]

## Education

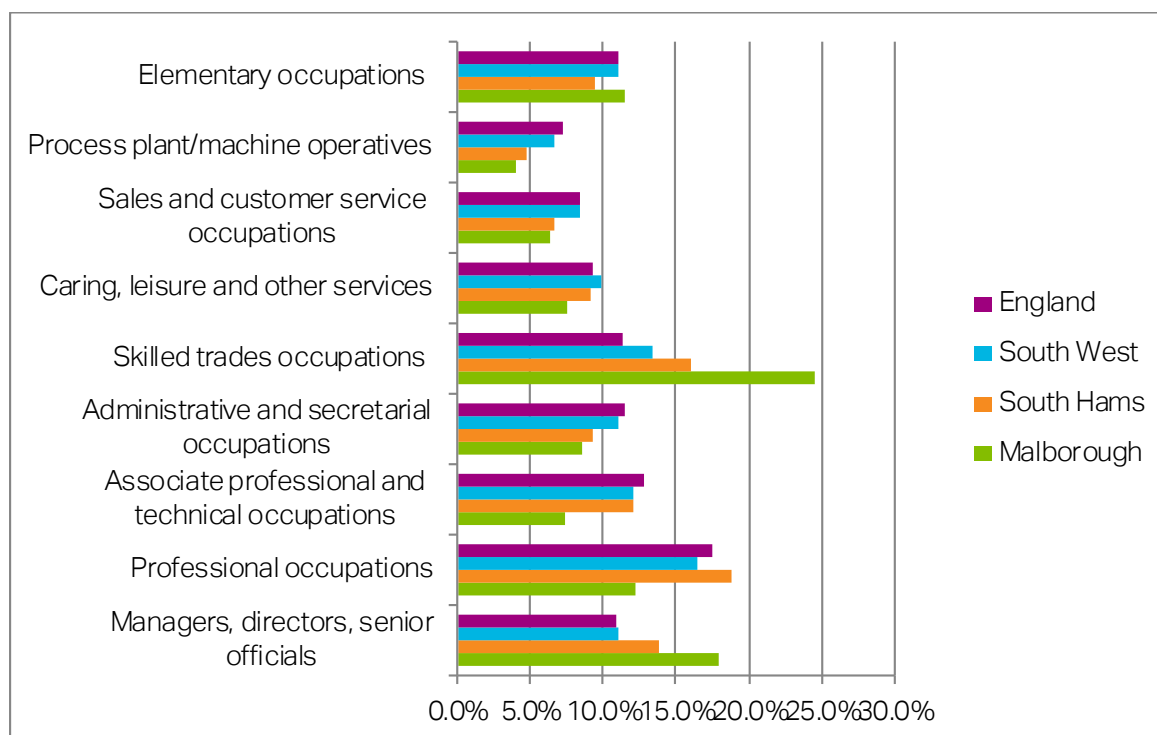


**Figure 7.2: 'Highest level of Qualification' <sup>39</sup>**

With regards to the most recently available census data (see **Figure 7.2**), 16.2% of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area have no qualifications, which is 1.0%, 4.0% and 6.3% lower than the averages for South Hams, the South West and England respectively. The percentage of residents which have Level 4 qualifications (32.3%) is lower than for South Hams (34.3%), this however is 4.9% higher than the averages for this qualification level at regional and national level. The proportion of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area with a Level 2 qualification (19.2%) is 2.9%, 2.8% and 4.0% higher than the averages for South Hams, the South West and England respectively. The percentage of residents in Malborough who have a Level 1 or 3 qualification broadly aligns with the regional and national averages.

<sup>39</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: Highest Level of Qualification 2011 (Table QS501EW)

## Employment



**Figure 7.3: 'Occupation of usual residents aged 16 to 74 in employment'<sup>40</sup>**

As highlighted in **Figure 7.3**, there is a significantly higher proportion of residents (aged 16-74) in Malborough who are employed in skilled trade occupations if compared to the regional and national averages. The same trend is observed for residents who are employed as managers, directors and senior officials. The proportion of the residents (aged 16-24) working in elementary occupations is broadly aligned with the regional and national averages. Six occupation categories employ fewer residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area compared to the averages for South Hams, the South West, and England, including:

- Process plant/machine operatives;
- Sales and customer service occupations;
- Caring, leisure and other services;
- Administrative and secretarial occupations;
- Associated professional and technical occupations; and
- Professional occupations.

The low level of these occupations within the Neighbourhood Plan area may be due to the rural nature of the area, with fewer employment opportunities, and the higher proportion of retired people in the area.

<sup>40</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Occupation 2011' (Table KS606EW)

### 7.3.2 Summary of future baseline

The population of the Neighbourhood Plan area increased between the years 2001 -2011 at a higher rate than seen regionally and nationally, and significantly higher than the averages seen for the South Hams. 38% of residents are aged 60+, indicating the presence of an older population within the Neighbourhood Plan area, in common with other areas, the population of the Neighbourhood Plan area is likely to age.

The suitability of housing for local requirements depends in part on the successful implementation of policies outlined in The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034.

## 7.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Population and Community SEA theme?

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

## 8. Health and Wellbeing

### Focus of Theme:

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

### 8.1 Headline sustainability issues

- The majority of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area consider themselves to have 'very good health' or 'good health'. However, the percentage of residents reporting 'very good health' is below local, regional and national averages.
- Comparatively more residents report bad health or very bad health than district or South West averages.
- An ageing population has the potential to increase pressures on healthcare services, and is therefore a significant influence on future health and wellbeing in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### 8.2 Sustainability context

Key messages from the NPPF include:

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

In relation to other key national messages in relation to health, Fair Society, Healthy Lives<sup>41</sup> ('The Marmot Review') investigated health inequalities in England and the actions needed in order to tackle them. Subsequently, a supplementary report was prepared providing additional evidence relating to spatial planning and health on the basis that there is: "overwhelming evidence that health and environmental inequalities are inexorably linked and that poor environments contribute significantly to poor health and health inequalities".

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

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)<sup>42</sup> for Devon identifies key features of interest within the area and raises important issues for discussion. The main challenges in Devon have been identified to

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<sup>41</sup> The Marmot Review (2011) The Marmot Review: Implications for Spatial Planning [online] available to download from: <http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=106106> > last accessed [08/06/17]

<sup>42</sup> Devon County Council (2015) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Devon Overview [online] available via: [http://www.devonhealthandwellbeing.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/JSNA\\_Devon\\_Overview\\_2015.pdf](http://www.devonhealthandwellbeing.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/JSNA_Devon_Overview_2015.pdf) > last accessed [08/06/17]

be population, equality and diversity, economy, community and environment, deprivation, starting well, living well and ageing well.

The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034 policy DEV1 – Protecting health and amenity states: *'Development proposals will be required to safeguard the health and the amenity of local communities. In addition to measures set out in other policies of the plan, this will be through, as appropriate:*

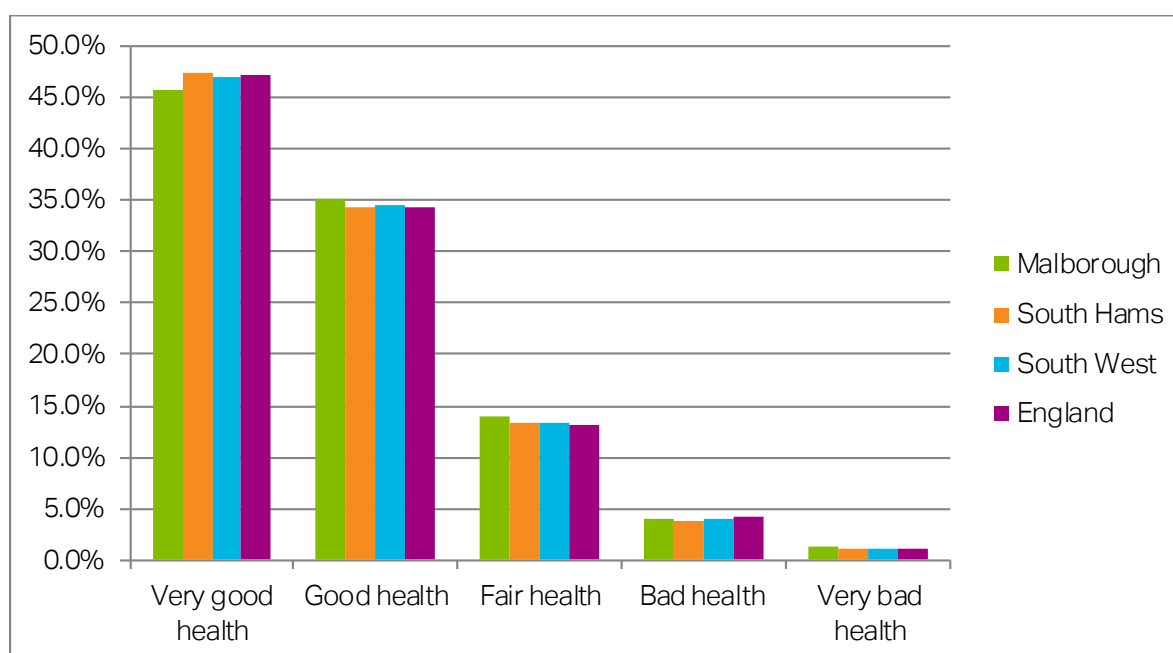
- 1 *Ensuring that new development provides for satisfactory daylight, sunlight, outlook, privacy and the protection from noise disturbance for both new and existing homes. Unacceptable impacts will be judged against the level of amenity generally in the locality.*
- 2 *Ensuring that developments and public spaces are designed to be accessible to people with disabilities or for whose mobility is impaired by other circumstances.*
- 3 *Requiring a Health Impact Assessment to be submitted as part of any Environmental Impact Assessment submitted in relation to planning applications for major development proposals.'*

## 8.3 Baseline summary

### 8.3.1 Summary of current baseline

#### *Health indicators and deprivation*

Deprivation is a significant contributor to poor health and can have adverse effects on wellbeing, with elements related to poor housing quality and living environment previously discussed in detail in **Chapter 7**. As highlighted in **Figure 8.1**, health is generally favourable in the Neighbourhood Plan area, with 80.8% of residents reporting either 'very good health' or 'good health' in the most recent census. Although favourable, this percentage is lower than the averages for South Hams (81.8%), the South West (81.5%) and England (81.4%). Comparatively, 5.3% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area report either 'bad health' or 'very bad health', which is 0.4% higher than South Hams and 0.2% higher than the South West, although it is 0.1% lower than the average for England. This is likely to relate to the older population profile of Malborough Parish.



**Figure 8.1: 'General Health'<sup>43</sup>**

<sup>43</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'General Health 2011' (Table QS302EW)

The higher than average levels of 'very bad health' and 'bad health' within the Neighbourhood Plan area aligns with the disability data presented in **Table 8.1**. 19.9% of residents in Malborough reported that their daily activities were limited in some way, which is 0.7% higher than South Hams, 1.4% higher than the South West and 2.3% higher than the average for England.

**Table 8.1: Disability<sup>44</sup>**

	Malborough	South Hams	South West	England
<b>Activities limited 'a lot'</b>	8.4%	8.2%	8.3%	8.3%
<b>Activities limited 'a little'</b>	11.6%	11.0%	10.2%	9.3%
<b>Activities 'not limited'</b>	80.1%	80.8%	81.6%	82.4%

### 8.3.2 Summary of future baseline

The health and wellbeing in the Neighbourhood Plan area is broadly similar to district and regional comparators, but with fewer residents having 'very good' health when compared with other local, regional and national data.

An ageing population has the potential to increase pressures on community and healthcare services and is therefore a significant influence on the future health and well-being within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

## 8.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Health and Wellbeing SEA theme?

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

<sup>44</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Long-term Health Problem or Disability 2011' (Table QS303EW)

## 9. Transportation

### Focus of Theme:

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

### 9.1 Headline sustainability issues

- There is no railway station within the Neighbourhood Plan area, the nearest is approximately 21.5km north in Totnes.
- There are a number of Tally Ho! bus services running in the area, with connections to nearby towns.
- There is a need for continued enhancement to public transport as well as walking and cycling networks in the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- The village centre experiences congestion issues, particularly during peak summer periods.
- After driving, the most second most popular method of travelling to work in Malborough is to work from home, with the value of 10.3% higher than the averages for South Hams the South West and the national average.

### 9.2 Sustainability context

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

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

The Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 for Devon and Torbay aims to deliver a transport system to meet economic, environmental and social challenges. The plan is seeking to deliver the aspirations of Devon and Torbay councils, stakeholders, businesses and the public. To achieve Devon and Torbay's vision the strategy has five key objectives:

- *'Deliver and support new development and economic growth;*
- *Make best use of the transport network and protect the existing transport asset by prioritising maintenance;*
- *Work with communities to provide safe, sustainable and low carbon transport choices;*
- *Strengthen and improve the public transport network; and*
- *Make Devon the 'Place to be naturally active'.*

The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034 policy SPT9 – Strategic principles for transport planning and strategy states that the 'Local Planning Authorities and the local highway authorities of Plymouth and Devon, working with key transport stakeholders, will deliver an integrated

approach to transport and planning, delivering a strategic approach to transport. This is supported by policy DEV32 – Specific provisions relating to transport.

## 9.3 Baseline summary

### 9.3.1 Summary of current baseline

#### *Rail network*

The nearest train stations providing national services are Ivybridge Railway Station, which is located approximately 17.5km to the north west of the Neighbourhood Plan area, and Totnes Railway Station, which is located approximately 21.5km to the north of the Neighbourhood Plan area. Both are on the main Penzance/Plymouth to Exeter railway line, however significantly more services serve Totnes than Ivybridge. Half of the services are operated by Great Western Railway, including main line services to Plymouth, Truro and Penzance to the west and Newton Abbot, Exeter, Taunton, Reading and London Paddington to the east. The remaining services are run by CrossCountry who operate trains to Plymouth and Cornwall to the west, and Newton Abbot, Exeter, Taunton, Bristol, Birmingham, the north of England and Scotland.

#### *Bus network*

There is one main bus route which services the Neighbourhood Plan area;

- 606 Bus: Kingsbridge to Salcombe which stops several times on the A381 Salcombe Road in Malborough run by Tally Ho! Coaches.

This bus route operates from 08:00 to 19:00 (Kingsbridge to Salcombe) and 08:20 to 19:30 (Salcombe to Kingsbridge), with approximately one service per hour in each direction (less frequently after 14:30) Monday to Saturday. No services operate on Sundays.

A section of the 162 bus route: Kingsbridge to Hope (via Thurlestone) also operates in the north of the Neighbourhood Plan area, which is run by Tally Ho! Coaches. There are three services per day along this route, operating at approximately 3 hour intervals between 10:30 and 17:30.

#### *Road network and congestion*

The main route through Malborough is the A381 Salcombe Road, which connects the village with Salcombe to the east and Kingsbridge to the north. The remainder of roads in the Neighbourhood Plan area comprise minor, often single lane country roads that provide road connections to other villages in the Neighbourhood Plan area (e.g. Bolberry) and the south coast.

The A381, as the main route through Malborough village becomes highly congested during summer months. This is due to the increased level of visitor traffic and the particularly narrow and winding section of the road which passes through the centre of Malborough.

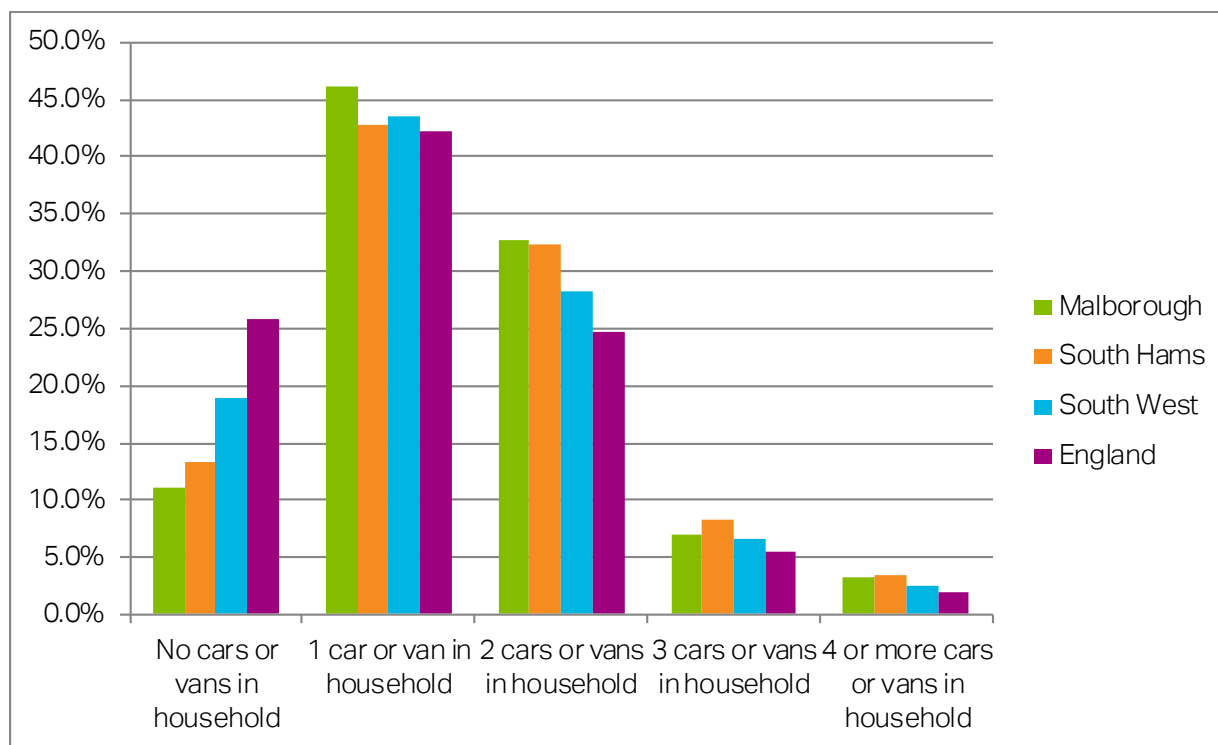
#### *Footpath and cycle network*

Part of the South West Coast path is situated in the Neighbourhood Plan area; the route follows the coast path from Bolt Tail to Bolt Head. The South West Coast Path also continues in both directions past Hope Cove to the north and round to Salcombe towards the east. An identified problem with the section of the South West Coast Path called 'Bird Walk' is that the pathway is narrow, dark and poorly surfaced, which makes it unappealing for walkers.

Malborough village is linked with Salcombe by a cycle path, which forms part of National Cycle Route 28. Running alongside, and segregated from the A381, this is a key cycle and pedestrian link for residents and visitors.

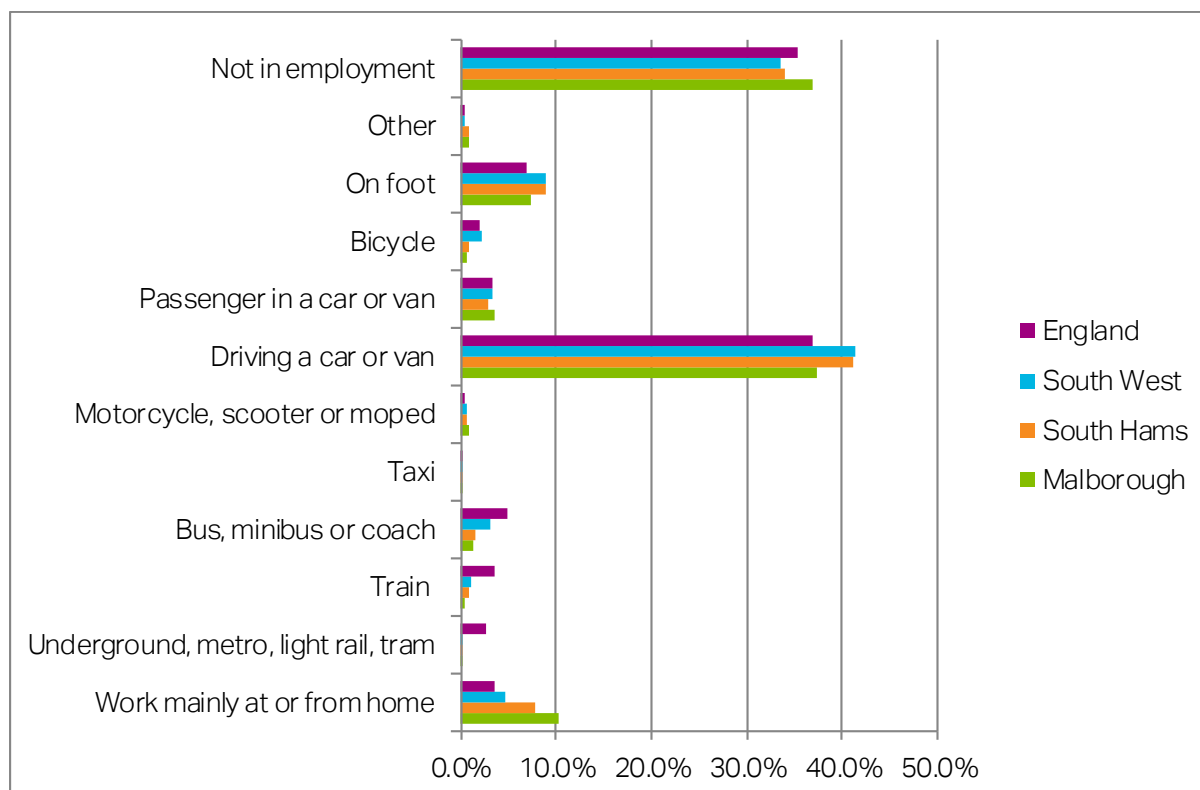
### Availability of cars and vans

In regards to access to vehicles within the Neighbourhood Plan area, the proportion of households with no access to a car or van in Malborough (11.0%) is lower than the average for South Hams (13.3%) and the South West (18.9%), as well as lower than the national average of 25.8% (see **Figure 9.1**).



**Figure 9.1: 'Car and van ownership'<sup>45</sup>**

### Travel to work



<sup>45</sup> ONS (no date): 'Car or Van Availability 2011', (Table QS416EW)

## Figure 9.2: 'Method of Travel to Work'<sup>46</sup>

Based on the most recent census data, the most popular method of traveling to work in Malborough is via driving a car or van (37.4%) lower than the averages for South Hams (41.1%) and the South West (41.4%). However this is likely to be due to the higher levels of residents not in employment. After driving, the most second most popular method of travelling to work in Malborough is to work from home, with the value of 10.3%, higher than the averages for South Hams (7.8%), the South West (9.0%) and the national average of 6.9%.

### 9.3.2 Summary of future baseline

New development has the potential to increase visitor numbers, and therefore traffic along the key routes through Malborough with congestion a particular issue in the summer peak season for tourists.

Public transport usage has the potential to remain relatively low compared to private car use in the area, although there is potential to increase sustainable transport use and active travel such as cycling. There is potential for the number of people working from home in Malborough to significantly increase use to modern working patterns such as agile and flexible working.

Whilst negative effects of new development on the local transport network are likely to be in part mitigated by provisions in the Devon Transport Plan and The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014-2034, overall increases in car use may arise as a result of growth in the Neighbourhood Plan area and a growth in visitor numbers.

## 9.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Transportation SEA theme?

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

<sup>46</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Method of Travel to Work 2011' (Table QS701EW)

## 10. Next Steps

### 10.1 Subsequent stages for the SEA process

Scoping (the current stage) is the second stage in a six-stage SEA process:

- Screening (NPPG Stage A)
- Scoping (NPPG Stage B)
- Assess reasonable alternatives, with a view to informing preparation of the draft plan (NPPG Stage C)
- Assess the draft plan and prepare the Environmental Report with a view to informing consultation and plan finalization (NPPG Stage D / E)
- Publish a 'statement' at the time of plan adoption in order to 'tell the story' of plan-making/SEA (and present 'measures decided concerning monitoring') (NPPG Stage F)

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

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

Following consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan / Environmental Report, the plan will be finalised and submitted to South Hams District Council for subsequent Independent Examination.

### 10.2 Consultation on the Scoping Report

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

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

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

### 10.3 Download and viewing details

The Scoping Report can be downloaded at:

Website: <http://www.malboroughvillage.org.uk/steeringgroup>

This consultation period runs from 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 until 21<sup>st</sup> August 2017. Comments on the Scoping Report should be sent to:

Debbie Ede, Malborough Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Email via: [malboroughparishcouncil@btinternet.com](mailto:malboroughparishcouncil@btinternet.com) or  
<http://www.malboroughvillage.org.uk/yourplancontact>

All comments received on the Scoping Report will be reviewed and will influence the development of the SEA where appropriate.

