

# Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Redruth Neighbourhood Plan

Scoping Report

Redruth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

December 2020

## Quality information

Prepared by	Checked by	Verified by	Approved by
Ryan Putt Environmental Consultant	Nick Chisholm-Batten Associate Director	Alastair Peattie Associate Director	Alastair Peattie Associate Director

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### Prepared for:

Redruth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

### Prepared by:

AECOM Limited  
Plumer House  
Tailyour Road  
Crownhill  
Plymouth PL6 5DH  
United Kingdom

[aecom.com](http://aecom.com)

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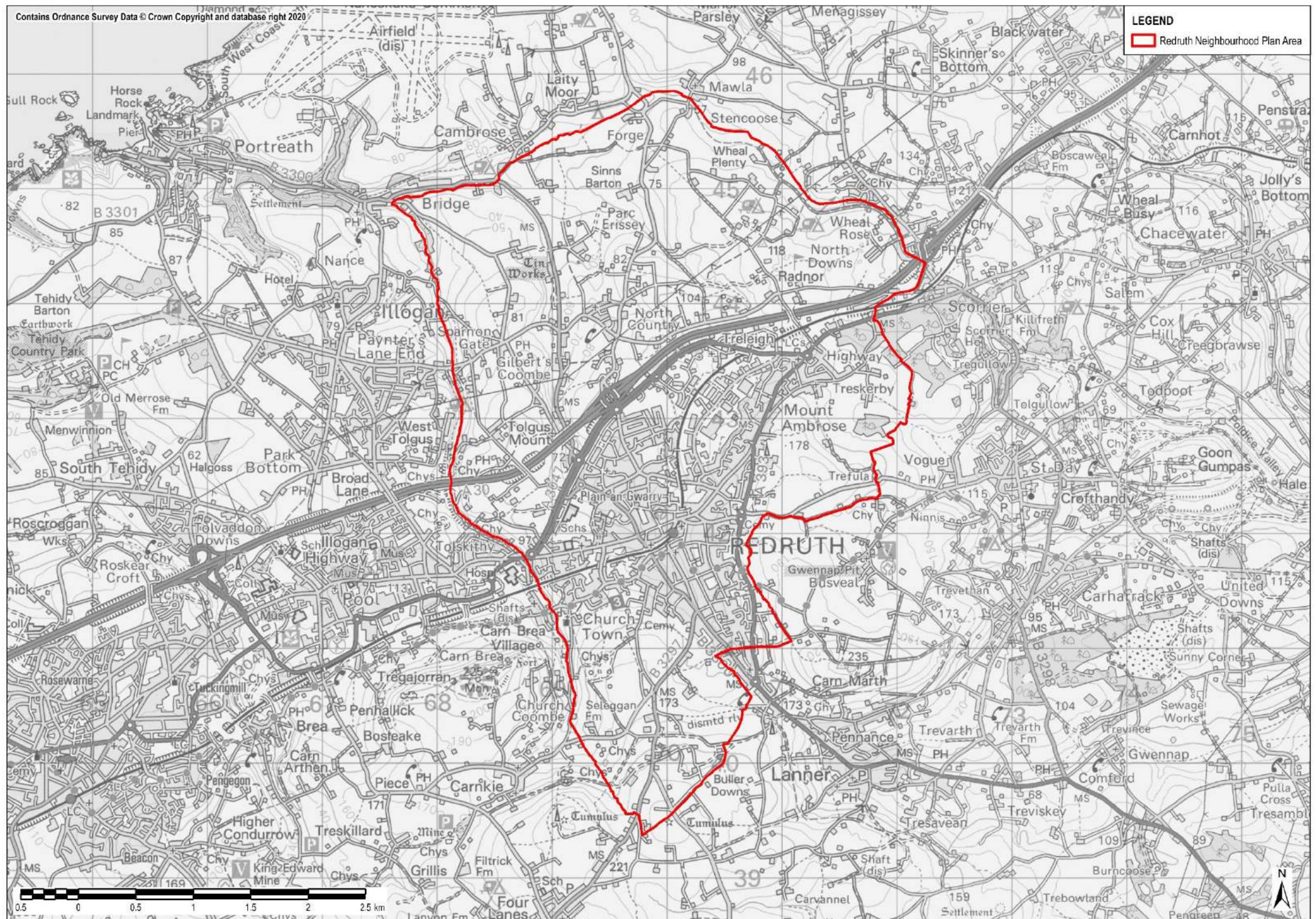
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# 1. Introduction

## Background

- 1.1 AECOM has been commissioned to undertake an independent Strategic Environmental Assessment in support of Redruth's emerging Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.2 The Redruth Neighbourhood Plan is currently being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the Cornwall Local Plan, the key documents of which include the Strategic Policies (2010-2030), Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) and the Minerals Safeguarding DPD.
- 1.3 It is currently anticipated that the Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to Cornwall Council in 2021 for subsequent independent examination. Key information relating to the Redruth Neighbourhood Plan is presented in **Table 1.1**.

**Table 1.1: Key facts relating to the Redruth Neighbourhood Plan**

Name of Responsible Authority	Redruth Town Council
Title of Plan	Redruth Neighbourhood Plan
Subject	Neighbourhood planning
Purpose	<p>The Redruth 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 Cornwall Local Plan, the key documents of which include the Strategic Policies (2010-2030), Site Allocations DPD and the Minerals Safeguarding DPD.</p> <p>The Redruth Neighbourhood Plan will be used to guide and shape development within the Neighbourhood Plan area.</p>
Timescale	To 2030
Area covered by the plan	The Redruth Neighbourhood Plan area covers the parish of Redruth, located in Cornwall.
Summary of content	The Redruth Neighbourhood Plan will set out a vision, strategy and range of policies for the Neighbourhood Plan area.
Plan contact point	Imelda Martin, Neighbourhood Plan Project Manager Email address: <a href="mailto:Imeldamartin@outlook.com">Imeldamartin@outlook.com</a>

## Relationship of the Redruth Neighbourhood Plan to the Cornwall Local Plan

- 1.4 The overarching document for the Cornwall Local Plan, the *Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies 2010-2030*<sup>1</sup>, was adopted in November 2016. This sets out the land use policies to meet Cornwall's economic, environmental and social needs and aims for the future, and provides the framework for all subsequent documents which form part of the Local Plan.
- 1.5 The Cornwall Local Plan identifies a requirement for 5,200 new dwellings across the wider Camborne, Pool, Illogan & Redruth Community Network Area (CNA). Prepared on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, the Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) has worked in collaboration with Cornwall Council to determine a proportioned figure for Redruth. This is given that the CNA includes settlements which are outside of the Neighbourhood Plan area. In this respect, a total of 1,960 dwellings out of the 5,200 for the CNA are to be delivered within the Neighbourhood Plan area. Deducting completions and commitments reduces the total to a residual requirement for 1,178 additional homes between 2019-2030.
- 1.6 Cornwall Council has prepared a *Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD)*<sup>2</sup> to support the delivery of objectives within the Local Plan. The purpose of the Site Allocations DPD is to allocate land for a range of uses to meet the growth targets for the main towns in Cornwall, relating to housing growth, commercial growth and enabling infrastructure. In addition, the Site Allocations DPD identifies strategically important employment sites that should be safeguarded. The following sites in Redruth are allocated for housing or safeguarded for employment uses through the DPD:
  - Policy CPIR-UE1: 'Tolgus Urban Extension' – Allocation for approximately 280 dwellings and approximately 2,000 sqm of B1a and 1,000 sqm of B1c employment space;
  - Policy CPIR-E3: 'Treleigh Industrial Estate' – Safeguarded employment site for B1, B2 and B8 uses; and
  - Policy CPIR-E4: 'Cardrew Industrial Estate' – Safeguarded employment site for B1, B2 and B8 uses.
- 1.7 Neighbourhood plans will form part of the development plan for Cornwall, alongside, but not as a replacement for the Local Plan. Neighbourhood plans are required to be in general conformity with 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 Cornwall, whilst enabling finer detail to be determined through the neighbourhood planning process where appropriate.

## SEA for the Redruth Neighbourhood Plan

### SEA Screening for the Neighbourhood Plan

- 1.8 The Redruth Neighbourhood Plan has been screened in by Cornwall Council as requiring a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).
- 1.9 A Neighbourhood Plan requires SEA where it is likely to have significant environmental effects. In this respect, the Redruth Neighbourhood Plan has been screened in as requiring an SEA process for the following reasons:
  - The Neighbourhood Plan will allocate new development in the parish. This includes potentially in environmentally sensitive locations, such as:
    - locations with sensitivity for the historic environment, including the internationally designated Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site (WHS),

<sup>1</sup> Cornwall Council (2016): 'Cornwall Local Plan Strategic Policies 2010-2030', [online] available to download via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/localplan/cornwall/>

<sup>2</sup> Cornwall Council (2017): 'Cornwall Site Allocations Development Plan Document', [online] available to download via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/planning-policy/adopted-plans/development-plan-documents/cornwall-site-allocations-development-plan-document/>

nationally designated listed buildings, scheduled monuments, and two Conservation Areas; and

- locations with sensitivity for biodiversity, including the Zone of Influence for the Fal and Helford Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and the West Cornwall Bryophytes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

1.10 In light of this screening outcome, an SEA process is being undertaken to meet the specific requirements prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations).

## SEA explained

1.11 SEA is a mechanism for considering and communicating the potential impacts of an emerging plan, and potential alternatives in terms of key environmental issues.

1.12 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 Redruth Neighbourhood Plan seeks to maximise the emerging plan's contribution to sustainable development.

1.13 Two key procedural requirements of the SEA Regulations are that:

- i. 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
- ii. A report (the 'Environmental Report') is published for consultation alongside the Draft Plan (i.e. the draft Redruth 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

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

## SEA 'Scoping' Explained

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

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

## Structure of this Report

### Key Sustainability Issues

1.16 The outcomes of the scoping elements introduced through steps i-iv above have been presented under a series of key environmental themes, as follows:

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

1.17 The selected environmental themes incorporate the 'SEA topics' suggested by Annex I (f) of the SEA Directive<sup>3</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 these nine themes will provide a methodological 'framework' for the environmental assessment of the draft plan and reasonable alternatives.

1.18 The discussion of the scoping information for each theme is presented in Sections 2 to 10.

### SEA Framework to assess policy proposals

1.19 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 Redruth Neighbourhood Plan will be assessed consistently using the framework.

1.20 The SEA objectives and appraisal questions proposed for the Redruth Neighbourhood Plan SEA are presented under each of the themes in Sections 2 to 10.

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<sup>3</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

### Policy Context

2.1 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)<sup>4</sup> include:

- *‘Planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. Opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts should be identified, such as through traffic and travel management, and green infrastructure provision and enhancement. So far as possible these opportunities should be considered at the plan-making stage, to ensure a strategic approach and limit the need for issues to be reconsidered when determining individual applications. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones is consistent with the local air quality action plan.’*
- *‘Significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. This can help to reduce congestion and emissions and improve air quality and public health.’*
- 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.

2.2 The Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010 transpose into UK law the Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) which sets legally binding limits for outdoor concentrations of major air pollutants which impact public health.

2.3 Published in January 2018 by the UK Government, ‘A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment’<sup>5</sup> sets out a number of goals and policies in order to help the natural world regain and retain good health. In this context, Goal 1 ‘Clean Air’ and the policies contained within ‘Chapter 4: Increasing resource efficiency and reducing pollution and waste’ within the 25-year plan directly relate to the air quality SEA theme.

2.4 The government published the ‘UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations’ in July 2017.<sup>6</sup> This is the air quality plan for bringing nitrogen dioxide within statutory limits in the shortest possible time. The plan identifies that *“the link between improving air quality and reducing carbon emissions is particularly important”* and that consequently the UK government is determined to be at the forefront of vehicle innovation by making motoring cleaner.

2.5 The Clean Air Strategy 2019 identifies how government will tackle all sources of air pollution and is aimed at complementing the Industrial Strategy, Clean Growth Strategy and 25 Year Environment Plan. The strategy proposes new goals to cut public exposure to particulate matter pollution and sets out the comprehensive action that is required from across all parts of government and society to meet these goals. The proposed measures include new legislation

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<sup>4</sup> HM GOV (2018): ‘Revised National Planning Policy Framework’, [online] available to access via: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/revised-national-planning-policy-framework>

<sup>5</sup> HM GOV (2018): ‘A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment’, [online] available to access via: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> DEFRA (2017) ‘UK plan for tackling nitrogen dioxide concentrations’ [online], available from: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/633269/air-quality-planoverview](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/633269/air-quality-planoverview)

and new local powers to take action in areas with an air pollution problem, including through the creation of 'Clean Air Zones'.

- 2.6 In February 2020, the UK government updated the Clean Air Zone<sup>7</sup> Framework<sup>8</sup>, which sets out the principles for the operation of Clean Air Zones England and provides the expected approach to be taken by local authorities when implementing and operating a Clean Air Zone. Clean Air Zones bring together local measures to deliver immediate action to improve air quality and health with support for cities to grow while delivering sustained reductions in pollution and a transition to a low emission economy. Where a Clean Air Zone is introduced it will be identified in the local plans and policies, and within local transport plans at the earliest opportunity to ensure it is consistent with wider ambition.
- 2.7 Local Planning Authorities are required to publish annual Air Quality Annual Status Reports (ASRs) to discharge their monitoring obligations under Part IV of the Environment Act (1995). Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 and Part II of the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 requires local authorities in the UK to review air quality in their area and designate Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) if improvements are necessary. Where an AQMA is designated, an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) must then be put in place. In this context, there are nine AQMAs within Cornwall, all of which are designated for exceedances in the annual mean concentration objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). These include: Camborne-Pool-Redruth, Truro, St Austell, Bodmin, Tideford, Gunnislake, Camelford, Grampound and Launceston<sup>9</sup>. The AQAPs for these AQMAs are contained within the Clean Air for Cornwall Strategy (minus Grampound and Launceston as they were not designated until after the Strategy was prepared).
- 2.8 Released in March 2017, the Clean Air for Cornwall Strategy<sup>10</sup> was developed to formalise Cornwall Council's implementation of current local and national planning policy and legislation, in addition to providing formal guidance for those wishing to develop within or within close proximity to an AQMA. The aims of the Strategy are:
  - To raise awareness of the air quality problems in Cornwall and provide an integrated approach to improving air quality;
  - To reduce levels of pollution within AQMAs to below objective levels and improve air quality in Cornwall as a whole;
  - To raise awareness of the links between health and travel, in respect of both air quality and personal fitness;
  - To raise awareness and provide policy, guidance, and a framework for development and impact mitigation to those wishing to develop in Cornwall;
  - To provide an approach for reducing emissions of fine particulates in order to help improve and protect public health; and
  - To improve Cornwall Council's performance in terms of emissions and to provide strong leadership with regard to environmental sustainability and ensure that all Council activity is integrated in considering the effect it has on air pollution.

<sup>7</sup> Defined as: 'an area where targeted action is taken to improve air quality and resources are prioritised and coordinated in order to shape the urban environment in a way that delivers improved health benefits and supports economic growth'.

<sup>8</sup> Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2020) Clean Air Zone Framework: Principles for setting up Clean Air Zones in England [online] available from:  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/863730/clean-air-zone-framework-feb2020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/863730/clean-air-zone-framework-feb2020.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> Cornwall Council (2018): 'Air Quality Management Areas', [online] available to access via:  
<<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/environmental-protection/environmental-protection-air-quality/air-quality-management-areas/>>

<sup>10</sup> Cornwall Council (2017): 'Clean Air for Cornwall Strategy', [online] available to download via:  
<<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/environmental-protection/environmental-protection-air-quality/clean-air-for-cornwall-strategy/>>

- 2.9 The Clean Air for Cornwall Strategy is currently being reviewed and updated<sup>11</sup>.
- 2.10 The *Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies 2010-2030* were adopted in November 2016. The vision statement for the plan is as follows, with four overarching key themes underpinning the context of the plan: ‘Achieve a leading position in sustainable living’
- To support the economy;
  - To enable self-sufficient and resilient communities;
  - To promote good health and wellbeing for everyone; and
  - To make the most of our environment.
- 2.11 Objective 8 within key theme number 3 states to ‘promote development that contributes to a healthy and safe population by ensuring the protection and improvement of air quality’. Furthermore, in regard to the 28 policies listed within the ‘Cornwall Local Plan Strategic Policies 2010-2030’ document, Policy 16 ‘Health and Wellbeing’ directly relates to Air Quality.

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

- 2.12 The Camborne-Pool-Redruth AQMA (**Figure 2.1** overleaf) has been primarily designated for exceedances in the annual mean concentration objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>).
- 2.13 The 2019 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR)<sup>12</sup> for Cornwall concluded that with the exception of Camelford, all existing AQMAs continued to exceed the NO<sub>2</sub> annual mean objective and in some locations the hourly objective was also at risk of being exceeded due to the annual mean being greater than 60µg/m<sup>3</sup>.
- 2.14 **Table 2.1** provides further information on the Camborne-Pool-Redruth AQMA.

**Table 2.1 AQMA Overview**

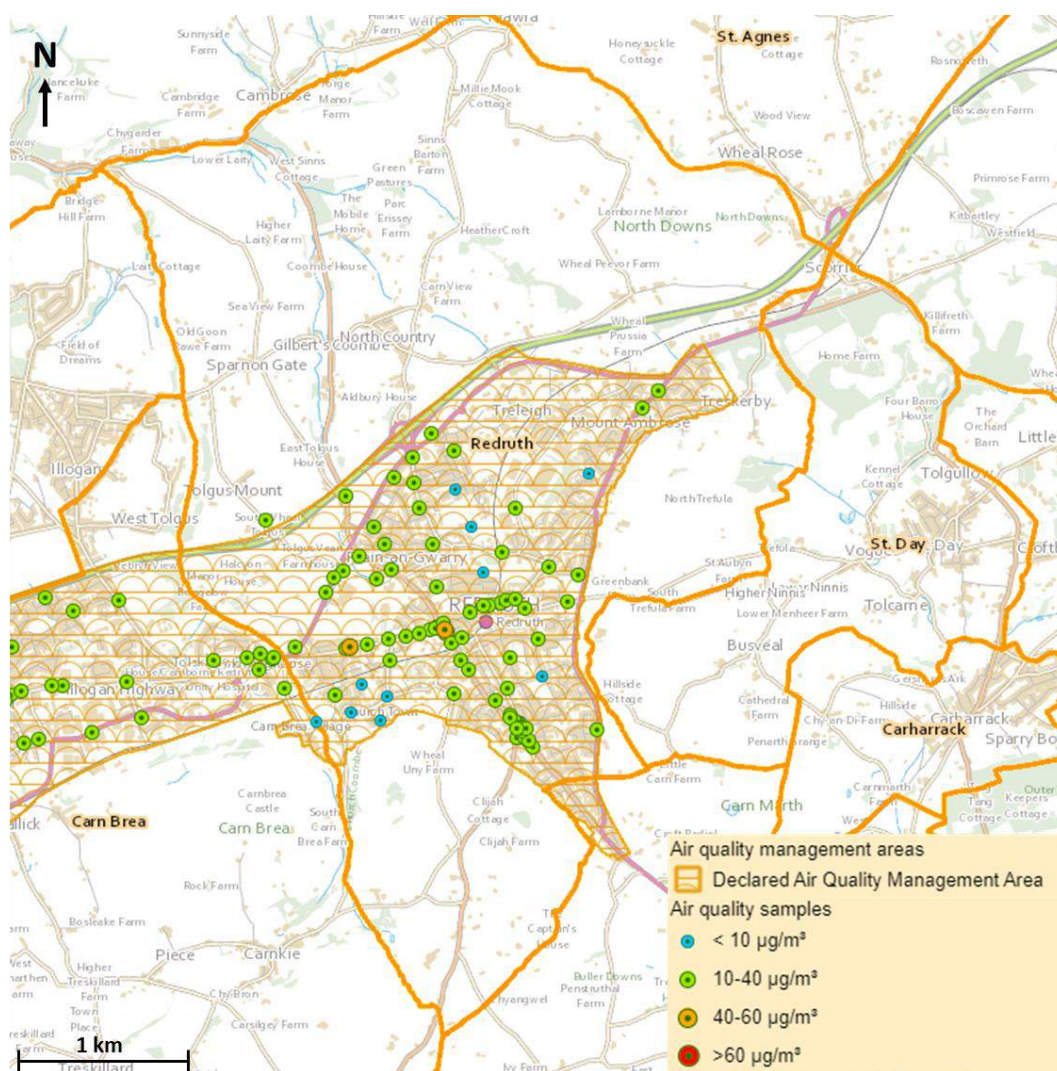
AQMA	Date designated	Location	Actions outlined in AQAP
<b>Camborne-Pool-Redruth (CPR) AQMA</b> <sup>13</sup>	December 2005	The AQMA covers the CPR regeneration area, with the main areas of concern including: the A3047 and B3300, Wesley Street (Camborne), Tuckingmill and East Hill (Camborne), West End/Penryn Street (Redruth) and Trefusis Junction (Redruth).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-going traffic and air quality monitoring;</li> <li>• Improvement to traffic lights West End/Penryn Street, Redruth;</li> <li>• Redruth Strategic Employment Growth Package, promoting sustainable travel alternatives;</li> <li>• Improved CPR cycle network;</li> <li>• Increased bus frequency and provision of real time information; and</li> <li>• ECO Stars scheme, aiming to encourage businesses with HGVs, vans, buses and coaches to operate more efficiently, for example by replacing vehicles that require renewal with more efficient models and delivering driver training.</li> </ul>

<sup>11</sup> Cornwall Council (2020): ‘Revised Clean Air Strategy for Cornwall’, [online] available to access via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/environmental-protection/environmental-protection-air-quality/clean-air-for-cornwall-strategy/>

<sup>12</sup> Cornwall Council (2019): ‘Air Quality Monitoring Reports: ASR 2019’, [online] available to download via: <http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/environmental-protection/environmental-protection-air-quality/air-quality-monitoring-reports/>

<sup>13</sup> Cornwall Council (2017): ‘Camborne Pool Redruth Air Quality’, [online] available to access via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/environmental-protection/environmental-protection-air-quality/camborne-pool-redruth-air-quality/>





**Figure 2.1: Camborne-Pool-Redruth AQMA (adapted from Cornwall Council's Interactive Map)<sup>14</sup>**

- 2.15 Cornwall Council has progressed with actions included in the AQAP and Clean Air for Cornwall Strategy, as well as other actions included within individual town transport strategies which have the aim of reducing congestion, increasing use of alternatives to the private car use and improving local air quality.
- 2.16 It is also noted that in 2019 Cornwall Council was a winner of the Ultra-Low Emission Taxi Infrastructure Scheme competition, which fund local authorities in obtaining low emission taxis.<sup>15</sup> This £90,000 Office of Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) grant will support the wider use of electric and hybrid vehicles throughout the county through installing fast and rapid electric vehicle charging points, specifically for use by taxis.

## Summary of Future Baseline

- 2.17 New housing and employment provision taken forward within the Neighbourhood Plan area has the potential for adverse effects on air quality through increasing traffic flows and associated levels of pollutants. Improvements to future air quality are dependent, in part, on whether the measures within the AQAP, Clean Air for Cornwall Strategy, and the Cornwall Local Transport Plan (later discussed in the Transportation chapter of this SEA Scoping Report) are successfully implemented.

<sup>14</sup> Cornwall Council (2020): 'Online Interactive Map', [online] available to access via:

<https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/website/ccmap/?zoomlevel=1&xcoord=162690&ycoord=64380&wsName=ccmap&layerName=>

<sup>15</sup> Office for Low Emission Vehicles (2019) Ultra Low Emission Taxi Infrastructure Scheme

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-grants-for-low-emission-vehicles#ultra-low-emission-taxi-infrastructure-scheme>

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The AQMA covers the Camborne-Pool-Redruth regeneration area, with the main areas of concern including: the A3047 and B3300, Wesley Street (Camborne), Tuckingmill and East Hill (Camborne), West End/Penryn Street (Redruth) and Trefusis Junction (Redruth).
- NO<sub>2</sub> is the key pollutant of concern within the Neighbourhood Plan area, with the AQMA primarily designated for exceedances in the annual mean concentration objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>.
- It will be important to consider any potential traffic and congestion issues arising within and surrounding the Neighbourhood Plan area as a result of new development proposals.

## What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Air Quality SEA theme?

SA objective	Appraisal questions
Deliver improvements in air quality in the Neighbourhood Plan area	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduce emissions of pollutants from transport?</li><li>• Promote the use of low emission vehicles?</li><li>• Promote enhancements in sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport?</li><li>• Promote enhancements to green infrastructure networks to facilitate increased absorption and dissipation of nitrogen dioxide and other pollutants?</li></ul>

## 3. Biodiversity and Geodiversity

### Focus of Theme

- Nature conservation designations
- Geological sites
- Habitats
- Species

### Policy Context

- 3.1 At the European level, the EU Biodiversity Strategy<sup>16</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'*.
- 3.2 Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) have been developed for each Natura 2000 site in England as part of the Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 sites (IPENS). Although the IPENS project closed in 2015, the SIPs provide a high-level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the Natura 2000 sites. Additionally, SIPs outline the priority actions required to improve the condition of the sites, with timescales for several actions ongoing during 2020. Priority actions are grouped into categories, reflecting the issues faced by the Natura 2000 sites.
- 3.3 Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:
- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is an environmental objective to *'contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment' including by 'helping to improve biodiversity.'*
  - *'Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites; allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value [...], take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.'*
  - *'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with the statutory status or identified quality in the development plan); and minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.'*
  - *'To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:*
    - a) *Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and*
    - b) *Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.'*
  - Paragraph 175: *When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:*

<sup>16</sup> European Commission (2011): 'Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020', [online] available to access via: [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)



- a) *if significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;*
- b) *development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;*
- c) *development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and*
- d) *development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around developments should be encouraged.*

3.4 The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP)<sup>17</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 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.

3.5 The UK Biodiversity Action Plan<sup>18</sup> (BAP) identifies priority species and habitats requiring conservation action. Although the UK BAP has been superseded, BAP priority species and habitats have been used to draw up statutory lists of priority species and habitats in England.

3.6 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>19</sup>.

3.7 The recently published 25 Year Environment Plan<sup>20</sup> sets out the Government's environmental plan of action over the next quarter century, in the context of Brexit. The Plan aims to tackle the growing problems of waste and soil degradation, improving social justice through tackling pollution and promoting the mental and physical health benefits of the natural world. It also sets out how the Government will address the effects of climate change. These aims are supported by a range of policies and initiatives (including mandatory biodiversity net gain, the development of a Nature Recovery Network, enhancing natural capital, and establishing Local Nature Recovery Strategies) which are focused on the following six key areas:

<sup>17</sup> Defra (2012): 'The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (Natural Environment White Paper)', [online] available to access via:

<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm80/8082/8082.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> JNCC (2007) UK BAP priority species [online] <http://archive.jncc.gov.uk/page-5717>

<sup>19</sup> DEFRA (2011): 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services', [online] Available to access via: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/biodiversity-2020-a-strategy-for-england-s-wildlife-and-ecosystem-services>

<sup>20</sup> HM GOV (2018): 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment', [online] available to access via: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf)

- Using and managing land sustainably;
  - Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes;
  - Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing;
  - Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste;
  - Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans; and
  - Protecting and improving the global environment.
- 3.8 In this context, Goal 3 'Thriving plants and wildlife' and the policies contained within Chapter 2 'Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes' and Chapter 5 'Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans' directly relate to the Biodiversity and Geodiversity SEA theme.
- 3.9 The UK Government has placed regulations on Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to lead in responding to biodiversity losses by adopting clear environmental and planning policy requirements to encourage developers to take account of biodiversity impacts.
- 3.10 Additionally, Natural England's Natural Capital Atlas for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (June 2020) sets out indicators to explore the distribution and condition of natural assets across the county and the benefits they provide to society<sup>21</sup>. The Atlas maps the quality of broad habitat types across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, including freshwater, farmland, grasslands, moorland / heathland, woodland, urban, coastal / marine, and will provide a useful source of reference for the subsequent stages of the SEA process.
- 3.11 The Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies 2010-2030 were adopted in November 2016. Objective 10(b) within key theme number 4 states to 'maintain and enhance an effective network of open space and environmental stewardship for our ecosystem services network for wildlife'. Furthermore, in regard to the 28 policies listed within the document, Policy 22 'European Protected Sites – mitigation of recreational impacts from development' and Policy 23 'Natural Environment' directly relate to Biodiversity.
- 3.12 Additionally, The Cornwall Biodiversity Action Plan<sup>22</sup> is presented in 4 volumes:
- Cornwall's Biodiversity Volume 1: Audits and Priorities;
  - Cornwall's Biodiversity Volume 2: Action Plans;
  - Cornwall's Biodiversity Volume 3: Action Plans 2004; and
  - Cornwall's Biodiversity Volume 4: Priority Projects 2010-2015.
- 3.13 In 1996 the Cornwall Biodiversity Initiative (CBI) produced '*Cornwall's Biodiversity Volume 1: Audits and Priorities*'. Following on from the recommendations in this document, Action Plans were produced for the Cornish priority habitats and species and published in '*Cornwall's Biodiversity Volume 2: Action Plans*'. A further volume, '*Cornwall's Biodiversity Volume 3: Action Plans 2004*' was produced in line with the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) process, highlighting the UK BAP priority habitats and species occurring in Cornwall. This comprised of 25 habitat and 127 species Action Plans, each written by local experts. In light of a progress review, Cornwall's BAP is currently being reviewed and updated, taking into consideration the new UK list of priority habitats and species, and the England Biodiversity Strategy (EBS) delivery framework. This document '*Volume4: Priority Habitats*' will contain the revised list for Cornwall.
- 3.14 Cornwall's Environmental Growth Strategy was adopted in 2015<sup>23</sup>. An overarching strategy for Cornwall's environment, the Strategy was developed through collaboration between Cornwall Council, the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership and Cornwall's environmental stakeholders. The vision of the Strategy is as follows: '*In 2065, Cornwall's environment will be*

<sup>21</sup> Natural England (2020): 'Natural Capital Atlas 6 – Cornwall and Isles of Scilly', [online] available to access via: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6672365834731520>

<sup>22</sup> Cornwall Council (2017): 'Biodiversity and Geological Conservation', [online] Available at: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/biodiversity-and-geological-conservation/?page=12898>

<sup>23</sup> Cornwall Council, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership (2015) Cornwall's Environmental Growth Strategy 2015-2065 [http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/24212257/environmental-growth-strategy\\_jan17\\_proof.pdf](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/24212257/environmental-growth-strategy_jan17_proof.pdf)

*naturally diverse, beautiful and healthy, supporting a thriving society, prosperous economy and abundance of wildlife."*

- 3.15 The Strategy has been developed to inform and improve strategic investment and decision making in Cornwall and offers a framework for stakeholders and partners to work more effectively together. It also provides long term structure to focus the ways in which environmental, social and economic prosperity in Cornwall can be increased.

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

#### European and nationally designated sites

- 3.16 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are designated under the European Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) for containing habitats and species listed in Annex I and II of the Directive. In this regard, the northern, eastern and southern sections of the Neighbourhood Plan area are within the Zone of Influence for the Fal and Helford SAC.
- 3.17 The Fal and Helford SAC<sup>24</sup> covers an area of 6,362ha and contains a rich biodiversity. This includes four Annex I habitats and one Annex II species that are a primary reason for the selection of the site, namely:
- Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time;
  - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide;
  - Large shallow inlets and bays;
  - Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*); and
  - Shore dock (*Rumex rupestris*).
- 3.18 In the wider context, there are two SACs within a 5km radius of the Neighbourhood Plan area, as follows:
- Bristol Channel Approaches SAC (with Marine Components) is located approximately 2.5km to the north west of the Neighbourhood Plan area; and
  - Godrevy Head to St Agnes SAC is located approximately 3km to the north of the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 3.19 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are protected by law to conserve their wildlife or geology. Natural England is a statutory consultee on development proposals that might impact on SSSIs. There is one SSSI located within and adjacent to the boundaries of the Neighbourhood Plan area, as follows:
- 3.20 Designated in March 1999 and covering an area of approximately 54ha, West Cornwall Bryophytes SSSI encompasses seven distinct areas within West Cornwall. One of the SSSI areas is located towards the northern boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area, with another located adjacent to the south western boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area. The citation for the SSSI states<sup>25</sup>:
- "This site is special for its population of rare and scarce bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) which are adapted to growing on copper-rich substrates. The site is made up of seven areas of formerly mined land and the lower plant interest is primarily found on the spoil tips containing copper-rich waste, although some of the areas have derelict mine buildings and other structures which also support important bryophytes.
- "The locations of particularly high interest for bryophytes within each area are those having very high levels of copper. As a result of the toxic nature of the spoil tips, these locations support little more than a mat of low-growing bryophytes and, in some places, lichens. These occupy

<sup>24</sup> JNCC (no date): 'Fal and Helford SAC', [online] available to access via: <<https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0013112>>

<sup>25</sup> Natural England (no date): 'West Cornwall Bryophytes SSSI', [online] available to access via: <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=s2000365>



relatively small areas within a more generally scrubby vegetation, with European gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), willows (*Salix sp*), heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) or rank grassland. Although the growth of these invasive species is slow due to the toxic nature of the spoil tips, in the long term the sites will require active management to prevent them shading out or growing over the areas that are important for bryophytes.

“Where the structures and old buildings support important bryophytes then care must be taken during preservation or derelict land operations to safeguard the specialised conditions the plants require.”

- 3.21 In the wider area, there are four additional SSSIs located within a 5km radius from the Neighbourhood Plan area, including: Wheal Gorland SSSI, Carrick Heaths SSSI, Godrevy Head to St Agnes SSSI, and Nance Wood SSSI.
- 3.22 SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZ) are a GIS tool/dataset which maps zones around each SSSI according to the 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, including residential, rural-residential and rural non-residential. Natural England is a statutory consultee on development proposals that might impact on SSSIs. In this respect, most of the Neighbourhood Plan area overlaps with one or more SSSI IRZs for the types of development likely to come forward during the plan period (i.e. residential, rural residential, and rural non-residential development types).

### Locally important sites

- 3.23 There is a variety of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitats located within or within proximity to the Neighbourhood Plan area, predominantly areas of calaminarian grassland, deciduous woodland, lowland fens, lowland heathland, maritime cliff and slope, purple moor grass and rush pasture, and traditional orchard.
- 3.24 County Wildlife Sites (CWS) represent some of the most significant areas of semi-natural habitat in Cornwall outside of statutory protected sites. The Cornwall Wildlife Trust states that there are 498 CWS throughout Cornwall which cover nearly 33,000ha of land (which is close to 10% of the entire county). The CWS range from small ponds, copses and linear features, such as river valleys, to wetlands, ancient woodlands and large moors<sup>26</sup>. In this regard, there are two CWS within the Neighbourhood Plan area, as follows:
  - Tolgus CWS is located at the northern boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area, on land adjacent to the junction between New Portreath Road (the B3300) and Chapel Hill. The site includes areas of purple moor grass and rush pastures BAP Priority Habitat and calaminarian grassland BAP Priority Habitat. The CWS also includes drainage ditches which feed into the Portreath Stream (which passes alongside the western boundary of the CWS).
  - Treskerby Wood CWS is located at the eastern boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area and is primarily an area of deciduous woodland BAP Priority Habitat.
- 3.25 County Geology Sites (CGS) are some of the most significant areas for geology and heritage in Cornwall<sup>27</sup>. They underpin and expand the network of SSSIs, and there are over 115 CGS throughout the county. They represent local character and distinctiveness, and range from man-made features such as mine spoil, underground workings, quarries and road cuttings – which provide rare inland exposures to large landscape features such as river corridors, estuaries, coastal cliffs and shore platforms. Although a publicly accessible map of these areas is not currently available, it is possible that the Neighbourhood Plan area might contain one or more CGS. This is given Redruth's mining heritage and rich mineral resource.
- 3.26 The Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (ERCCIS) contains records of protected or notable species within the Neighbourhood Plan area<sup>28</sup>. This includes records of several species of birds, mammals, bats, insects, grasses, trees, amphibians and

<sup>26</sup> Cornwall Wildlife Trust (ca 2015): 'County Wildlife Sites', [online] documents available to access via: <http://www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/living-landscapes/county-wildlife-sites>

<sup>27</sup> ERCCIS (2020): 'County Sites', [online] available to access via: <https://erccis.org.uk/CountySites>

<sup>28</sup> ERCCIS (2020): 'Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly' [online] available to access via: <https://erccis.org.uk/>

reptiles; many of which are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. In this respect, the BAP Priority Habitats and ecological designations within and surrounding the Neighbourhood Plan area are likely to support populations of protected species.

- 3.27 The figures overleaf show the location of the designated sites and BAP Priority Habitats within and within proximity to the Neighbourhood Plan area.

## Summary of Future Baseline

- 3.28 Habitats and species will potentially 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. This has the potential to lead to changes in the distribution and abundance of species and changes to the composition of habitats.
- 3.29 European and nationally designated sites are particularly sensitive to air quality issues and recreational pressures. Regarding air quality, exceeding critical values for air pollutants may result in changes to the chemical status of habitat substrate, accelerating or damaging plant growth, altering vegetation structure and composition and thereby affecting the quality and availability of nesting, feeding or roosting habitats. Additionally, the nature, scale, timing and duration of some human activities can result in the disturbance of species at a level that may substantially affect their behaviour, and consequently affect the long-term viability of their populations.
- 3.30 The Neighbourhood Plan presents an opportunity to maximise benefits for biodiversity by including consideration of important habitats, species and designated sites at an early stage of planning for future growth. To maintain and improve the condition of biodiversity in the future, it will be important to not only protect and enhance important habitats but the connections between them. It will be crucial to effectively coordinate the delivery of housing, employment and infrastructure to ensure that opportunities to improve green infrastructure and ecological corridors are maximised within the Neighbourhood Plan area and in the surrounding areas.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The northern, eastern and southern sections of the Neighbourhood Plan area are within the Zone of Influence for the Fal and Helford SAC. In the wider context, there are two SACs within a 5km radius of the Neighbourhood Plan area: Bristol Channel Approaches SAC (with Marine Components) and Godrevy Head to St Agnes SAC.
- The West Cornwall Bryophytes SSSI is within the Neighbourhood Plan area. In the wider context, there are four additional SSSIs located within a 5km radius from the Neighbourhood Plan area, including: Wheal Gorland SSSI, Carrick Heaths SSSI, Godrevy Head to St Agnes SSSI, and Nance Wood SSSI.
- Most of the Neighbourhood Plan area overlaps with either one or multiple SSSI Impact Risk Zones for the types of development likely to be taken forward during the plan period (i.e. residential, rural-residential or rural non-residential development types).
- At the local level, there are two CWS within the Neighbourhood Plan area, as follows: Tolgus CWS and Treskerby Wood CWS.
- There is a variety of BAP Priority Habitats located within or within proximity to the Neighbourhood Plan area, predominantly areas of calaminarian grassland, deciduous woodland, lowland fens, lowland heathland, maritime cliff and slope, purple moor grass and rush pasture, and traditional orchard.
- Given Redruth's mining heritage, it is possible that the Neighbourhood Plan area might contain one or more CGS. In the absence of any detailed mapping, it is currently not possible to confirm whether there are any CGS in the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- The Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly contains records of protected or notable species within the Neighbourhood Plan area. This includes records of several species of birds, mammals, bats, insects, grasses, trees, amphibians and reptiles.

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

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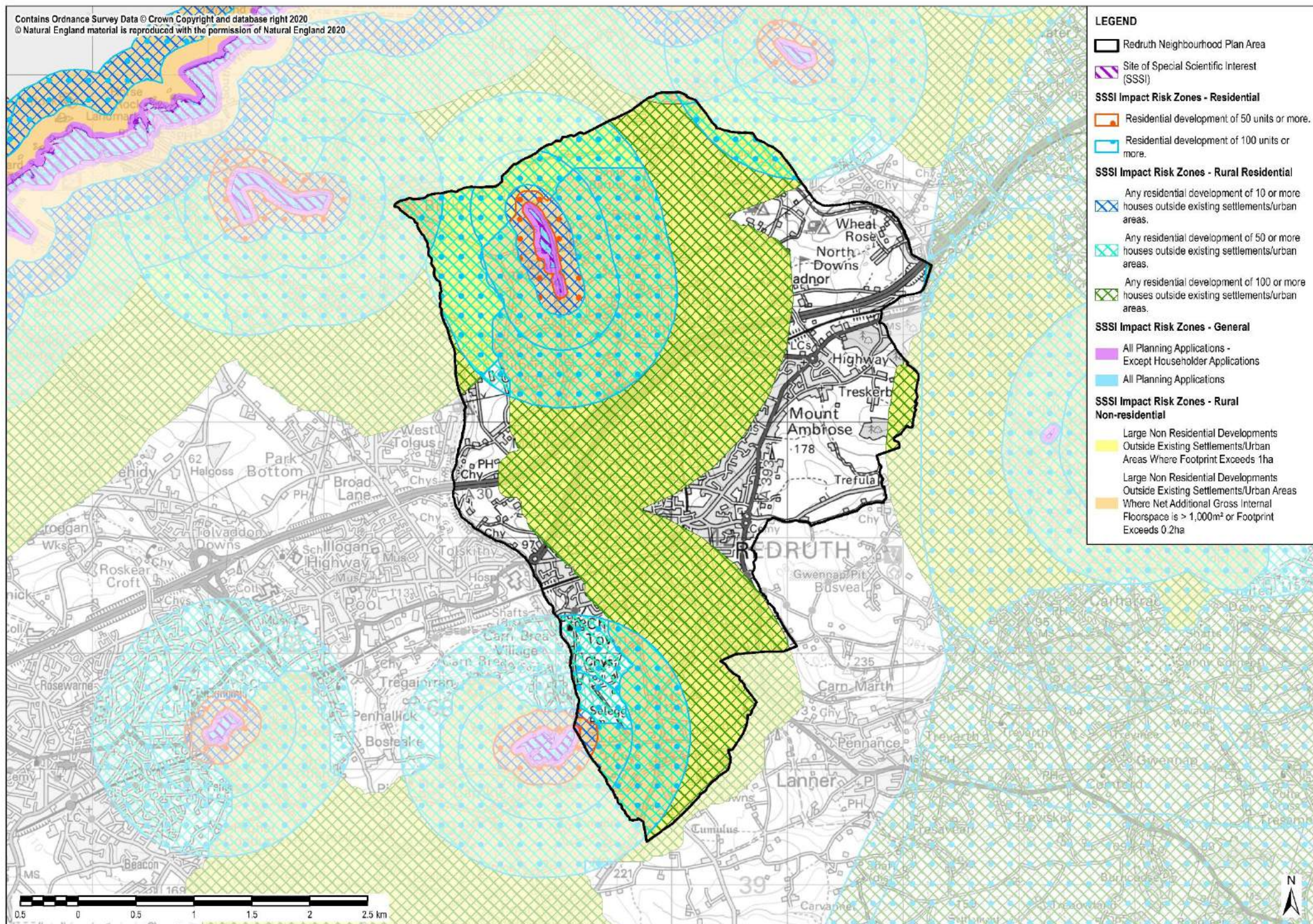
### SEA objective    Assessment Questions

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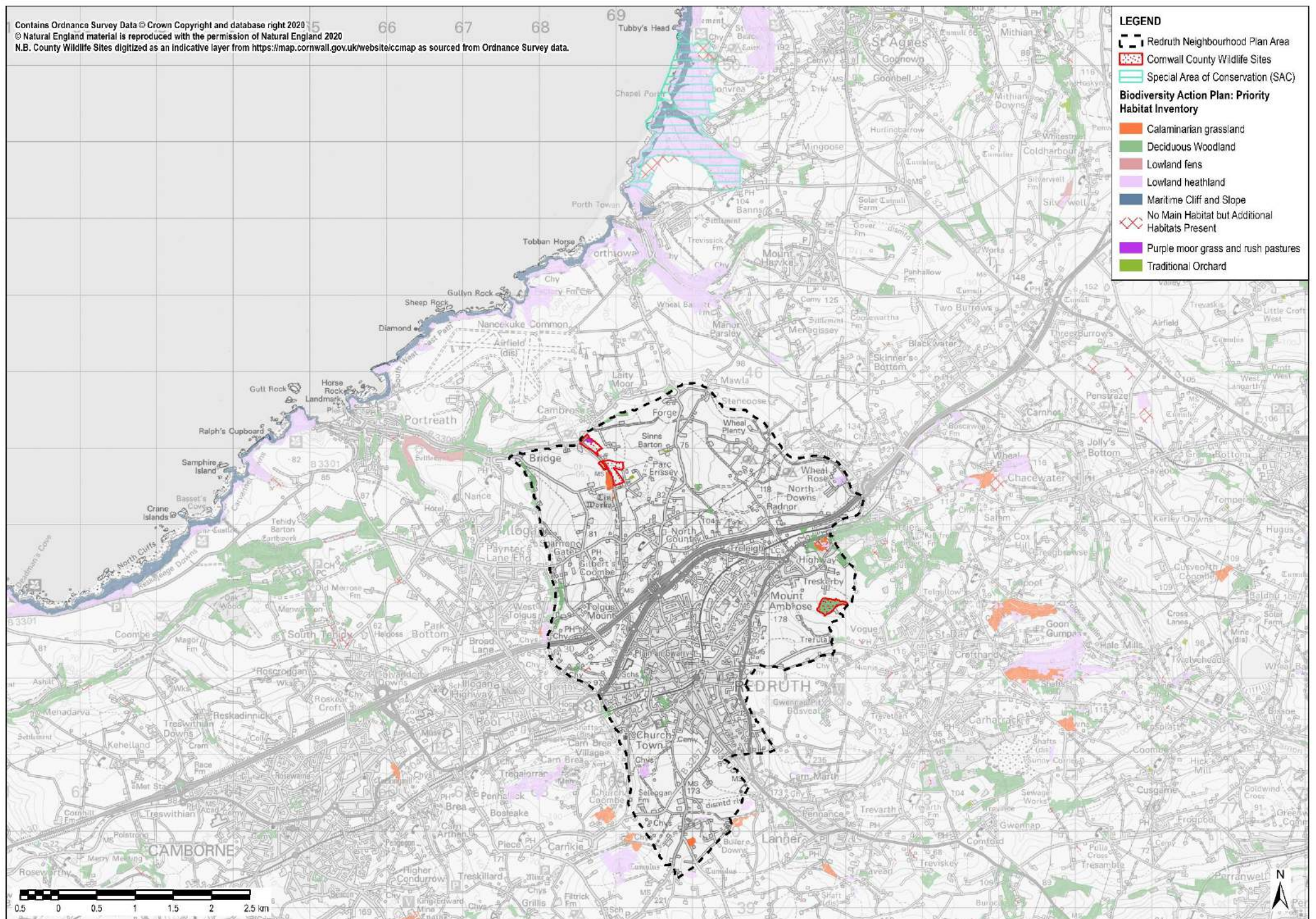
Protect and enhance all biodiversity and geodiversity	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support the integrity of the European designated biodiversity sites located within proximity to the Neighbourhood Plan area?</li><li>• Support the status of the nationally and locally designated sites biodiversity sites within and within proximity to the Neighbourhood Plan area?</li><li>• Protect and enhance priority habitats and species?</li><li>• Achieve biodiversity and environmental net gains and support the delivery of ecosystem services and multifunctional green infrastructure networks?</li><li>• Increase the resilience of biodiversity in the area to the effects of climate change, including through enhancements to ecological networks?</li><li>• Support access to, interpretation and understanding of biodiversity and geodiversity?</li></ul>
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## 4. Climate Change

### Focus of Theme

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

### Policy Context

4.1 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 requires 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 aiming to understand the current and future climate risks and opportunities. The evidence report contains six priority risk areas requiring additional action in the next five years, see below<sup>29</sup> :

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

4.2 The UK Climate Change Act<sup>30</sup> was passed in 2008 and established a framework to develop an economically credible emissions reduction path. It also highlighted the role it would take in contributing to collective action to tackle climate change under the Kyoto Protocol, and more recently as part of the UN-led Paris Agreement. The Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019 means that there is now in place a legally binding target of net zero by 2050. The Climate Change Act includes the following:

- Commits the UK government by law to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 100% of 1990 levels (net zero) by 2050. This includes reducing emissions from the devolved administrations (Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland), which currently account for about 20% of the UK's emissions. The 100% target was based on advice from the CCC's 2019 report, 'Net Zero – The UK's contribution to stopping global warming' and introduced into law through the Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019.
- The Act requires the Government to set legally binding 'carbon budgets'. A carbon budget is a cap on the amount of greenhouse gases emitted in the UK over a five-year period. The carbon budgets are designed to reflect the cost-effective path to achieving the UK's long-term objectives. The first five carbon budgets have been put into legislation and run up to 2032.

<sup>29</sup> GOV.UK: 'UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Report January 2017', [online] available to access via: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-climate-change-risk-assessment-2017>

<sup>30</sup> GOV.UK (2008): 'Climate Change Act 2008', [online] accessible via <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents>

- The Committee on Climate Change was set up to advise the Government on emissions targets, and report to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- The Act requires the Government to assess the risks and opportunities from climate change for the UK, and to prepare for them. The Committee on Climate Change's Adaptation Sub-Committee advises on these climate change risks and assesses progress towards tackling them. The associated National Adaptation Programme requires the Government to assess the risks to the UK from climate change, prepare a strategy to address them, and encourage key organisations to do the same.

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

- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is an environmental objective to *'contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment' including by 'mitigating and adapting to climate change' and 'moving to a low carbon economy.'* *'The planning system should support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings; and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.'*
- *'Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures. Policies should support appropriate measures to ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts, such as providing space for physical protection measures, or making provision for the possible future relocation of vulnerable development and infrastructure.'*
- *'Local planning authorities should support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy, including developments outside areas identified in local plans or other strategic policies that are being taken forward through neighbourhood planning.'*
- Direct development away from areas at highest risk of flooding (whether existing or future). *'Where development is necessary, it should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere.'*

4.4 The Clean Air Strategy released in 2019 sets out the Government plans for dealing with all sources of air pollution. The strategy sets out proposals in detail and indicates how devolved administrations intend to make their share of emissions reductions, and complements the Industrial Strategy, Clean Growth Strategy and 25 Year Environment Plan.

4.5 In May 2019, the UK Parliament declared a climate emergency, with a view to explicitly acknowledging that human activities are significantly affecting the climate, and actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change should be paramount. This declaration has been mirrored by several local planning authorities across the country. Additionally, the shared vision produced by the Forestry Commission, Natural England and the Environment Agency in January 2020 outlines the use of nature-based solutions to tackle the climate and ecological emergency<sup>31</sup>. This includes through large-scale woodland planting in the right places, working with nature to manage flood risk, protecting and restoring peatlands, supporting farmers towards net zero, managing land in a more strategic way, as well as encouraging the use of less carbon intensive materials such as timber in construction.

4.6 In the context of the above, in January 2019 Cornwall Council declared a climate emergency<sup>32</sup>. In response to the declaration, in July 2019 Cornwall Council approved the first iteration of a Climate Change Action Plan to help address the climate emergency. Included in that action plan was the creation of a Climate Emergency DPD to cover the issue of climate change. The

<sup>31</sup> GOV.UK (2020): 'Environmental bodies set joint vision to tackle climate change', [online] available to access via: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/environmental-bodies-set-joint-vision-to-tackle-climate-change>

<sup>32</sup> Cornwall Council (2019): 'Climate Emergency', [online] available to access via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/climate-emergency/>



DPD will focus on six key elements: renewable energy; energy efficiency; coastal change and flooding; natural climate solutions; transport development density and urban design; and agriculture and rural development.

- 4.7 Further context is provided by the recent commitment by environmental law firm Client Earth to request that all local authorities with emerging Local Plans to “*explain how they will set evidence-based carbon reduction targets and ensure these targets are then central to their new planning policy.*”<sup>33</sup> Additionally, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Green Alliance’s ‘Blueprint for a Resilient Economy’<sup>34</sup> report outlines the following five essential building blocks to support new long term employment opportunities, thriving businesses and a healthier, fairer society, whilst protecting against the potentially devastating future impacts of climate change and nature’s decline:

- Invest in net zero infrastructure;
- Restore nature;
- Stop wasting valuable resources;
- Ensure clean air and healthy places; and
- Make the recovery fair.

- 4.8 The Flood and Water Management Act<sup>35</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>36</sup>

- 4.9 Further guidance is provided in the document ‘Planning for SuDS’.<sup>37</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’.

- 4.10 The Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies were adopted in November 2016. Objective 9(a) and 9(d) within key theme number 4 states to ‘reduce energy consumption while increasing renewable and low carbon energy production’ and to ‘increase resilience to climate change’. Furthermore, in regard to the 28 policies listed within the document, the following directly relate to Climate Change:

- Policy 14: Renewable and low carbon energy;
- Policy 15: Safeguarding renewable energy;
- Policy 25: Green infrastructure; and
- Policy 26: Flood risk management and coastal change.

<sup>33</sup> Client Earth (2019) Lawyers put local authorities on notice over climate inaction [online] available at: <https://www.clientearth.org/press/lawyers-put-local-authorities-on-notice-over-climate-inaction/>

<sup>34</sup> Green Alliance (2020): ‘Blueprint for a Resilient Economy’, [online] available to access via: [https://green-alliance.org.uk/blueprint\\_for\\_a\\_resilient\\_economy.php](https://green-alliance.org.uk/blueprint_for_a_resilient_economy.php)

<sup>35</sup> Flood and Water Management Act (2010) [online] available to access via: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/29/contents>

<sup>36</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>37</sup> CIRIA (2010): ‘Planning for SuDS – making it happen’, [online] available from: [http://www.ciria.org/Resources/Free\\_publications/Planning\\_for\\_SuDS\\_ma.aspx](http://www.ciria.org/Resources/Free_publications/Planning_for_SuDS_ma.aspx)

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

#### Contribution to climate change

- 4.11 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the built environment are monitored and recorded at Local Authority level. In relation to greenhouse gas emissions, source data from the Department of Energy and Climate Change<sup>38</sup> suggests that Cornwall has broadly similar per capita emissions in comparison to the South West of England and England as a whole, since 2005. Cornwall has also seen a 36.3% reduction in the percentage of total emissions per capita between 2005 and 2016, slightly lower than the reductions for the South West of England (36.7%) and England (37.6%).
- 4.12 Road transport is the largest emitter of GHG in the UK, with cars contributing 55% of UK domestic transport emissions. Cornwall has a high dependency on private vehicles, with a large proportion of the population commuting by car (see **Chapter 10** of this Scoping Report for more details). The uptake of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs) will contribute positively towards the reduction of road transport related emissions.
- 4.13 In line with assumptions made by the Department for Transport's 'Road to Zero' report (2018), it is assumed that ULEV uptake will increase rapidly in the coming decade and therefore aside from HGVs, all vehicles could be ultra-low emission (powered either by hydrogen or electricity) by 2030. There are currently no ULEV charging points in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

#### Effects of climate change

- 4.14 The outcome of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK was released in 2018 by the UK Climate Projections (UKCP18)<sup>39</sup> team. UKCP18 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.
- 4.15 As highlighted by the research, the effects of climate change (under medium emissions scenarios 50th percentile and RCP6) for the South West during the period 2020-2039 compared to the period 1981-2000 are likely to be as follows:<sup>40</sup>
- A central estimate of increase in annual mean temperatures of between 0°C and 1°C; and
  - A central estimate of change in mean precipitation of 0 to +10% in winter and 0 to -10% in summer.
- 4.16 During the period 2040-2059 this is estimated further as:
- A central estimate of increase in annual mean temperatures of between 1°C and 2°C; and
  - A central estimate of change in annual mean precipitation of 0 to +20% in winter and -10% to -20% in summer.
- 4.17 Resulting from these changes, a range of risks may exist for the Neighbourhood Plan area, including:
- Effects on water resources from climate change;
  - Reduction in availability of groundwater for extraction;
  - 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;

<sup>38</sup> UK Gov (2017): 'Local Authority CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates 2005-2017 (kt CO<sub>2</sub>) - Full dataset' [online] available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics>

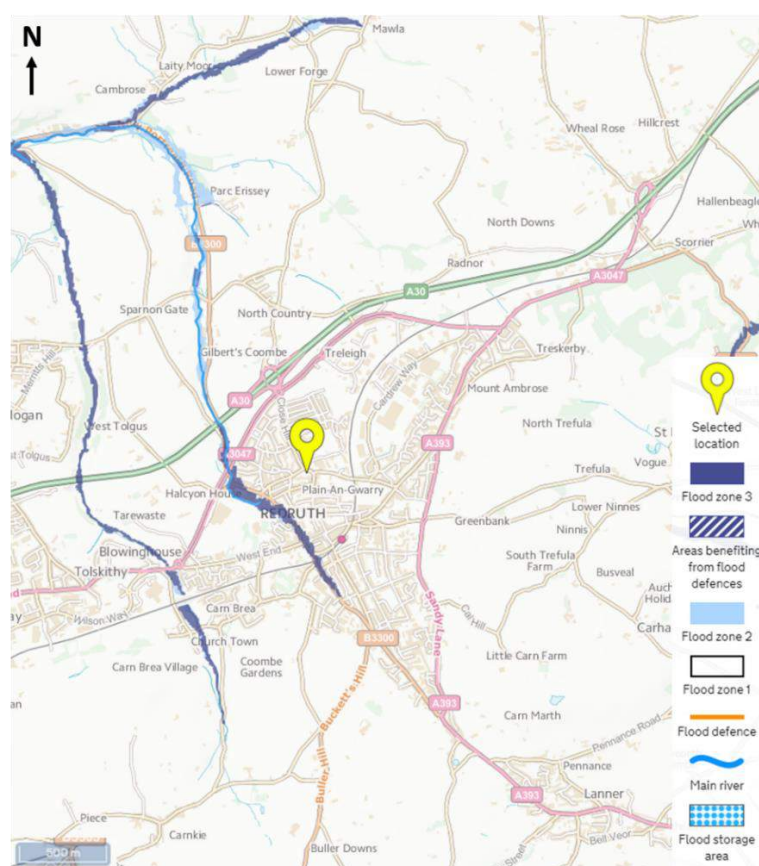
<sup>39</sup> Data released 26th November 2018 [online] available from: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/collaboration/ukcp>

<sup>40</sup> Met Office (2018): 'Land Projection Maps: Probabilistic Projections', [online map] available at: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/approach/collaboration/ukcp/land-projection-maps>

- 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;
- 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

- 4.18 Cornwall is at risk from several types of flooding, including fluvial, coastal, tidal, surface water, groundwater, sewerage and drainage. As shown on the Environment Agency's flood map for planning<sup>41</sup>, the areas within Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3 within the Neighbourhood Plan area primarily cover those areas within proximity to Portreath Stream - the main watercourse passing through Redruth. This includes areas of Redruth town centre, particularly along and adjacent to Falmouth Road (the B3300). However, most of the Neighbourhood Plan area is within Flood Zone 1 and has a low fluvial flood risk. This is shown in **Figure 4.1** below.



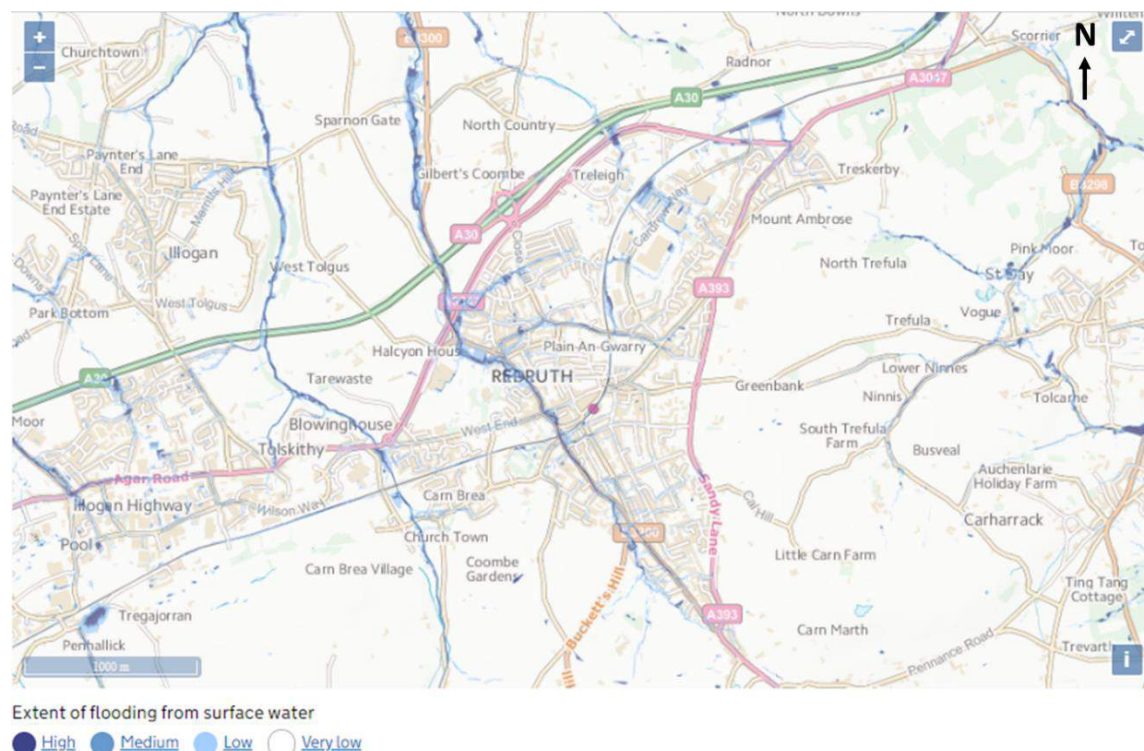
**Figure 4.1: Fluvial flood risk in the Neighbourhood Plan area<sup>42</sup>**

- 4.19 Figure 4.2 shows surface water flooding in the Neighbourhood Plan area. There are several areas of Redruth which have a medium-high surface water flood risk, primarily impacting the local road network. The most recently completed Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for

<sup>41</sup> Environment Agency (2020): 'Flood Map for Planning', [online] available to access via: <<https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/>>

<sup>42</sup> GOV UK (2020): 'Flood Map for Planning', [online] available to access via: <https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/>

Cornwall<sup>43</sup> states that: “Two key sources of surface water flooding are runoff from agricultural or undeveloped land, and urban sources. Flooding from agricultural and undeveloped land is associated with the inability of the ground to absorb rain water (or snow melt), also known as the ground’s permeability. Permeability can vary with land use, land management, ground conditions and time of year. Flooding from urban areas is associated with runoff from impermeable areas such as roads, buildings, car parks etc.”



**Figure 4.2: Surface water flood risk within the Neighbourhood Plan area<sup>44</sup>**

## Summary of Future Baseline

- 4.20 Climate change has the potential to increase the occurrence of extreme weather events in the Neighbourhood Plan area. This is likely to increase the risks associated with climate change, with an increased need for resilience and adaptation. Specifically, new development areas have the potential to increase flood risk through factors such as changing surface and ground water flows, overloading existing inputs to the drainage and wastewater networks or increasing the number of residents exposed to areas of existing flood risk.
- 4.21 Implementation of sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) could help reduce the risk from surface water runoff, though it will continue to be important that new development avoids introducing large new areas of non-permeable hardstanding wherever possible.
- 4.22 In terms of climate change contribution, per capita greenhouse gas emissions generated in the Neighbourhood Plan area may continue to decrease with wider adoption of energy efficiency measures, renewable energy production and new technologies, including electric cars. However, increases in the built footprint of the Neighbourhood Plan area would contribute to increases in the absolute levels of greenhouse gas emissions.
- 4.23 In terms of the context of the Climate Change DPD, it is recognised that the DPD will seek to encourage investment in the right types of renewable technology and associated infrastructure in the right places. The DPD will support continued engagement with energy providers to enable suitable locations for development. This may include setting parameters for generating

<sup>43</sup> Cornwall Council (2009): ‘Cornwall Strategic Flood Risk Assessment – Level 1’, [online] available to access via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/planning-policy/adopted-plans/evidence-base/cornwall-strategic-flood-risk-assessment-sfra/>

<sup>44</sup> GOV UK (2020): ‘Flood Map for Planning’, [online] available to access via: <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/map>



large scale solar and geothermal energy, alongside developing criteria-based policies to encourage land efficiency.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- Source data from the Department of Energy and Climate Change suggests that Cornwall has seen a 36.3% reduction in total emissions per capita between 2005 and 2016, slightly lower than the reductions for the South West of England (36.7%) and England (37.6%).
- Cornwall Council declared a climate emergency in 2019, and has resolved to support local authorities (and, by extension, Neighbourhood groups) to help tackle climate change through plan-making where possible.
- The Neighbourhood Plan should seek to maximise opportunities to support actions in tackling climate change. This may include through encouraging sustainable transport technologies, such as the use of EVs, and through the use of sustainable drainage systems.
- Areas of land within Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3 are broadly confined to Portreath Stream, which is the main watercourse passing through the Neighbourhood Plan area. Future growth and development should be directed away from the high-risk areas.
- There are several areas of Redruth which have a medium-high surface water flood risk, primarily the local road network. The SFRA confirms that the two key sources of surface water flooding are runoff from agricultural or undeveloped land, and urban areas.

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

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

## 5. Landscape

### Focus of Theme

- Nationally protected landscapes
- Landscape, townscape and villagescape character and quality
- Visual amenity

### Policy Context

5.1 The European Landscape Convention<sup>45</sup> of the Council of Europe promotes the protection, management and planning of the landscapes and organises international co-operation on landscape issues. The convention was adopted in October 2000 and is the first international treaty to be exclusively concerned with all dimensions of European landscapes.

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

- *‘Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty [...]. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads. The scale and extent of development within these designated areas should be limited.’*
- *Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy making provision for ‘conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure.’*
- *Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments ‘are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation of change (such as increased densities).’*
- *‘Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:*
  - *protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils*
  - *recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland; and*
  - *remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.’*

5.3 The policies contained within Chapter 2 ‘Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes’ and Goal 6 ‘Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment’ of the Government’s ‘A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment’ directly relate to the Landscape SEA theme.

5.4 The Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies 2010-2030 were adopted in November 2016. Objective 10(a) within key theme number 4 states to ‘respect the distinctive character of Cornwall’s diverse landscapes. Furthermore, in regard to the 28 policies listed within the document, the following directly relate to the Landscape theme:

- Policy 23: Natural environment; and
- Policy 25: Green infrastructure.

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<sup>45</sup> Council of Europe (2000): ‘European Landscape Convention’, [online] available to access via: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape>

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

#### Nationally protected landscapes

- 5.5 Designated in 1959, the Cornwall AONB covers 958km<sup>2</sup> of land which equates to approximately 27% of the total area of the county. The AONB comprises twelve local areas within Cornwall: Hartland, Pentire Point to Widemouth, The Camel Estuary (which became part of the AONB in 1981), Carnewas to Stepper Point, St Agnes, Godrevy to Portreath, West Penwith, South Coast Western, South Coast Central, Rame Head, and Bodmin Moor. In this respect, the Neighbourhood Plan area is located approximately 1.5km to the south east of the 'Godrevy to Portreath' section of the Cornwall AONB.
- 5.6 AONB management plans present the special qualities and features of AONBs and determine what actions are required to ensure their conservation and enhancement. The Cornwall AONB Management Plan<sup>46</sup> (2016-2021) contains the statement of significance for Godrevy to Portreath, alongside an overview of the condition, management and planning policies for this section of the AONB.
- 5.7 The Neighbourhood Plan area is not within or within proximity to a National Park or any Green Belt land.

#### National Character Areas

- 5.8 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 their character. In this respect, most of the Neighbourhood Plan area overlaps with the 'Cornish Killas' NCA. A small area of land towards the southern boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area overlaps with the 'Carmenellis' NCA.
- 5.9 NCA profiles also provide Statements of Environmental Opportunities (SEO) to protect and enhance the special qualities of these areas. Completed by Natural England in 2014, the NCA profiles contain the following SEOs:

##### Cornish Killas NCA<sup>47</sup>

- SEO 1: Manage, restore, link and enhance the area's rich mosaic of wildlife habitats, expanding their quality, extent and range where appropriate. This needs to be achieved alongside sustainable agricultural practices, which contribute to soil and water quality as well as providing habitat management. This benefits the local economy, minimises soil erosion and flooding and provides increased recreational opportunities.
- SEO 2: Conserve, manage and increase understanding of the area's rich historic environment and its valuable interlinked geological and cultural heritage – including the mining legacy, the prehistoric and later settlements and ritual remains, and the unique Cornish hedges and field patterns – which combine to bring a unique historical and cultural identity to Cornwall.
- SEO 3: Sustainably manage the visitor pressure associated with this distinctive landscape to ensure that the numerous recreational opportunities, such as the South West Coast Path and high-quality beaches, continue to be enjoyed sustainably by the local community and visitors. Develop volunteering opportunities both for local residents and for visitors, and endeavour to better connect people with places and natural assets.

##### Carmenellis NCA<sup>48</sup>

- SEO 1: Conserve, manage and increase the understanding of the unique historic landscape and its geological and heritage assets, including the internationally important mining legacy,

<sup>46</sup> Cornwall AONB (ca 2016): 'The Cornwall AONB Management Plan 2016-2021', [online] available to view via: <http://www.cornwall-aonb.gov.uk/management-plan/>

<sup>47</sup> Natural England (2014): 'Cornish Killas NCA Profile', [online] available to access via: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6654414139949056?category=587130>

<sup>48</sup> Natural England (2014): 'Carmenellis NCA Profile', [online] available to access via: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6254102417768448?category=587130>

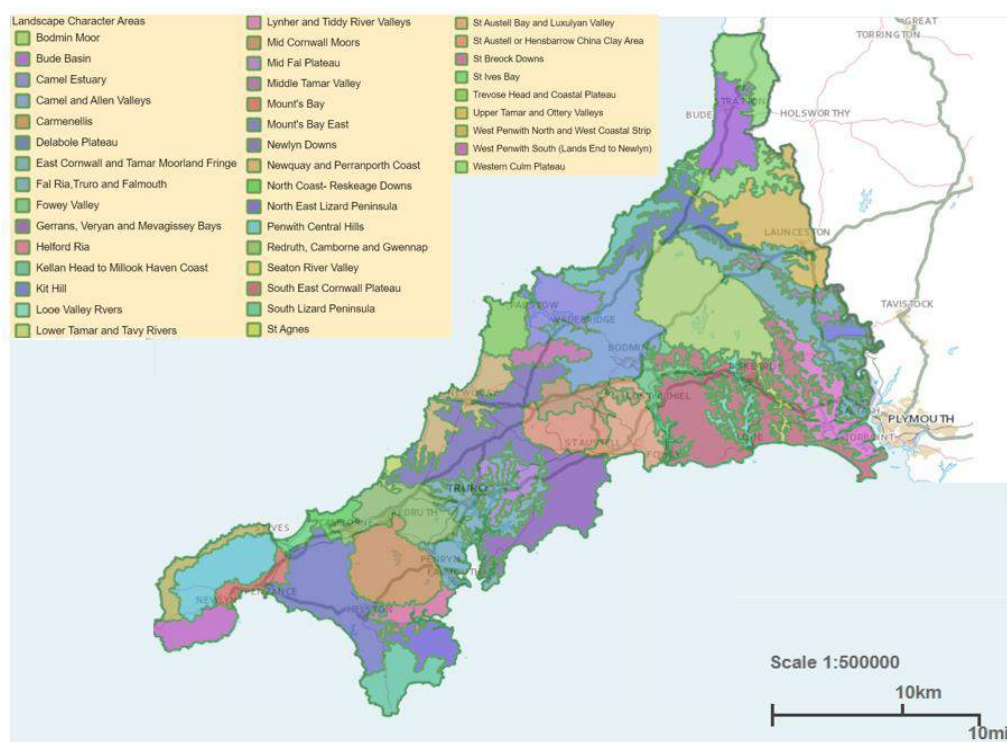
the distinctive granite tors, the prehistoric and later settlements and ritual remains, and the unique Cornish hedges and field patterns.

- SEO 2: Manage, restore, link and improve the area's rich mosaic of heathland, moorland and rough grassland, enhancing and extending its range, while encouraging sustainable agricultural practices which contribute to the soil quality, water quality and habitat condition, as well as to the local economy.
- SEO 3: Encourage the development of sustainable tourism linked to the World Heritage Site. This should focus on sensitively increasing access to and interpretation of the area, which will encourage the strong local sense of identity.

### Landscape, townscape and villagescape character

5.10 Landscape, townscape and villagescape character play an important part in understanding the relationship between people and place, identifying recognisable and distinct patterns in the landscape which make one area different from another. Landscape, townscape and villagescape character can assist in the assessment of the likely significance of effects of change resulting from development and the value of the local area, both in visual and amenity terms.

5.11 Completed in 2007, the 'Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Landscape Character Study'<sup>49</sup> provides information about the Landscape Character Areas (LCA) within the region. The Study also provides information about the evolution of the LCAs and how they have been formed, influenced and changed over time. The results of the Study identified 40 LCAs within Cornwall. These LCAs are shown below in **Figure 7.1**.



**Figure 7.1: LCAs across Cornwall (adapted from Cornwall Council's Interactive Map)**

5.12 In this regard, most of the Neighbourhood Plan area is within LCA 11 'Redruth, Camborne and Gwennap'. The southern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area is within LCA 10 'Carmenellis'. Taken from the LCA descriptions, an overview of the key characteristics, pressures, and planning / land management guidelines for each LCA is provided below.

<sup>49</sup> Cornwall Council (2017): 'Landscape Character Assessment', [online] available to access via:  
<<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/cornwalls-landscape/landscape-character-assessment/>>



### 5.13 Redruth, Camborne and Gwennap LCA<sup>50</sup>

#### *Key Characteristics*

- Rolling slate and siltstone landscape with small scale inland but more open on the north coast.
- Post-industrial mining landscape with many visible mining relics, including old engine houses and revegetating spoil heaps with remnant surviving or developing woodland, heath or wetland.
- Extensive Lowland Heathland with bracken and scrub along coastal strip.
- Pastoral landscape of improved and rough grazing with extensive areas of rough land.
- Strong field pattern enclosing small-medium scale fields and narrow lanes.
- Trees, occurring in hedges, valleys, corner of fields and around farm buildings.
- Valleys which are shallow and narrow, containing small streams.
- A well populated landscape containing Cornwall's largest built-up area.
- Many built structures giving the landscape a cluttered appearance.

#### *Pressures*

- Development pressure within and on the edges of settlement both small scale, cumulative and large scale.
- Reversion due to lack of management in marginal farming areas.
- Conflicting land use on despoiled mining land.

#### *Planning and Land Management Guidelines*

- Create a comprehensive development plan for the whole of the urban area as well as the villages to accommodate expansion and ensure integration with the landscape.
- Provide strong design guidelines for development differentiating between those adjacent to large urban areas and those adjacent to small settlements.
- Conserve and manage the historic industrial landscape, particularly in the World Heritage Site.
- Develop a strategy to encourage planting especially within the estates encouraging new woodlands as well as small copses and planting on hedgerows and field corners.
- Integrate new development and existing farm buildings into the landscape with carefully designed planting including pine and sycamore.

### 5.14 Carnmenellis LCA<sup>51</sup>

#### *Key Characteristics*

- Gently undulating open and exposed elevated granite plateau, boggy in places, with radiating valleys at edge.
- Significant remains of mining and quarrying industry including mine engine house and related structures and settlements, particularly around Carn Brea to the north and around Porkellis.
- Permanent pasture and rough grazing, with some horticulture on south facing slopes.
- Cornish hedges and some hedgerows enclosing small to medium scale fields of Anciently Enclosed Land, once highly managed.
- Few hedgerow trees on plateau and narrow areas of woodland (mostly Wet Woodland) in valleys.

<sup>50</sup> Cornwall Council (2008): 'Redruth, Camborne and Gwennap LCA Description', [online] available to access via: [https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/reports\\_landscape\\_chr/areaCA11.pdf](https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/reports_landscape_chr/areaCA11.pdf)

<sup>51</sup> Cornwall Council (2008): 'Carnmenellis LCA Description', [online] available to access via: [https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/reports\\_landscape\\_chr/areaCA10.pdf](https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/reports_landscape_chr/areaCA10.pdf)

- Fragmented remnant Lowland Heathland in high parts of Landscape Character Area with associated species in Cornish hedges.
- Settlement pattern of mainly dispersed villages of medieval origin.
- Pylons, masts and poles prominent in places.
- Long views from elevated areas.
- Upland recently enclosed as small farms and 'miners' smallholdings.

#### *Pressures*

- Changes in agricultural practice reducing management input- field rationalisation, intensification, new structures and diversification.
- Suburbanisation of dispersed settlements.
- Windfarm development.

#### *Planning and Land Management Guidelines*

- Manage the historic features of the World Heritage Site in particular and improve interpretation in places.
- Maintain and repair Cornish hedges, hedgerows and stiles using appropriate materials and methods of construction.
- Manage Upland Rough ground for biodiversity and archaeology.
- Encourage the planting of small woodlands and farm copses in sheltered valleys avoiding planting conifer plantations on high open ground.
- Develop design guidance to avoid incremental change to dwellings and development out of scale, pattern and landscape character.

5.15 Additionally, a Historic Landscape Character (HLC)<sup>52</sup> Assessment was completed in the 1996 as part of a pilot study encouraged by English Heritage (now Historic England). The Assessment identified 16 HLC 'Zones' throughout Cornwall which interpret and present the distinctive features and spatial patterns of Cornwall's historic landscape. In this regard, there are five main HLC Zones within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including: Settlement: older core (pre-1907), Farmland: Medieval, Farmland: Post Medieval, Upland Rough Ground, and Industrial: Disused. These are shown on Cornwall Council's Interactive Map.

### Heritage Coast

5.16 Heritage Coasts are the finest stretches or undeveloped coastline in England and Wales, with their natural beauty and enjoyment by the public giving them special claim for both protection and sensitive management. In this context, the Neighbourhood Plan area is located approximately 1.5km to the south east of the Godrevy to Portreath Heritage Coast. The Heritage Coast shares an overlapping boundary with the Cornwall AONB.

### Tree preservation orders

5.17 Implemented by local planning authorities, Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) are designated to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of their amenity value. When considering 'amenity' the local planning authority will likely take into consideration the following criteria<sup>53</sup>:

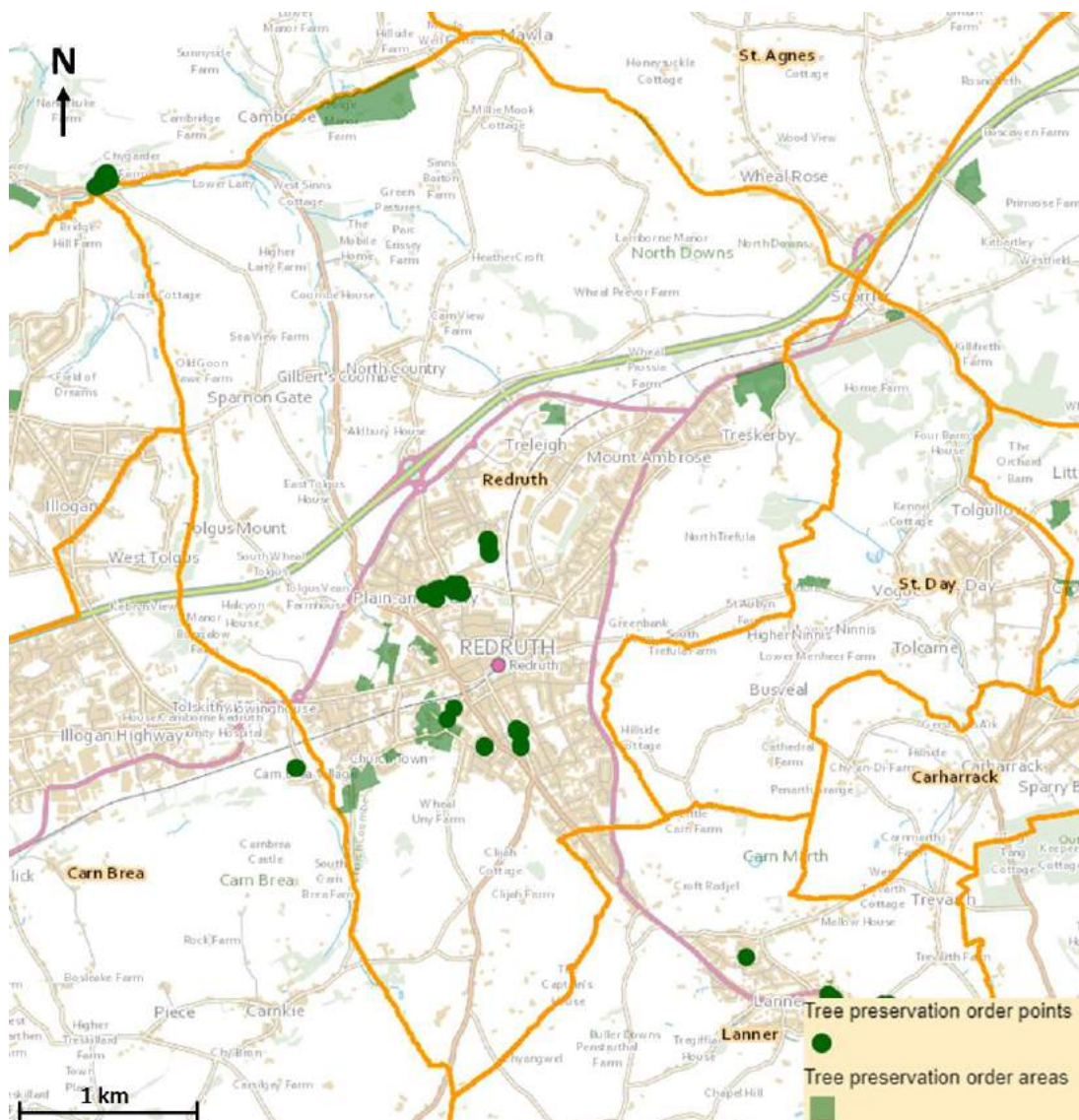
- Visibility: the extent to which the trees or woodlands can be seen by the public; and
- Individual, collective and wider impact: considering the importance of the trees or woodlands in relation to their cultural or historic value, contribution to and relationship with

<sup>52</sup> Cornwall Council (201): 'Historic Landscape Character', [online] available to access via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/strategic-historic-environment-service/cornwall-and-scilly-historic-environment-record/historic-landscape-character/>

<sup>53</sup> GOV.UK (2014): 'Tree Preservation Orders – General', [online] available to access via: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas>

the landscape and/or their contribution to the character or appearance of a conservation area.

- 5.18 In this context, Cornwall Council has designated numerous TPOs in the interest of their amenity value, as shown in **Figure 5.2** below.



**Figure 5.2: TPOs within the Neighbourhood Plan area (adapted from Cornwall Council's Interactive Map)**

### Visual amenity

- 5.19 It is useful to note that the views across the parish are also an important consideration in the planning process as the scale, height and mass of development can ultimately impact important views if they are not considered and assessed through the process. Changes, such as development and landscape change, can see these views degraded overtime.

### Summary of Future Baseline

- 5.20 New development has the potential to lead to incremental but small changes in landscape, townscape and villagescape character and quality in and around the Neighbourhood Plan area. This includes from the loss of landscape features and areas with an important visual amenity value.
- 5.21 In the absence of the Neighbourhood Plan, inappropriate levels of development within the open countryside could negatively impact upon the landscape features which contribute to the distinctive character and setting of the Neighbourhood Plan area.

## Key Sustainability Issues

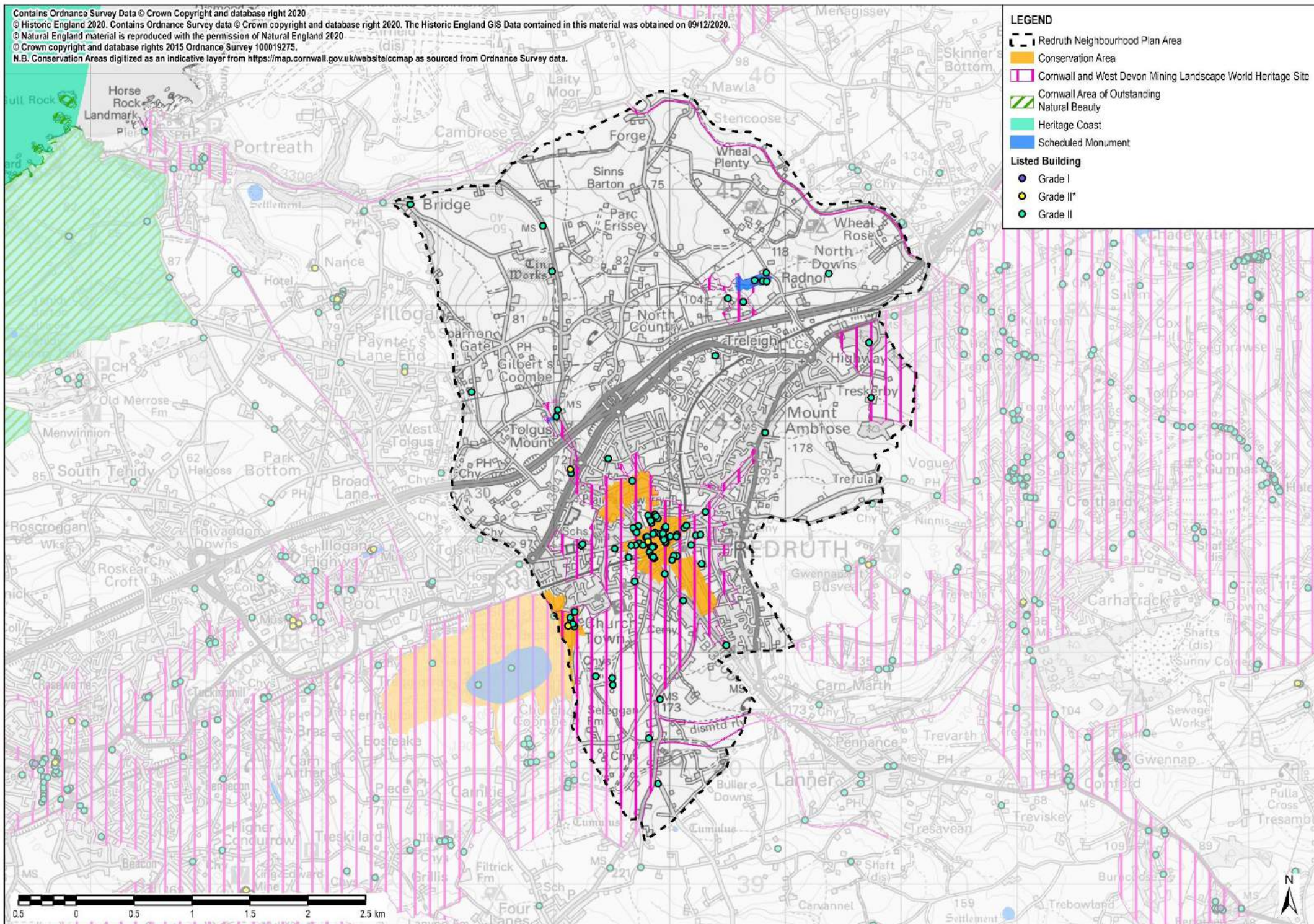
- Most of the Neighbourhood Plan area overlaps with the 'Cornish Killas' NCA. A small area of land towards the southern boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area overlaps with the 'Carnmenellis' NCA. NCA profiles contain several SEOs which seek to protect and enhance the special qualities of these areas.
- Most of the Neighbourhood Plan area is within LCA 11 'Redruth, Camborne and Gwennap'. The southern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area is within LCA 10 'Carnmenellis'. The LCA descriptions contain an overview of the key characteristics, pressures, and planning / land management guidelines for each area.
- There are five main HLC Zones within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including: Settlement: older core (pre-1907), Farmland: Medieval, Farmland: Post Medieval, Upland Rough Ground, and Industrial: Disused.
- Cornwall Council have designated numerous TPOs in the interest of their amenity value.
- Views across the parish are also an important consideration in the planning process as the scale, height and mass of development can ultimately impact important views if they are not considered and assessed through the process.

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

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect and enhance the character and quality of landscapes, townscapes and villagescapes.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve and enhance the special qualities of the Neighbourhood Plan area?</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance locally important landscape, townscape and villagescape features within the Neighbourhood Plan area?</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance local diversity and character?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance locally important viewpoints which contribute to the unique sense of place and visual amenity of the Neighbourhood Plan area?</li> </ul>



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## 6. Historic Environment

### Focus of Theme

- Designated and non-designated heritage assets
- Setting, special qualities and significance of heritage assets
- Locally important heritage features
- Historic character of the Neighbourhood Plan area

### Policy Context

- 6.1 The vision presented by the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Management Plan (2013-2018)<sup>54</sup> states:

*'We believe that by protecting, conserving and enhancing the outstanding universal value of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site it will reinforce cultural distinctiveness, and become a significant driver for economic regeneration and social inclusion'.*

- 6.2 The aims within the 2013-2018 Management Plan for the next 25 years and beyond are as follows:

- To protect, conserve and enhance the historical authenticity, integrity and historic character of the Site for current and future generations;
- To promote opportunities within the Site for heritage-led regeneration;
- To communicate the distinctiveness of Cornish mining culture and identity;
- To promote public access to sites, collections and information;
- To undertake and facilitate research to increase knowledge and understanding;
- To interpret and present the history and significance of Cornish mining to the highest quality;
- To promote educational use of the Site; and
- To optimise the contribution of the Site to the local economy.

- 6.3 A Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has also been prepared for the World Heritage Site. Adopted in May 2017<sup>55</sup>, the SPD sets out how the planning system will seek to protect, conserve, present and transmit its World Heritage Sites to future generations. Reiterating national policy, substantial harm to the WHS should be wholly exceptional, and the SPD is concerned with protecting the special features that make the Cornish and West Devon Mining Landscape worthy of being a WHS, in addition to ensuring that all stakeholders have a shared understanding and an accountable, transparent description of how the management system works.

- 6.4 The Cornish Mining World Heritage Site Partnership Board are currently in the process of reviewing and updating the Management Plan. In this respect, a public consultation on the WHS Draft Management Plan (2020-2025)<sup>56</sup> was completed between July and August 2020. The results of the consultation are currently being considered with a view to inform and influence the proposed policies and strategic actions within the Management Plan.

<sup>54</sup> Cornwall Council (2013): 'World Heritage Management Plan', [online] available to download from: <<http://www.cornish-mining.org.uk/news/world-heritage-management-plan-now-available>>

<sup>55</sup> LUC on behalf of Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Office (May 2017) Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site, Supplementary Planning Document <[https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/26989792/cwdmlwhts\\_spd\\_final\\_may\\_2017.pdf](https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/26989792/cwdmlwhts_spd_final_may_2017.pdf)>

<sup>56</sup> Cornwall Council (2020): 'WHS Draft Management Plan Consultation', [online] available to access via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/conservation/world-heritage-site/news/world-heritage-site-draft-management-plan-consultation/>

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

- 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.
- Plans should set out a *'positive strategy'* for the *'conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment'*, including those heritage assets that are most at risk.
- *'When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss of less than substantial harm to its significance.'*

## 6.6 The policies contained within Chapter 2 'Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes' and Goal 6 'Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment' of the Government's 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment' directly relates to the Historic Environment SEA theme.

## 6.7 The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England<sup>57</sup> sets out its vision for the historic environment. It calls for those who have the power to shape the historic environment to recognise its value and to manage it in an intelligent manner in light of the contribution that it can make to social, economic and cultural life. The Heritage Statement (2017)<sup>58</sup> updates the 2010 Statement on the Historic Environment for England and sets out the Government's vision for supporting the heritage sector to help it to protect and care for heritage and the historic environment in the coming years, in order to maximise the economic and social impact of heritage and to ensure that everyone can enjoy and benefit from it.

## 6.8 Historic England is the statutory body that helps people care for, enjoy and celebrate England's spectacular historic environment. Guidance and advice notes provide essential information for local planning authorities, neighbourhood groups, developers, consultants, landowners and other interested parties on historic environment considerations, and are regularly reviewed and updated in light of legislative changes. The following guidance and advice notes are particularly relevant and should be read in conjunction with the others.

## 6.9 Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management: Historic England Advice Note 1 – Second Edition (February 2019)<sup>59</sup> outlines ways to manage change that conserves and enhances historic areas in order to positively contribute to sustainable development. Principally, the advice note emphasises the importance of:

- Understanding the different types of special architectural and historic interest which underpin the designations; and
- Recognising the value of implementing controls through the appraisal and/or management plan which positively contribute to the significance and value of conservation areas.

## 6.10 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA): Historic England Advice Note 8 (December 2016)<sup>60</sup> provides support to all stakeholders involved in assessing the effects of certain plans and programmes on the historic environment. It offers advice on heritage considerations during each stage of the SA/SEA process and helps to establish the basis for robust and comprehensive assessments.

<sup>57</sup> HM Government (2010): 'The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England', [online] available to access via: <[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)>

<sup>58</sup> Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (2017) Heritage Statement [online], available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-heritage-statement-2017>

<sup>59</sup> Historic England (2019): 'Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management: Advice Note 1 (second edition)', [online] available to access via: <<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/conservation-area-appraisal-designation-management-advice-note-1/>>

<sup>60</sup> Historic England (2016): 'SA and SEA: Advice Note 8' [online] available to access via: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

- 6.11 Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) (December 2017)<sup>61</sup> provides general advice on understanding setting, and how it may contribute to the significance of heritage assets and allow that significance to be appreciated, as well as advice on how views can contribute to setting. Specifically, Part 2 of the advice note outlines a five stepped approach to conducting a broad assessment of setting:
- Step 1: Identify which heritage assets and their settings are affected;
  - Step 2: Assess the degree to which these settings make a contribution to the significance of the heritage asset(s) or allow significance to be appreciated;
  - Step 3: Assess the effects of the proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on that significance or on the ability to appreciate it;
  - Step 4: Explore ways to maximise enhancement and avoid or minimise harm; and
  - Step 5: Make and document the decision and monitor outcomes.
- 6.12 Neighbourhood Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic England Advice Note 11 (October 2018)<sup>62</sup> outlines the importance of considering the historic environment whilst preparing the plan (section 1), which culminates in a checklist of relevant issues to consider, followed by an overview of what this means in terms of evidence gathering (section 2). Sections 3 to 5 of the advice note focus on how to translate evidence into policy, understand the SEA process and Historic England's role in neighbourhood planning.
- 6.13 Historic England Advice Note 7 'Local Heritage Listing'<sup>63</sup> supports local authorities and communities to introduce a local list in their area, encouraging a more consistent approach to the identification and management of local heritage assets across England. Local lists play an essential role in building and reinforcing a sense of local character and distinctiveness in the historic environment. They enable the significance of any building or site on the list (in its own right and as a contributor to the local planning authority's wider strategic planning objectives), to be better taken into account in planning applications affecting the building or site or its setting.
- 6.14 The *Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies 2010-2030* were adopted in November 2016. Objective 10(a) within key theme number 4 states to '*respect the distinctive character of Cornwall's diverse landscapes*'. Furthermore, in regard to the 28 policies listed within the document, Policy 24 'Historic Environment' directly relates to the Historic Environment theme.

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

#### Historic evolution of Redruth

- 6.15 Along with the Redruth Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy (later discussed in this chapter), the Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative<sup>64</sup> and the Cornwall and Scilly Urban Survey<sup>65</sup> provide a narrative history of the Neighbourhood Plan area. A brief overview is provided below.
- 6.16 Redruth is a town of distinctive and strong character borne from its varied and interesting history. It can trace its origins to the early medieval period, but much of its character derives from the prosperity which it experienced in the 18th and 19th centuries, when it was a major centre for the Cornish tin and copper-mining industry.

<sup>61</sup> Historic England (2017): 'Setting of Heritage Assets: 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition', [online] available to access via:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/>

<sup>62</sup> Historic England (2018): 'Neighbourhood Planning and the Historic Environment', [online] available to access via:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/neighbourhood-planning-and-the-historic-environment/>

<sup>63</sup> Historic England (2016): 'Local Heritage Listing: Advice Note 7', [online] <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7/>

<sup>64</sup> Cornwall Council (2002): 'Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative: Redruth and Plain-an-Gwarry', [online] available to access via: [https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/28966782/redruth\\_red.pdf](https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/28966782/redruth_red.pdf)

<sup>65</sup> Cornwall Council (2004): 'Cornwall and Scilly Urban Survey: Redruth Report', [online] available to access via:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/strategic-historic-environment-service/guidance/appraisals-and-surveys/cornwall-and-scilly-urban-survey/towns/>



- 6.17 The town is located at the junction of valleys at the cross-roads of two important historic routes: the main west-east road leading from Land's End to Truro and beyond, and the road connecting the south and north coast between Falmouth and Portreath. Redruth was also located at a ford over the Tolgus; this ford and crossroads explain the decision to locate a settlement here. Redruth had been established by the early 14th century and took its name from the Cornish 'Rid-ruth', meaning 'red ford', for the Tolgus ran red from tin streaming upriver.
- 6.18 Geology is probably the most influential factor in the development of Redruth. The underlying rock of this area is largely granite or slate. The hills of Carn Brea and Carn Marth to the south-west and south-east of Redruth are such granite intrusions. The local geology is obvious in the building materials: the majority of buildings are constructed from local killas and granite with slate roof tiles and frequently with slate hanging; much of the pavement is granite.
- 6.19 Redruth, like Truro and Helston, was originally a market town for the local area. Remnants of the medieval townscape and of the narrow burbidge plots in the lower part of Fore Street still survive. The commercial role of Redruth persisted through the 18th and 19th centuries and is evident in the numerous fine shop fronts that survive in Fore Street, West End, and Bond Street. The town experienced a decline in the 20th century, linked to the vagaries of the mining industry, but the town has a rich heritage that provides a sound basis for regeneration.

### Designated heritage assets and areas

- 6.20 The historic environment is protected through the planning system, via conditions imposed on developers and other mechanisms. Historic England is the statutory consultee for certain categories of listed building consent and all applications for scheduled monument consent.
- 6.21 An overview of the designated historic environment assets present in the Neighbourhood Plan area is provided below. Historic landscapes within Cornwall (including Heritage Coasts and Historic Character Assessments) are discussed within the 'Landscape' chapter of this report.

### Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site

- 6.22 The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) World Heritage Sites are places, monuments or buildings which have been recognised as of "outstanding universal value" to humanity.
- 6.23 The Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2006, encompassing ten areas within the region with significant mining heritage. Much of the landscape of Cornwall and West Devon was transformed in the 18th and early 19th century as a result of the rapid growth of pioneering copper and tin mining. The Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS is a reflection of both the integrity and authenticity of the area, and is determined based on the following criterion:
- Exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design;
  - Bear a unique or at least an exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilisation which is living, or which has disappeared; and
  - Be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant change(s) in human history.
- 6.24 In this respect, the Neighbourhood Plan area partly overlaps with the 'Camborne & Redruth with Portreath' area of the WHS, described as follows<sup>66</sup>:

"This was the centre of the Cornish mining industry, and home to many of its most important mines and individuals.

<sup>66</sup> Cornwall Council (2020): 'Camborne and Redruth with Portreath', [online] available to access via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/conservation/world-heritage-site/areas-places-and-activities/camborne-and-redruth-with-portreath/>

“The impressive bulk of Carn Brea – a high granite ridge with jagged outcrops and fantastic 360° vistas – frames most views of Camborne and Redruth, serving as a reminder of the geology that underpinned their rapid growth.

“This Area features essential rail links to Portreath harbour, historic mining cottages, the Great Flat Lode, (an extensive flat-dipping mineral vein extremely rich in tin), and South Crofty, Cornwall’s last operating tin mine. Heartlands, a unique visitor attraction and the mid Cornwall gateway to the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site, is situated nearby and offers a wide range of events and activities all year round. King Edward Mine; the training mine for Camborne School of Mines is also close by and has an award winning museum.

“It includes rugged open countryside, a lovely sandy beach, and bustling towns with the remains of its mining history ever-present.

“The Camborne and Redruth Mining District became significant internationally for the pioneering technological progress made here, such as Richard Trevithick’s steam engines, William Bickford’s invention of the safety fuse, (which saved countless miners’ lives), and William Murdoch’s house, being the first in the world to be lit by gas (in 1792). A visit to East Pool Mine reveals the story of this Area and its huge achievements.

“This is classic Cornish Mining landscape, with the highest concentration of historic mining sites anywhere in the world.”

### *Listed buildings*

6.25 Listed building are nationally designated buildings which are protected through the Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990.<sup>67</sup> According to the National Heritage List for England<sup>68</sup>, the Neighbourhood Plan area contains 94 listed buildings, including three Grade II\* listed buildings and 91 Grade II listed buildings. The Grade II\* listed buildings are as follows:

- Sara’s Foundry, Town Mill;
- Church of St Euny; and
- Murdoch House.

### *Scheduled monuments*

6.26 The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)<sup>69</sup> allows the investigation, presentation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and makes provision for the regulation of operations or activities which may affect ancient monuments and archaeological areas. Scheduled monuments are nationally designated sites which are protected under the Act. In this regard, there are two scheduled monuments within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including:

- Part of the mining complex at Wheal Peevor; and
- The Tolgus arsenic works 80m south east of East Tolgus House.

### *Registered historic parks and gardens, and historic battlefields*

6.27 Historic England’s ‘Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England’, established in 1983, currently identifies over 1,600 sites assessed to be of significance. No historic parks and gardens are present in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

6.28 Historic England’s Register of Historic Battlefields identifies important English battlefields. Its purpose is to offer them protection through the planning system, and to promote a better understanding of their significance and public enjoyment. No historic battlefields are present in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

<sup>67</sup> Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990) [online] available at:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/9/contents>

<sup>68</sup> Historic England (2020): ‘National Heritage List for England – Advanced Search’, [online] available to access via:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/advanced-search?searchType=nhleadvancedsearch>

<sup>69</sup> Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Act (1979) [online] available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46>

## Conservation areas

- 6.29 Conservation areas are designated because of their special architectural and historic interest. Conservation area appraisals are a tool to demonstrate the area's special interest, explaining the reasons for designation and providing a greater understanding and articulation of its character - mentioned within the 'Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management' advice note by Historic England<sup>70</sup>.
- 6.30 There are three conservation areas which wholly or partly overlap with the Neighbourhood Plan area. Redruth Town Centre Conservation Area and Plain-an-Gwarry Conservation Area are wholly located within the existing settlement boundary for Redruth. Carn Brea Conservation Area is partly within the western section of the Neighbourhood Plan area, but mainly encompasses the neighbouring settlement of Carn Brea Village (including the 'Neolithic hilltop enclosure with later settlement and defensive structures, a prehistoric field system, a medieval castle and deer park and mineral workings on Carn Brea' scheduled monument).
- 6.31 It is important to note that a conservation area appraisal or management strategy has not been prepared for Carn Brea, therefore it is not currently possible to gain an in-depth understanding of the special interest of the area. However, an overview of the special interest of the Redruth Town Centre Conservation Area and Plain-an-Gwarry Conservation Area is provided below (taken from their respective conservation area appraisal and management strategy documents).
- 6.32 The Redruth Town Centre Conservation Area was designated in 1983 and since then has been extended twice (in 1988 and 1991). The special and distinctive character derives from the following key elements<sup>71</sup>:
- Its dramatic topography which creates views of the unfolding streetscape and cleverly placed landmarks;
  - Its origins as a commercial centre, evident in the medieval burgage plot pattern in Fore Street and high quality 19th century commercial architecture;
  - Its growth as a mining centre, which led to building booms in the 1820s and 1870s–1880s and associations with nationally-important inventors and engineers. Industrial chimneys are still prominent landmarks;
  - The influence of local architect James Hicks;
  - Redruth is largely characterised by 2–3 storey terraces, with the exception of the semi-detached houses in Clinton Road and Albany Road; and
  - The palette of materials provides a coherence and uniformity to the conservation area and comprises of local killas, granite, slate and sometimes the use of brick in commercial buildings.
- 6.33 There are six key threats to the Redruth Town Centre Conservation Area listed within the appraisal and management strategy, as follows:
- The strategies to regenerate Redruth and the surrounding area will take time to develop, fund, and implement. In the meantime, there is a risk that the historic built fabric of the town will continue to degrade in view of the economic difficulties which it is currently experiencing, and as a result could make new investment problematic;
  - Development beyond the centre of Redruth may be to the detriment of Redruth itself, either by providing new retail foci that compromise the viability of the historic core, or by diverting traffic further away from the centre;
  - Traffic management schemes within the central area could fail to acknowledge the special character and appearance of the Conservation Area; they might also be economically

<sup>70</sup> Historic England (2016): 'Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management Advice Note 1', [online] available to access via: <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/conservation-area-designation-appraisal-management-advice-note-1/>

<sup>71</sup> Cornwall Council (2010): 'Redruth Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy', [online] available to access via: [https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/reports\\_conservation\\_areas/Redruth.pdf](https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/reports_conservation_areas/Redruth.pdf)

- disadvantageous by discouraging visits as a result of parking restrictions, one-way streets, or further pedestrianisation;
  - An expanded Redruth could well lead to further traffic congestion in the town centre;
  - Town fringe developments may lead to the further anonymisation of the approaches to Redruth; and
  - Inappropriate installation of satellite dishes on the front of buildings.
- 6.34 Located directly to the north of Redruth Town Centre, Plain-an-Gwarry Conservation Area has a strong, locally-distinctive character, particularly in the older western area. This character sets it apart from Redruth and is derived from the following key elements<sup>72</sup>:
- Its 17th and 18th century origins as a workers' settlement, evidenced in the rows of cottages along the main streets;
  - The long south-facing gardens of many of the historic cottages;
  - Its development along a combination of parallel main streets and back yard infills, which means that there is in some places a relatively 'informal' and surprisingly rural street plan in places;
  - The contrast between the original industrial settlement and the later middle-class housing in Claremont Road and Green Lane;
  - The use of stone for buildings, often in a relatively informal way but with pronounced quoins and other formal details;
  - Its physical separation from the centre of Redruth, historically by means of market gardens and now by car parks; and
  - Pedestrian connections to the centre of Redruth through the passageways which lead off Fore Street and across the car park towards Plain-an-Gwarry.
- 6.35 There are four key threats to the Plain-an-Gwarry Conservation Area listed within the appraisal and management strategy, as follows:
- General issues which could result from the inappropriate redevelopment of the brewery site, or from other out-of-character interventions on gap/opportunity sites;
  - Further degradation in the public realm, both along the main roads into Plain-an-Gwarry and also on such roads as King Street;
  - The long gardens which are a feature of Plain-an-Gwarry could well become compromised by the modern-day preference for privacy, which to some extent runs counter to the 'open', public nature of these gardens and their visibility from the street; and
  - Flooding in the Brewery area.
- 6.36 The conservation area appraisals and management strategy documents for Redruth Town Centre and Plain-an-Gwarry also contain several management and enhancement principles and actions, grouped into the following themes: public realm (including paving, signage, lighting and street furniture), landscape, views, traffic and movement, new building, building maintenance, historic detailing and materials, and sustainability. In this respect, the documents will be an essential source of evidence during the next stages of the SEA process.

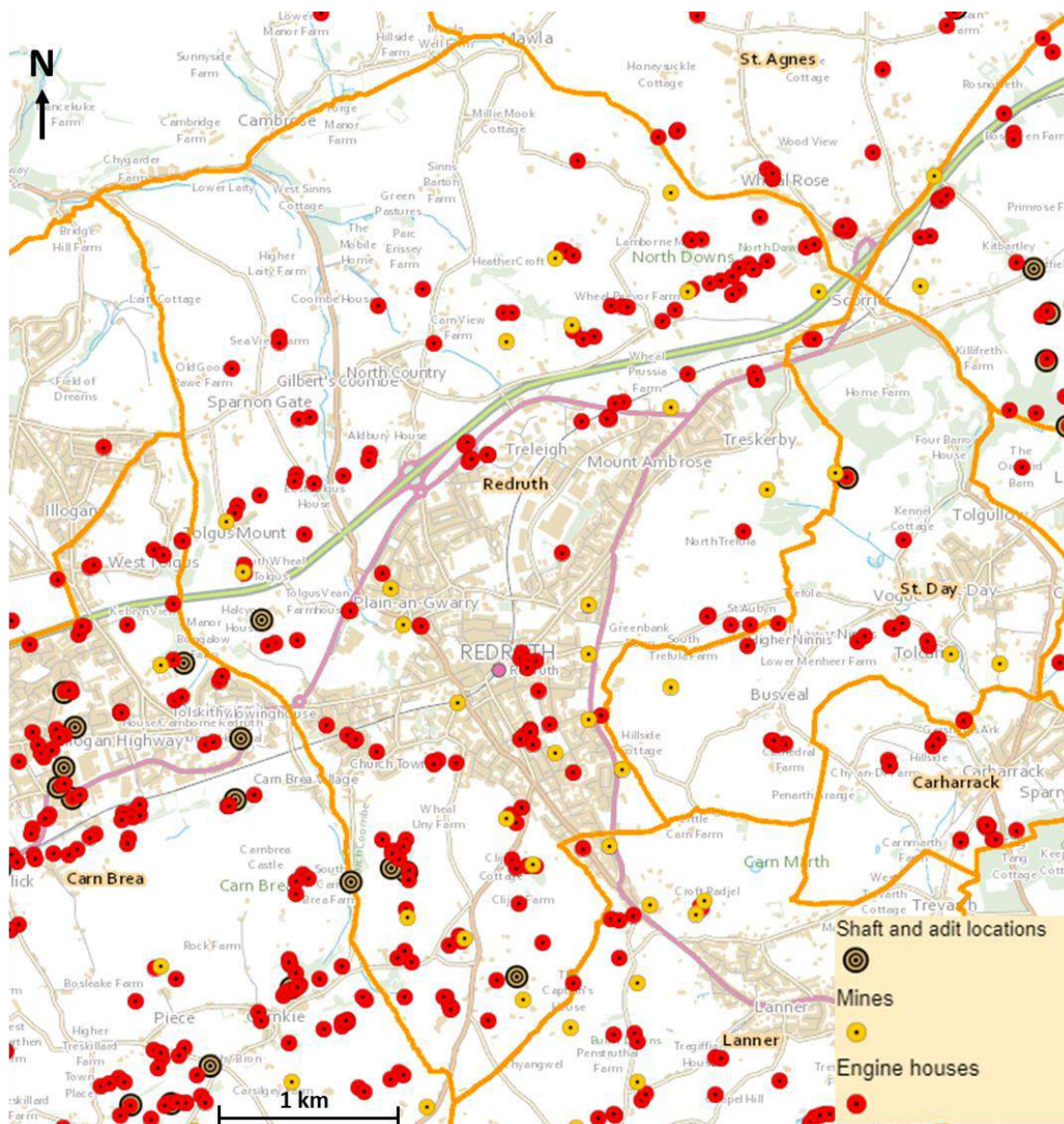
### Locally important heritage features

- 6.37 It should be noted that not all the area's historic environment features are subject to statutory designations, and non-designated features comprise a large part of what people have contact with as part of daily life – whether at home, work or leisure. Although not designated, many buildings and areas are of historic interest and are important by local communities. For example, open spaces and key distinctive buildings are likely to have a local historic value.

<sup>72</sup> Cornwall Council (2010): 'Plain-an-Gwarry Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy', [online] available to access via: [https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/reports\\_conservation\\_areas/Plain-an-Gwarry%20CAA%20and%20MS%20march%202010\\_high%20res.pdf](https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/reports_conservation_areas/Plain-an-Gwarry%20CAA%20and%20MS%20march%202010_high%20res.pdf)



- 6.38 Accessed via the Heritage Gateway<sup>73</sup>, the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environmental Record (HER) identifies the important distinctive structures or features that positively contribute to the local distinctiveness and sense of place of the Neighbourhood Plan area. Following a high-level review of the HER, there are 683 records within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including many Post-Medieval and Medieval features associated with the former mining industry. These features are viewable on Cornwall Interactive Mapping and this mapping tool will be utilised during the subsequent stages of the SEA process<sup>74</sup>. An image still from the mapping tool is provided below in **Figure 6.1**, specifically showing the location of shafts and adits, mines, and engine houses associated with Redruth's mining heritage.



**Figure 6.1: Locally important mining heritage features within the Neighbourhood Plan area (adapted from Cornwall Council's Interactive Map)**

- 6.39 During the subsequent stages of the SEA process, the Cornwall and Scilly HER will be reviewed in greater detail to determine which heritage features are likely to be impacted by the preferred development strategy within the Neighbourhood Plan (and reasonable alternatives).

<sup>73</sup> Heritage Gateway (2020): 'Detailed Search' [online database] available to access via: <https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/>

<sup>74</sup> Cornwall Council (2020): 'Cornwall Interactive Mapping Tool', [online] <<https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/website/ccmap/?zoomlevel=1&xcoord=162690&ycoord=64380&wsName=ccmap&layerName=>>>

- 6.40 These heritage considerations (alongside any suggested mitigation measures or recommendations) will be presented in the Environmental Report accompanying the Neighbourhood Plan at Regulation 14 consultation.

### Heritage at risk

- 6.41 Since 2008, Historic England has released an annual Heritage at Risk Register. The Heritage at Risk Register highlights the Grade I and Grade II\* listed buildings, scheduled monuments, historic parks and gardens, registered battlefields, wreck sites and conservation areas deemed to be 'at risk'. According to the 2020 Heritage at Risk Register for South West England<sup>75</sup>, there are 249 heritage assets at risk within Cornwall, two of which are within the boundaries of the Neighbourhood Plan area. Specifically:
- Sara's Foundry (Grade II\* listed building): the buildings continue to deteriorate and are in a very bad condition. No current solution is in place to prevent further deterioration, with discussions on going between Historic England and Cornwall Council.
  - Tolgus arsenic works 80m south east of East Tolgus House (Scheduled Monument): classified as having a generally unsatisfactory and declining condition with major localised problems.
- 6.42 It is important to recognise that the Heritage at Risk Registers for areas outside of London do not contain information about the status of Grade II listed buildings. As such, it is currently not possible to determine whether any of the Grade II listed buildings within the Neighbourhood Plan area are at risk.

### Summary of Future Baseline

- 6.43 New development areas in the Neighbourhood Plan area have the potential to impact on the fabric and setting of heritage assets; for example, through inappropriate design and layout, and increasing the impacts of traffic within conservation areas. It should be noted, however, that existing historic environment designations offer a degree of protection to heritage assets and their settings.
- 6.44 Alongside, new development need not be harmful to the significance of a heritage asset, and in the context of the Neighbourhood Plan area there may be opportunity for new development to enhance the historic setting of the parish's settlements, support historic landscape character and better reveal assets' heritage significance.

### Key Sustainability Issues

- The Neighbourhood Plan area partly overlaps with the 'Camborne & Redruth with Portreath' area of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape WHS.
- Redruth is a town of distinctive and strong character borne from its varied and interesting history. It can trace its origins to the early medieval period, but much of its character derives from the prosperity which it experienced in the 18th and 19th centuries, when it was a major centre for the Cornish tin and copper-mining industry. The town experienced a decline in the 20th century, linked to the vagaries of the mining industry, but the town has a rich heritage that provides a sound basis for regeneration.
- According to the National Heritage List for England, the Neighbourhood Plan area contains 94 listed buildings, including three Grade II\* listed buildings and 91 Grade II listed buildings.
- It is currently not possible to determine whether any of the Grade II listed buildings within the Neighbourhood Plan area are at risk.
- There are two scheduled monuments within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including: Part of the mining complex at Wheal Peavor, and The Tolgus arsenic works 80m south east of East Tolgus House.
- There are three conservation areas which wholly or partly overlap with the Neighbourhood Plan area. Redruth Town Centre Conservation Area and Plain-an-Gwarry Conservation Area

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<sup>75</sup> Historic England (2020): 'Heritage at Risk Register: South West England' [online] available to access via: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/har-2020-registers/>

are wholly located within the existing settlement boundary for Redruth. Carn Brea Conservation Area is partly within the western section of the Neighbourhood Plan area.

- There are six key threats to the Redruth Town Centre Conservation Area and four key threats to the Plain-an-Gwarry Conservation Area, as listed within their respective appraisal and management strategy documents.
- The conservation area appraisals and management strategy documents for Redruth Town Centre and Plain-an-Gwarry also contain several management and enhancement principles and actions, grouped into the following themes: public realm (including paving, signage, lighting and street furniture), landscape, views, traffic and movement, new building, building maintenance, historic detailing and materials, and sustainability.
- It is important to note that a conservation area appraisal or management strategy has not been prepared for Carn Brea, therefore it is not currently possible to gain an in-depth understanding of the special interest of the area.
- Following a high-level review of the Cornwall and Scilly HER, there are 683 records within the Neighbourhood Plan area including many Post-Medieval and Medieval features associated with the former mining industry.
- According to the 2020 Heritage at Risk Register for South West England, there are two heritage assets within the boundaries of the Neighbourhood Plan area which are at risk. Specifically: Sara's Foundry (Grade II\* listed building) and Tolgus arsenic works 80m south east of East Tolgus House (Scheduled Monument).

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

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect, conserve and enhance heritage assets within the Neighbourhood Plan area	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve and enhance the outstanding universal value of the WHS in line with the objectives and priority actions within the Management Plan?</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance the significance of buildings and structures of architectural or historic interest, both designated and non-designated, and their setting?</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance the special interest, character and appearance of locally important features and their settings?</li> <li>• Guide development proposals to secure remediation of issues identified as affecting the conservation areas and prevent cumulative impacts?</li> <li>• Support the integrity and the historic setting of sites of archaeological or historic interest recorded on the Cornwall and Scilly HER?</li> <li>• Support access to, interpretation and understanding of the historic evolution and character of the environment?</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance archaeological remains, including historic landscapes?</li> </ul>



## 7. Land, Soil and Water Resources

### Focus of Theme

- Quality of agricultural land
- Water resources and water quality
- Mineral safeguarding areas

### Policy Context

- 7.1 The EU's Soil Thematic Strategy<sup>76</sup> presents a strategy for protecting soil 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.
- 7.2 Adopted in October 2000, the purpose of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) is to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater, driving a catchment-based approach to water management. In England and Wales there are 100 water catchments and it is Defra's intention is to establish a 'framework for integrated catchment management' across England. The Environment Agency is establishing 'Significant Water Management Issues' and recently presented second River Basin Management Plans to ministers. The plans seek to deliver the objectives of the WFD namely:
- Enhance the status and prevent the further deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetlands which depend on aquatic ecosystems;
  - Promote the sustainable use of water;
  - Reduce the pollution of water, especially by 'priority' and 'priority hazardous' substances;
  - Ensure the progressive reduction of groundwater pollution; and
  - Contribute to achieving 'good' water quality status for as many waterbodies as possible by 2027.
- 7.3 Key messages from the NPPF include:
- *'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:*
    - i. *protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils; and*
    - ii. *recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland.'*
  - 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'.
  - *'Planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions. Strategic policies should set out a clear strategy for accommodating objectively assessed needs, in a way that makes as much use as possible of previously-developed or 'brownfield' land.'*

<sup>76</sup> European Commission (2006): 'Soil Thematic Policy', [online] available to access via: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index_en.htm)

- *‘Encourage multiple benefits from both urban and rural land, including through mixed use schemes and taking opportunities to achieve net environmental gains.’*
  - Planning policies and decisions should ‘give substantial weight to the value of using suitable brownfield land within settlements for homes and other identified needs’, and ‘promote and support the development of under-utilised land and buildings.’
  - Taking a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for water supply.
  - Prevent new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of water pollution.
  - The government has produced a separate plan that specifically deals with planning policy in relation to waste management; this should be read in conjunction with the NPPF.
- 7.4 Along with the policies contained within Chapter 1 ‘Using and managing land sustainably’ and Chapter 4 ‘Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste’, Goal 2 ‘Clean and plentiful water’, Goal 5 ‘Using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently’ and Goal 8 ‘Minimising waste’ of the Government’s ‘A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment’ directly relates to the Land, Soil and Water Resources SEA theme.
- 7.5 Other key documents at the national level include Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England<sup>77</sup>, which sets out a vision for soil use in England, and the Water White Paper<sup>78</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.
- 7.6 In terms of waste management, the Government Review of Waste Policy in England<sup>79</sup> recognises that environmental benefits and economic growth can be the result of a more sustainable approach to the use of materials. The National Waste Management Plan<sup>80</sup> provides an analysis of the current waste management situation in England and evaluates how it will support the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the revised Waste Framework Directive<sup>81</sup>. This includes an assessment of the need for new collection schemes, additional waste infrastructure and investment channels, as well as providing general or strategic waste management policies.
- 7.7 River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) set out a framework for how all river basin stakeholders, including water companies and local communities, can help improve the quality of the water environment. There are eight RBMPs in England which all have a harmonised plan period of 2015-2021 and are reviewed every five years. Redruth fall within the South West River Basin District and the Management Plan provides a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment<sup>82</sup>.
- 7.8 The *Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies* were adopted in November 2016. Objective 9(b) within key theme number 4 states to *‘make the best use of our resources by maximising the use of previously used land’*. Furthermore, in regard to the 28 policies listed within the document, the following directly relate to Land, Soil and Water Resources.
- Policy 14: Renewable and low carbon energy;
  - Policy 15: Safeguarding renewable energy;
  - Policy 17: Minerals – general principles;

<sup>77</sup> Defra (2009): ‘Safeguarding our Soils: A strategy for England’, [online] available to access via:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-our-soils-a-strategy-for-england>

<sup>78</sup> Defra (2011): ‘Water for life (The Water White Paper)’, [online] available to access via: <http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm82/8230/8230.pdf>

<sup>79</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>

<sup>80</sup> DEFRA (2013) Waste Management Plan for England [online] available to access via:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/265810/pb14100-waste-management-plan-20131213.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/265810/pb14100-waste-management-plan-20131213.pdf)

<sup>81</sup> Directive 2008/98/EC

<sup>82</sup> Environment Agency (2015): ‘South West River Basin Management Plan’, [online] available to access via: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/river-basin-management-plans-2015>

- Policy 18: Minerals safeguarding;
- Policy 19: Strategic waste management principles;
- Policy 20: Managing the provision of waste management facilities;
- Policy 21: Best use of land and existing buildings
- Policy 25: Green infrastructure; and
- Policy 26: Flood risk management and coastal change.

7.9 The Minerals Safeguarding DPD (2018) safeguards mineral resources and infrastructure for further use, expanding on the Strategic Policies.<sup>83</sup> Key aspects that the DPD covers include: safeguarding china clay, aggregates, building stone and metals; and mineral infrastructure.

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

#### Soil resources

- 7.10 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) classifies land into six grades (plus 'non-agricultural land' and 'urban'), where Grades 1 to 3a are recognised as being the 'best and most versatile' (BMV) land and Grades 3b to 5 of poorer quality. In this context, there is a need to avoid loss of higher quality 'best and most versatile' agricultural land.
- 7.11 In terms of the location of the best and most versatile agricultural land, there is a corridor of Grade 3a land to the east of the town (adjacent to the A393) between Treskerby and Lanherne Farm. However, a detailed classification has not been undertaken for most of the areas of undeveloped land in the northern and southern sections of the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 7.12 The provisional ALC dataset provided by Natural England indicates that the undeveloped areas in the southern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area are primarily underlain by Grade 4 (poor) agricultural land. However, the undeveloped areas of land within the northern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area are predominantly underlain by areas of Grade 3 (good to moderate) agricultural land. The Neighbourhood Plan area therefore has the potential to contain some of the best and most versatile land for agricultural purposes<sup>84</sup>.
- 7.13 However, in the absence of a detailed ALC assessment it is currently not possible to determine whether the Grade 3 areas can be classified as Grade 3a (i.e. best and most versatile land) or Grade 3b land.
- 7.14 The results of the 'Predictive Best and Most Versatile (BMV) Land Assessment' for South West England<sup>85</sup> provided by Natural England indicates that most of the undeveloped areas of land in the northern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area have a high likelihood (greater than 60%) of containing BMV land. The undeveloped areas of land within the southern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area have a low likelihood (less than 20%) of containing BMV land.

#### Water resources and quality

- 7.15 The Neighbourhood Plan area is located within the South West River Basin District, overlapping with the 'Hayle Red River and Northern Streams' Operational Catchment. There are nine waterbodies within the Operational Catchment, including the Portreath Stream which passes through the central, western and north western sections of the Neighbourhood Plan area. Additional water resources located within and within proximity to the Neighbourhood Plan area include small ponds and drainage ditches alongside field margins.

<sup>83</sup> Cornwall Council (2018) Minerals Safeguarding Development Plan Document [online] available at: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/36180980/minerals-safeguarding-dpd-adoption-december-2018e.pdf>

<sup>84</sup> Natural England (2011): 'Regional ALC Classification Map for South West England', [online] available to access via: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/144017?category=5954148537204736>

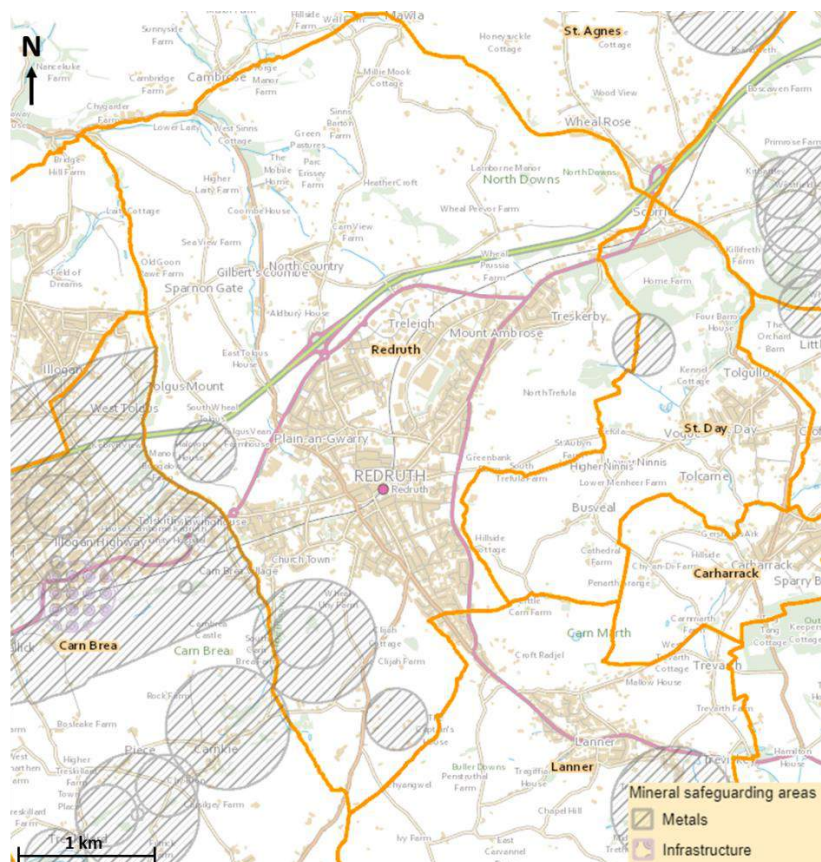
<sup>85</sup> Natural England (2017): 'Likelihood of BMV Agricultural Land: Strategic Scale Map for South West England', [online] available to access via: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5624668800679936?category=5208993007403008>



- 7.16 As shown on the Environment Agency's Catchment Data Explorer, the most recently completed water quality assessments undertaken in 2019 classifies the Portreath Stream as having a 'moderate' ecological status and a 'fail' chemical status<sup>86</sup>. The reasons for not achieving good status (RNAGs) are primarily attributed to diffuse and point source pollution from abandoned mines, including from nickel, zinc, copper, and cadmium.
- 7.17 The Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC) requires Member States to identify areas where groundwater have nitrate concentrations of more than 50 mg/l nitrate or are 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 to reduce and prevent further nitrate contamination. In this regard, a small area of land within the eastern section of the Neighbourhood Plan overlaps with the 'Truro, Tresillian and Falmouth' Eutrophic Water NVZ.
- 7.18 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. In this respect, there are no SPZs within or adjacent to the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### Mineral resources

- 7.19 Mineral resources are defined as natural concentrations of minerals or, in the case of aggregates, bodies of rock that are, or may become, of potential economic interest due to their inherent properties. They make an essential contribution to the country's prosperity and quality of life. Since minerals are a non-renewable resource, minerals safeguarding is the process of ensuring that non-minerals development does not needlessly prevent the future extraction of mineral resources, of local and national importance<sup>87</sup>. In this respect, sections of land within the Neighbourhood Plan area overlap with a Metals MSA, as shown below.



**Figure 7.1: MSAs in Redruth (adapted from Cornwall Council's Interactive Map)**

<sup>86</sup> Environment Agency (2020): 'Catchment Data Explorer – Portreath Stream Overview', [online] available to access via: <https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/WaterBody/GB108049000620>

<sup>87</sup> GOV.UK (2014): 'Minerals Guidance', [online] available to access via: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/minerals>

## Summary of Future Baseline

- 7.20 Future development has the potential to affect water quality through diffuse pollution, wastewater discharges, water run-off, and modification. However, water companies are likely to maintain adequate water supply and wastewater management over the plan period, and the requirements of the Water Framework Directive are likely to lead to continued improvements to water quality within the Neighbourhood Plan area and wider area.
- 7.21 Due to the likely prevalence of BMV agricultural land within sections of the undeveloped areas of the Neighbourhood Plan area, new developments which are located outside of the settlements will likely lead to losses of higher quality (best and most versatile) agricultural land.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- In terms of the location of the best and most versatile agricultural land, there is a corridor of Grade 3a land to the east of the town (adjacent to the A393) between Treskerby and Lanherne Farm. However, a detailed classification has not been undertaken for most of the areas of undeveloped land in the northern and southern sections of the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- The provisional ALC dataset provided by Natural England indicates that the undeveloped areas of land within the northern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area are predominantly underlain by areas of Grade 3 (good to moderate) agricultural land. The Neighbourhood Plan area therefore has the potential to contain some areas of best and most versatile land.
- The Portreath Stream passes through the central, western and north western sections of the Neighbourhood Plan area. Additional water resources located within and within proximity to the parish include small ponds and drainage ditches alongside field margins.
- The most recently completed water quality assessments undertaken in 2019 classifies the Portreath Stream as having a 'moderate' ecological status and a 'fail' chemical status. The RNAGs are primarily attributed to diffuse and point source pollution from abandoned mines, including from nickel, zinc, copper, and cadmium.
- With reference to mineral resources, sections of land within the Neighbourhood Plan area overlap with a Metals MSA.

## What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Land, Soil and Water Resources SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Ensure the efficient and effective use of land.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the use of previously developed land?</li> <li>• Avoid the development of the best and most versatile agricultural land, which in the parish may comprise Grade 1 to 3a agricultural land?</li> <li>• Protect the integrity of mineral resources?</li> </ul>
Promote sustainable waste management solutions that encourage the reduction, re-use and recycling of waste.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the amount of waste produced?</li> <li>• Support the minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste?</li> <li>• Maximise opportunities for local management of waste in order to minimise export of waste to areas outside?</li> <li>• Encourage recycling of materials and minimise consumption of resources during construction?</li> </ul>
Use and manage water resources in a sustainable manner.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that there is no deterioration to water quality, whilst supporting improvements consistent with the aims of the River Basin Management Plan?</li> <li>• Protect surface water and groundwater resources?</li> <li>• Minimise water consumption?</li> </ul>

## 8. Population and Community

### Focus of Theme

- Population size
- Population density
- Age structure
- Deprivation
- Housing mix and affordability
- Education and skills

### Policy Context

#### 8.1 Key messages from the NPPF include:

- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is a social objective to; *'support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural wellbeing.'*
- To support the Government's objective of significantly boosting the supply of housing, strategic policies *'should be informed by a local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning guidance. In addition to the local housing need figure, any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas should also be taken into account in establishing the amount of housing to be planned for.'*
- The size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies. Where a need for affordable housing is identified, planning policies should specify the type of affordable housing required and expect it to be met on-site where possible.
- Recognise the important contribution of small and medium sized development sites in meeting housing needs. Local Plans should identify land to accommodate at least 10% of their housing requirement on sites no larger than one hectare, and neighbourhood planning groups should also consider the opportunities for allocating small and medium-sized sites.
- In rural areas, planning policies and decisions 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.
- Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, 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'* and taking a *'proactive, positive and collaborative approach'* to bringing forward *'development that will widen choice in education'*.

- 8.2 The 'Ready for Ageing?' report, published by the Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change<sup>88</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.
- 8.3 The Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies were adopted in November 2016. All of the six objectives within key themes 1 and 2 directly relate to population and communities. Furthermore, in regard to the 28 policies listed within the document, the following are relevant to this SEA theme:
- Policy 3: Role and function of places;
  - Policy 4: Shopping, services and community facilities;
  - Policy 5: Business and tourism; and
  - Policy 27: Transport and accessibility.

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

#### Population

- 8.4 **Table 8.1** below shows the change in population between the period of 2001 and 2011. The Neighbourhood Plan area saw an increase in population of approximately 13.5% between this period. This is at least 5% greater than the comparative increases observed for Cornwall, South West England, and England during this period.

**Table 8.1: Population change between 2001 and 2011<sup>89</sup>**

Population change between 2001 and 2011	Redruth	Cornwall	South West	England
2001	12,352	499,114	4,928,434	49,138,831
2011	14,018	532,273	5,288,935	53,012,456
% Population change	+13.5%	+6.6%	+7.3%	+7.9%

- 8.5 Based on mid-2019 population estimates, the total population of the Neighbourhood Plan area has grown to 15,502 residents, a further increase of approximately 10.6% since 2011 levels.
- 8.6 The Steering Group highlight that population growth is not evenly spread across the Neighbourhood Plan area. With reference to individual wards, 'Redruth North' is growing and is anticipated to continue growing at twice the rate of 'Redruth Central' and 'Redruth South'.

#### Age structure

- 8.7 **Table 8.2** (below) shows the distribution of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area in line with age. The largest group of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area are in the 60+ age category (25.8%). However, this is lower than the totals for Cornwall (29.7%), South West England (26.4%) and England (22.3%).

<sup>88</sup> Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change (2013): 'Ready for Ageing?', [online] available to access via: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/public-services-committee/report-ready-for-ageing/>

<sup>89</sup> ONS (2011) Tables KS001 (2001) and KS101EW (2011)



- 8.8 The total percentage of working age residents within the Neighbourhood Plan (i.e. those within the 25-44 and 45-59 age categories) is 45.2%. This is higher than the totals for Cornwall (43.4%) and South West England (44.7%) but lower than the total for England (46.9%).
- 8.9 Regarding the younger age categories, 29.1% of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area are under 25 years old. This is higher than the totals for Cornwall (27.0%) and South West England (28.9%) but lower than the total for England (30.8%).

**Table 8.2: Age Band (% of total)<sup>90</sup>**

Age Band (% of total)	Redruth	Cornwall	South West	England
0-15	18.8%	16.9%	17.5%	18.9%
16-24	10.3%	10.1%	11.3%	11.9%
25-44	25.7%	22.5%	24.6%	27.5%
45-59	19.5%	20.8%	20.1%	19.4%
60+	25.8%	29.7%	26.4%	22.3%
Total population	14,018	532,273	5,288,935	53,012,456

### Household deprivation

- 8.10 For those households which demonstrate deprivation in the Neighbourhood Plan area, most are deprived in one dimension. This is shown below in **Table 8.3** below and is similar to the regional and national trends. A higher percentage of households in the Neighbourhood Plan area are deprived in at least two dimensions in comparison to the regional and national trends.

**Table 8.3: Household Deprivation<sup>91</sup>**

Household Deprivation (% of total)	Redruth	Cornwall	South West	England
Household not deprived in any dimension	36.7%	40.2%	44.8%	42.5%
Deprived in 1 dimension	32.9%	34.6%	33.2%	32.7%
Deprived in 2 dimensions	23.1%	19.9%	17.6%	19.1%
Deprived in 3 dimensions	6.3%	4.8%	4.0%	5.1%
Deprived in 4 dimensions	1.1%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%

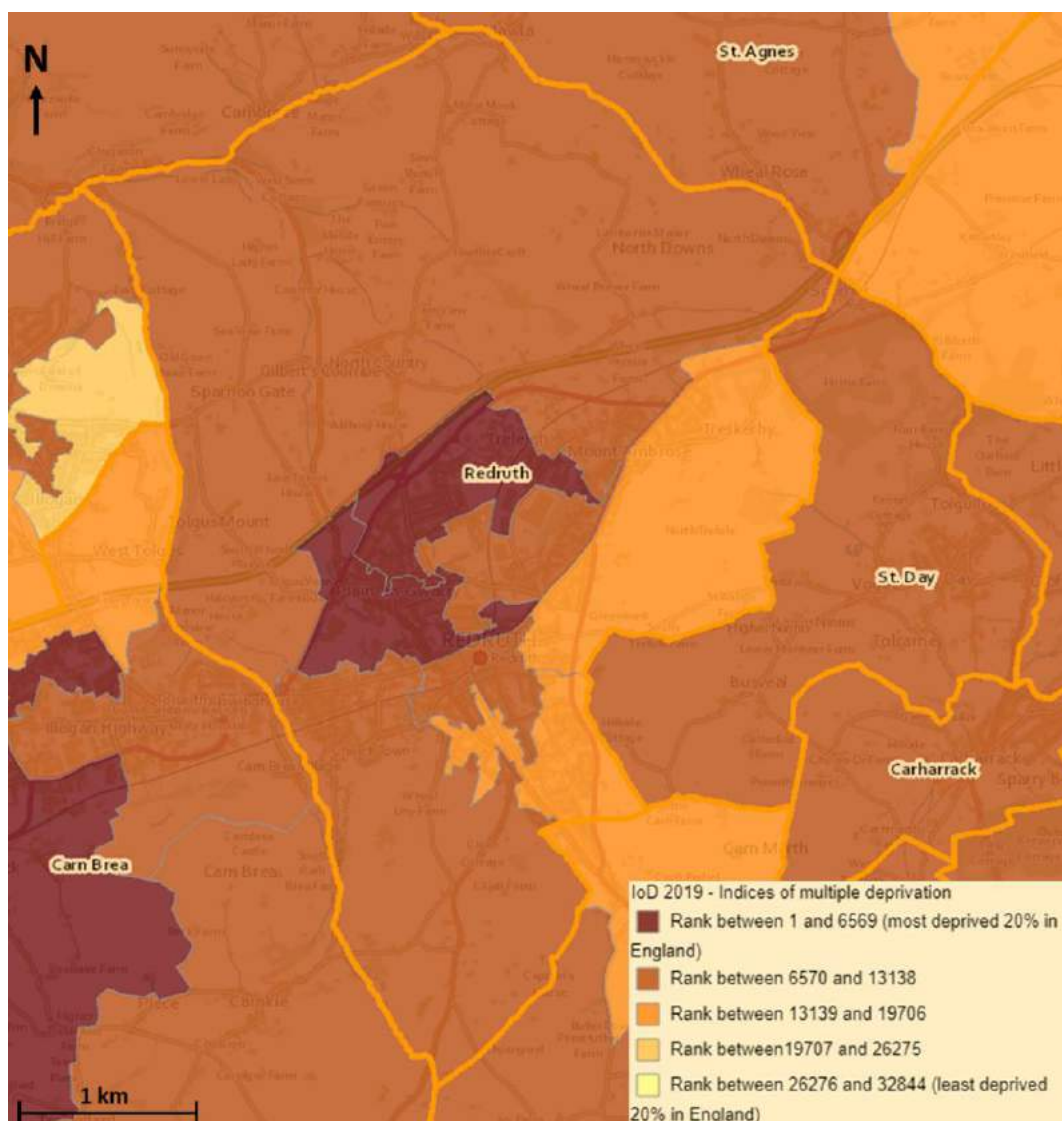
### Index of Multiple Deprivation

- 8.11 The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 (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.

<sup>90</sup> ONS (2011) Table KS102EW<sup>91</sup> ONS (2011) Table QS119EW

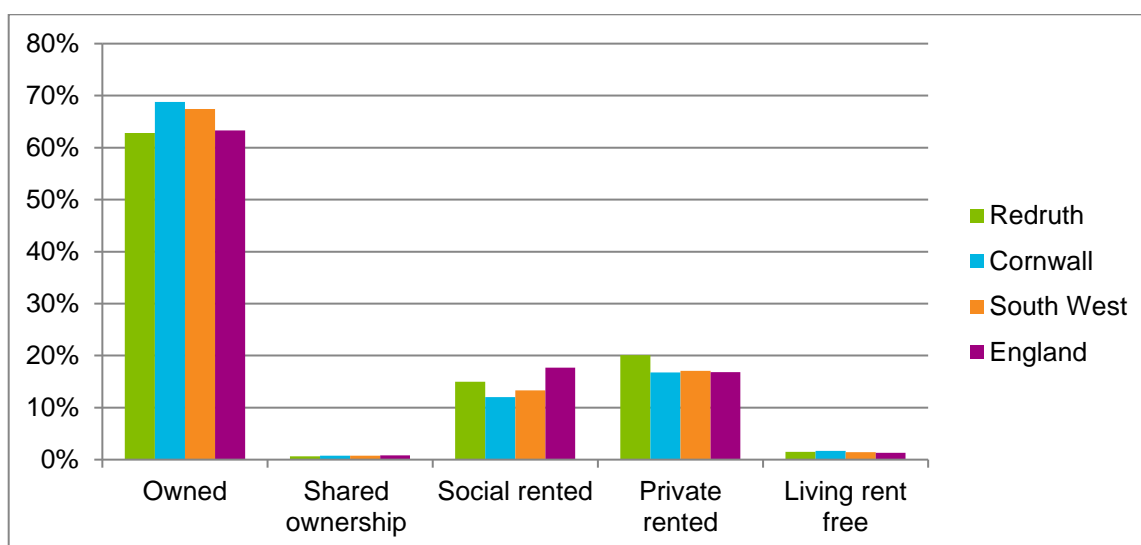
- **Education, Skills and Training:** The lack of attainment and skills in the local population.
  - **Health Deprivation and Disability:** The risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health. Morbidity, disability and premature mortality are also considered, excluding the aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation.
  - **Crime:** The risk of personal and material victimisation at local level.
  - **Barriers to Housing and Services:** The physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services, with indicators categorised in two sub-domains.
    - 'Geographical Barriers': relating to the physical proximity of local services
    - '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.
    - 'Indoors Living Environment' measures the quality of housing.
    - '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.
- 8.12 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)<sup>92</sup> 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 2019, 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.
- 8.13 In this respect, a map of the IMD in the Neighbourhood Plan area is shown in **Figure 8.1** (overleaf). The 'warmer' colours show more deprived populations in the Neighbourhood Plan area and the 'cooler' colours show less deprivation. In this respect, most of the Neighbourhood Plan area contains some of the most deprived areas in England. In particular, the areas of land within and surrounding Redruth town centre are some of the top 10% most deprived areas in England.

<sup>92</sup> DCLG (2019): Indices of Deprivation Explorer', [online] available from:  
[http://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/iod\\_index.html#](http://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/iod_index.html#)



**Figure 8.1: Levels of deprivation within the Neighbourhood Plan area**

### Housing tenure



**Figure 8.2: Household tenure<sup>93</sup>**

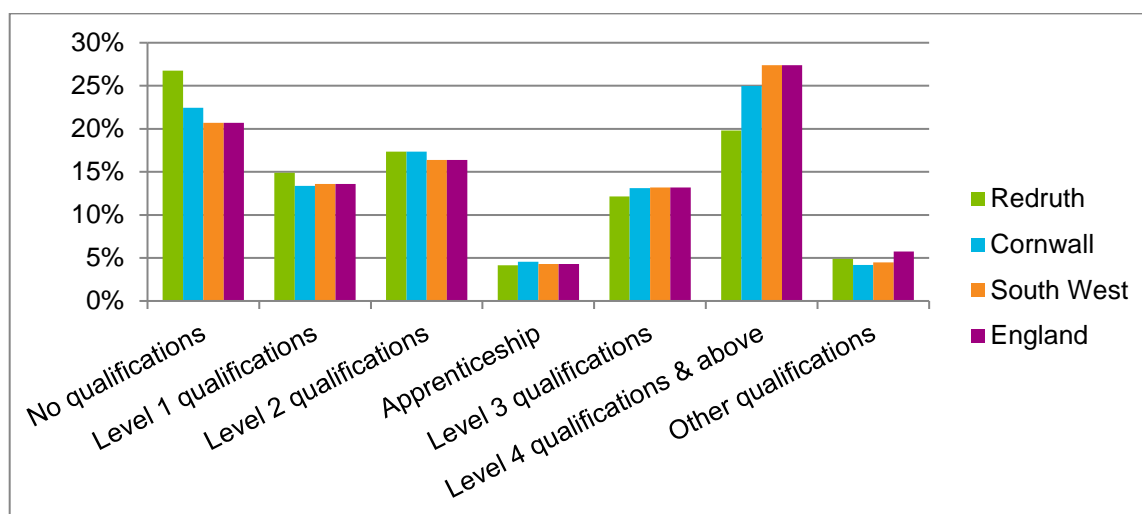
<sup>93</sup> ONS (2011) Table QS405EW



- 8.14 **Figure 8.2** (above) shows household tenure in the Neighbourhood Plan area. Most residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area own their own homes. However, the total for the Neighbourhood Plan area (62.8%) is lower than the totals for Cornwall (68.8%), South West England (67.4%) and England (63.3%). A higher percentage of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area live within socially rented or privately rented accommodation in comparison to the regional and national trends.

## Education

- 8.15 **Figure 8.3** below presents the highest level of qualification for residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area. Most residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area hold qualifications. However, the percentage of residents with no qualifications (26.7%) is higher than the regional and national totals. Fewer residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area (19.8%) have a level 4 qualification or above, in comparison to the totals observed for Cornwall (25.0%), South West England (27.4%) and England (27.4%).



**Figure 8.3: Highest level of qualification<sup>94</sup>**

- 8.16 The existing education offer within the Neighbourhood Plan area includes three primary schools and one secondary school, specifically: Pennoweth Primary School, Treleigh Community Primary School, Trewirgie Infant School and Junior School, and Redruth School and Technical College. There are approximately seven nurseries / pre-schools (based on a Google search).

## Employment and Economy

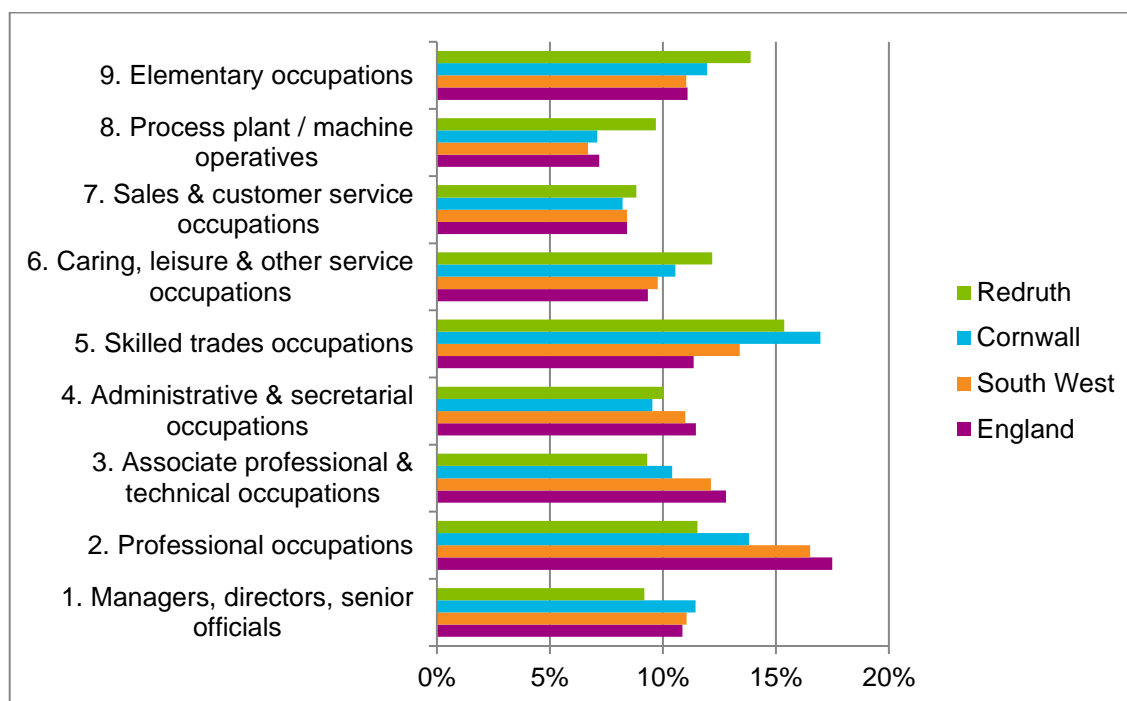
- 8.17 **Figure 8.4** (overleaf) shows occupations within the Neighbourhood Plan area as a percentage of those employed. The most representative occupational bands of residents in Redruth are:

- Skilled trades occupations (15.4%);
- Elementary occupations (13.9%); and
- Caring, leisure and other service occupations (12.2%).

- 8.18 In total, approximately 41.4% of working residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area are employed in one of the three occupation categories listed above. This is higher than the totals for Cornwall (39.5%), South West England (34.2%) and England (31.8%). Fewer residents are employed in the following three occupation categories in comparison to the regional and national trends:

- Managers, directors and senior officials;
- Professional occupations; and
- Associate professional and technical occupations.

<sup>94</sup> ONS (2011) Table QS501EW



**Figure 8.4: Occupations in the Neighbourhood Plan area<sup>95</sup>**

- 8.19 Key employment sites within the Neighbourhood Plan area include Redruth town centre, Cardrew Industrial Estate, and Treleigh Industrial Estate. Additionally, Krowji (the largest creative hub in Cornwall) provides studios, workspaces, offices, meeting rooms and other facilities for a wide range of businesses at the Old Grammar School buildings in Redruth.
- 8.20 The South West is the most visited region in the UK with approximately 21 million domestic visitors in 2017 contributing £4.5 billion to the UK economy. In this respect, the visitor economy is also an important sector for the Neighbourhood Plan area. The existing tourism offer focuses on the town's heritage assets and the World Heritage Site.

### Community assets and infrastructure

- 8.21 There are several community assets and facilities within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including (but not limited to): allotments, sports clubs (rugby, tennis and cricket), Redruth Community Centre, churches, village shops, public houses, Kreson Kernow (museum), Redruth Library, and the Regal Cinema & Theatre. Additional community assets and facilities within the town centre includes Redruth Post Office, restaurants and supermarkets.

### Summary of Future Baseline

- 8.22 As the population of the Neighbourhood Plan area continues to age, this could potentially negatively impact upon the future vitality of the local community in certain parts of the Neighbourhood Plan area, whilst also placing additional pressures to existing services and facilities.
- 8.23 The suitability (e.g. size and design) and affordability of housing for local requirements depends on the implementation of appropriate housing policies through the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan. Unplanned development may have wider implications in terms of transport and access to infrastructure, or the natural environment.
- 8.24 Additionally, there are opportunities to improve public transport networks within the Neighbourhood Plan area in order to facilitate for more sustainable modes of transport whilst alleviating pressures on main road networks. Similarly, the provision of infrastructure to promote at home (i.e. remote) working is likely to positively contribute towards these aims (particularly during the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic).

<sup>95</sup> ONS (2011) Tables KS608EW and KS610EW

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The Neighbourhood Plan area saw an increase in population of approximately 13.5% between 2001 and 2011. This is at least 5% greater than the comparative increases observed for Cornwall, South West England, and England during this period.
- The Steering Group highlight that population growth is not evenly spread across the Neighbourhood Plan area. With reference to individual wards, 'Redruth North' is growing and is anticipated to continue growing at twice the rate of 'Redruth Central' and 'Redruth South'.
- A higher percentage of households in the Neighbourhood Plan area are deprived in at least two dimensions in comparison to the regional and national trends.
- A higher percentage of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area live within socially rented or privately rented accommodation in comparison to the regional and national trends.
- Most of the Neighbourhood Plan area contains some of the most deprived areas in England. Areas of land within and surrounding Redruth town centre are some of the top 10% most deprived areas in England.
- Key employment sites within the Neighbourhood Plan area include Redruth town centre, Cardrew Industrial Estate, and Treleigh Industrial Estate.
- The services and facilities within the Neighbourhood Plan area supports community vitality and the quality of life of residents, with the availability of community assets essential for continued growth within the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- As the requirements of the working population continue to change, particularly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is likely to be a requirement for adaptable dwellings which can accommodate more flexible working practices.

## 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>• Encourage and promote social cohesion and encourage active involvement of local people in community activities?</li> <li>• Maintain or enhance the quality of life of existing local residents?</li> <li>• Improve the availability and accessibility of key local facilities, including specialist services for disabled and older people?</li> <li>• Encourage and promote employment opportunities to support economic vitality?</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>



## 9. Health and Wellbeing

### Focus of Theme

- Health indicators and deprivation
- Influences on health and wellbeing

### Policy Context

#### 9.1 Key messages from the NPPF include:

- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is a social objective to; *‘support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities’ health, social and cultural wellbeing.’*
- *‘Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and wellbeing needs – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling.’*
- Policies and decisions should take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community.
- Access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and wellbeing of communities. Development should avoid building on existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields.
- 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.

9.2 In relation to other key national messages in relation to health, Fair Society, Healthy Lives<sup>96</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”.

9.3 Health Equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 Years On (2020) has been produced by the Institute of Health Equity and commissioned by the Health Foundation to mark 10 years on from the landmark study Fair Society, Healthy Lives (The Marmot Review).<sup>97</sup>

The report highlights that:

- people can expect to spend more of their lives in poor health;
- improvements to life expectancy have stalled, and declined for the poorest 10% of women;
- the health gap has grown between wealthy and deprived areas; and
- place matters – for example living in a deprived area of the North East is worse for your health than living in a similarly deprived area in London, to the extent that life expectancy is nearly five years less.

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<sup>96</sup> The Marmot Review (2011): ‘The Marmot Review: Implications for Spatial Planning’, [online] available to access via: <https://www.nice.org.uk/media/default/About/what-we-do/NICE-guidance/NICE-guidelines/Public-health-guidelines/Additional-publications/Spatial-planning/the-marmot-review-implications-for-spatial-planning.pdf>

<sup>97</sup> Health Equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 Years on (2020) [online] available to access via <https://www.health.org.uk/publications/reports/the-marmot-review-10-years-on>

- 9.4 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.
- 9.5 Public Health England (PHE) has a key role in shaping health policy and practice across the country. In 2017 the organisation published 'Spatial Planning for Health: An evidence resource for planning and designing healthier places'.<sup>98</sup> The review provides guidance on the role of the built and natural environment in shaping health impacts. The review also explores the impacts of neighbourhood design, provision of housing, transport and the natural environment on public health. Additionally, in 2018 PHE produced a 'Healthy High Streets'<sup>99</sup> briefing which highlights how health inequalities can be addressed in the design of the built environment.
- 9.6 The Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies were adopted in November 2016. Objective 7 within key theme number 3 states to 'meet a wide range of local needs in order to improve quality of life and reduce social exclusion'. Objective 8 within key theme number 3 states to 'promote development that contributes to a healthy and safe population by providing and ensuring the appropriate levels of open space and the protection and improvement of air quality'. Furthermore, regarding the 28 policies listed within the document, the following are relevant to the Health and Wellbeing SEA theme:
- Policy 12: Design;
  - Policy 16: Health and wellbeing; and
  - Policy 25: Green infrastructure.

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

#### Green Infrastructure Networks

- 9.7 Health is a cross-cutting topic and there are natural synergies with other SEA themes including climate change, population and communities and transport. This is particularly the case in relation to green infrastructure, which is a key aspect of all these themes thanks to its multi-functionality. Green infrastructure provides space – including natural green space – for recreation and relaxation, and access to nature has been evidenced to improve people's health and wellbeing, through encouraging healthy outdoor recreation and relaxation.
- 9.8 In this respect, locally important open spaces contributing to the green infrastructure network within the Neighbourhood Plan area include (but is not limited to): Treskerby Wood, Fairfields Park, Saint Day Road Cemetery, Trewirgie Cemetery, Gwealan Tops Adventure Playground, Trefusis Park, and Victoria Park.

#### Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Cornwall

- 9.9 Reflecting the outcomes of the JSNA for Cornwall, the 2017 Health Profile for the 'Camborne, Pool, Illogan and Redruth' Community Network Area<sup>100</sup> (CNA) contains a variety of key statistics which help to build an understanding of the community needs. In doing so, the aim of the profile is to help identify where resources could be targeted to improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities. The CNA comprises ten parishes in total. Key statistics include:

<sup>98</sup> Public Health England (2017) Spatial Planning for Health An evidence resource for planning and designing healthier places [online] available at: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/729727/spatial\\_planning\\_for\\_health.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729727/spatial_planning_for_health.pdf)

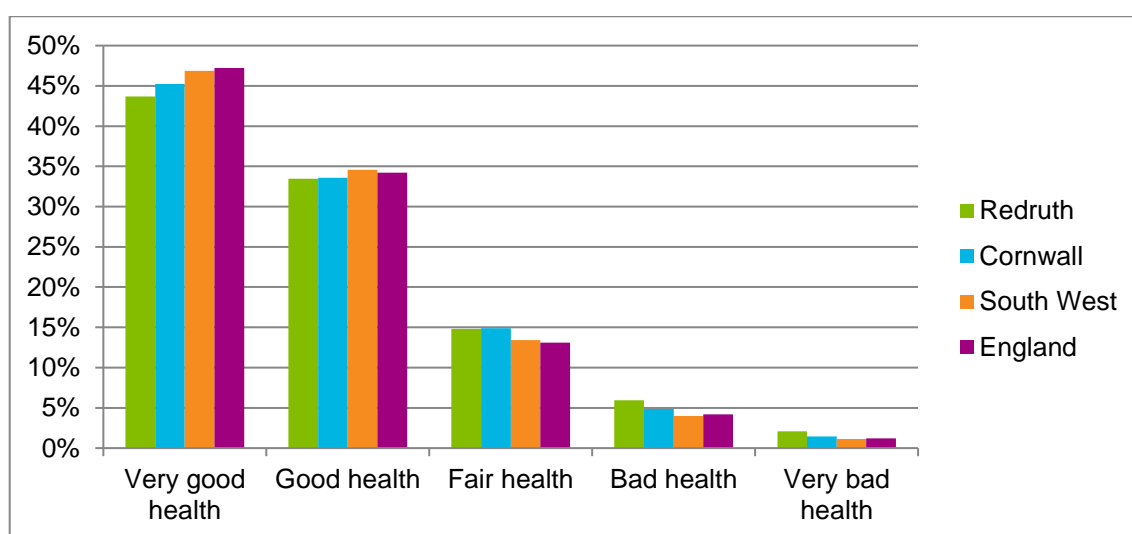
<sup>99</sup> Public Health England (2018): 'Healthy High Streets: Good Place-Making in an Urban Setting', [online] available to access via: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/healthy-high-streets-good-place-making-in-an-urban-setting>

<sup>100</sup> Cornwall Council (2017): Health Profile for Caradon CNA', [online] available to download via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/public-health-cornwall/joint-strategic-needs-assessment-jsna/community-and-health-based-profiles/community-network-health-profiles/>

- 31% of children measures in the National Child Measurement Programme were found to be overweight or obese;
- 40% of elderly people (over 65-year olds) live alone, compared to 39% across Cornwall;
- One in four residents live in the 20% most deprived neighbourhoods in England which are known to have the poorest health outcomes; and
- 30.2% of adults are classified as inactive, with a further 15.1% classified as insufficiently active.

### Indicators of health and wellbeing

9.10 Deprivation is a significant contributor to poor health and can have adverse effects on wellbeing. **Figure 9.1** below shows general health within the Neighbourhood Plan area. Around 77.1% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area demonstrate at least 'good health', lower than the totals for Cornwall (78.8%), South West England (81.4%) and England (81.4%). The percentage of residents that have 'bad' health or worse in the Neighbourhood Plan area (8.0%) is higher than the regional and national trends.



**Figure 9.1: General health<sup>101</sup>**

9.11 Based on 2011 Census data (shown below in **Table 9.1**), approximately 22.4% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area report that their daily activities are limited in some way. This is higher than the totals for Cornwall (21.4%), South West England (18.5%) and England (17.6%).

**Table 9.1: Disability<sup>102</sup>**

	Redruth	Cornwall	South West	England
Activities limited 'a lot'	11.4%	10.0%	8.3%	8.3%
Activities limited 'a little'	11.0%	11.4%	10.2%	9.3%
Activities 'not limited'	77.6%	78.6%	81.6%	82.4%

9.12 Released in 2014, Cornwall Council's Residents' Survey<sup>103</sup> was distributed to 2,973 households across the county, with 44% valid surveys returned. The minimum of 50 surveys for each of the 19 CNAs across Cornwall were completed, with the aim of the survey to assess residents' satisfaction and quality of life. Results from the survey include:

<sup>101</sup> ONS (2011) Table KS301EW

<sup>102</sup> ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Long-term Health Problem or Disability 2011' (Table QS303EW)

<sup>103</sup> Cornwall Council (2014): 'Cornwall Council Residents' Survey', [online] available to download via: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/9215380/residents-survey.pdf>



- Regarding quality of life, the following factors were deemed most important and in most need of improvement: wage levels and cost of living, affordable decent housing, road and pavement repairs, job prospects and public transport;
- 35.7% of respondents were 'very satisfied' with their local area as a place to live; and
- 48.0% of respondents were 'fairly satisfied' with their local area as a place to live.

### Health services

- 9.13 There are two main GP surgeries within the Neighbourhood Plan area, specifically: Manor Surgery and Clinton Road Surgery. Based on a recent community survey undertaken on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, 45% of households confirmed that at least one member of the household was registered with Manor Surgery. A further 25% of households reported that at least one member of the household was registered with Clinton Road Surgery. Most respondents confirmed that they were registered at a local surgery, with just 4% registered outside of Redruth by necessity. For households with more than one occupant, 83% reported that all household members were registered at the same GP surgery. Both surgeries have issues with capacity.
- 9.14 Nursing home provision within the Neighbourhood Plan area is relatively limited. However, there are eight care homes (without nursing) in Redruth, including: The Green, Garsewednack Residential Home, Albany House, Trefusis, Hillcrest, Silverdale, Acorn Park Lodge, and Clinton Lodge.
- 9.15 Located along Miners Row (directly to the north of Redruth town centre), Miners Court is currently the only Extra Care Unit in Mid and West Cornwall. It has Care and Support Assistants on-site 24 hours a day and is designed to allow residents to live independently in self-contained homes, whilst having the reassurance of full-time on-site care and support.
- 9.16 The HNA has established the need for affordable homes, housing for older people & housing for specialist needs, many of which tend to be smaller dwellings.

### Summary of Future Baseline

- 9.17 Health and wellbeing levels within the Neighbourhood Plan area are generally good, with a high percentage of residents reporting 'good' or 'very good' health, and a low percentage of residents reporting that their activities are limited in some way. However, these levels are lower than the regional and national trends.
- 9.18 An ageing population within the Neighbourhood Plan area may increase the reported cases of disability, reduce the levels of good health, and place future pressures on health services in the wider area. Similarly, ongoing cuts to community services have the potential to lead to effects on health and wellbeing to key population groups (i.e. elderly population).
- 9.19 Obesity is also seen as an increasing issue by health professionals, and one that will contribute to significant health impacts on individuals, including increasing the risk of a range of diseases, including heart disease, diabetes and some forms of cancer.
- 9.20 Poor mental health is associated with low long term life quality, a larger number of hospitalisations and deaths. Experts indicate that problems surrounding the worsening of mental health, including secondary dependencies such as alcoholism are likely to worsen over time without suitable changes within communities.

### Key Sustainability Issues

- Locally important open spaces in the Neighbourhood Plan area include: Treskerby Wood, Fairfield's Park, Saint Day Road Cemetery, Trewirgie Cemetery, Gwealan Tops Adventure Playground, Trefusis Park, and Victoria Park.
- The percentage of residents that have 'bad' health or worse in the Neighbourhood Plan area (8.0%) is higher than the regional and national trends. Approximately 22.4% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area report that their daily activities are limited in some way. This is also higher than the regional and national trends.

- The HNA has established the need for affordable homes, housing for older people & housing for specialist needs, many of which tend to be smaller dwellings.
- Access to health care provision within the Neighbourhood Plan area will continue to be important in response to population growth and an increasing ageing population.

## 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>• Address the key challenges identified in the JSNA?</li> <li>• Support green infrastructure networks?</li> <li>• Provide and enhance the provision of community access to green infrastructure in accordance with Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance access to nature via greenspace, footpaths and cycleways?</li> <li>• Promote the use of active modes of travel?</li> <li>• Encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce health inequalities?</li> <li>• Improve access to the countryside for recreational use?</li> <li>• Avoid any negative impacts to the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths?</li> </ul>

# 10. Transportation

## Focus of Theme

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

## Policy Context

10.1 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.

10.2 Key messages from the NPPF include:

- *‘Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals, so that:*
- *The potential impacts of development on transport networks can be addressed;*
- *Opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure, and changing transport technology and usage, are realised;*
- *Opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use are identified and pursued;*
- *The environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account; and*
- *Patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes and contribute to making high quality places.’*
- *‘Significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. This can help to reduce congestion and emissions and improve air quality and public health. However, opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary between urban and rural areas, and this should be taken into account in both plan-making and decision-making.’*

10.3 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. ‘Connecting Cornwall 2030’<sup>104</sup> is the third LTP for Cornwall. The plan is a strategic policy tool through which the council exercises its responsibilities for planning, management and the development of transport in the county. The vision of the plan is that by 2030 ‘transport in Cornwall will be excellent, with the transport system connecting people, communities, businesses and services in a way that is reliable, efficient, safe, inclusive and enjoyable’. In order to achieve this goal, the LTP is supported by implementation plans that cover 3-4 year periods up until 2030, with the most recent plan covering the period 2019-2021.

10.4 The Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies were adopted in November 2016. Objective 8 within key theme number 3 states to ‘promote development that contributes to a healthy and safe population by providing for opportunities for walking and cycling’. Furthermore, in regard

<sup>104</sup> Cornwall Council (2019): ‘Connecting Cornwall LTP 2030’: <<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/transport-and-streets/transport-policy/local-transport-plan-connecting-cornwall-2030/>>

to the 28 policies listed within the document, Policy 27 'Transport and accessibility' is directly relevant to the Transportation SEA theme.

## Baseline Summary

### Summary of Current Baseline

#### Rail network

- 10.5 Cornwall's rail network comprises the mainline service which runs between Penzance, Camborne, Redruth, Truro, St Austell, Bodmin Parkway, Liskeard, Saltash and Plymouth (and beyond to Exeter, Taunton, Bristol, the Midlands/the North, Reading and London Paddington), and five branch lines. There is usually one service per hour, and the Neighbourhood Plan area is relatively well connected by rail.

#### Bus network

- 10.6 Bus networks play a key role in terms of the public transport provision across Cornwall. The current bus network provides an important transport link for those people without access to a car. With reference to the Neighbourhood Plan area, there are three key services operated by Kernow, as follows<sup>105</sup>:
- T1/T2: Penzance – St Ives – Camborne – Truro (via Hayle and Redruth);
  - U2: Falmouth – Redruth (via Penryn, Penryn Campus and Lanner); and
  - 201: Camborne – Truro College (via Redruth).
- 10.7 Services are relatively frequent and pass through the town centre, with stops including Redruth Railway Station and Mount Ambrose.

#### Road network and congestion

- 10.8 The Strategic Road Network in Cornwall comprises the A30, which links Penzance, Camborne, Redruth, Bodmin, Launceston with Exeter and beyond, and the A38, which links the A30 at Bodmin with Liskeard and Plymouth. With reference to the Neighbourhood Plan area, the A30 passes to the north of the Redruth town centre and is accessible via the A3047 and A393 (on approach from the town). The A3047 extends to the west of the Neighbourhood Plan area for approximately 5km and connects Redruth to Camborne. The A393 passes along the eastern boundary of the town, extending for approximately 10km to the south east on approach to Penryn (where it joins the B3292).
- 10.9 The northern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area is relatively rural in character and is therefore less well connected in comparison to the central and southern sections (which encompass the town). The B3300 passes through the centre of the Neighbourhood Plan area (north to south) and provides connectivity to the neighbouring settlements of Portreath (to the north west) and Lanner (to the south east). Accessible at the southern boundary of the town, the B3297 extends southwards for approximately 12km where it connects to Helston.
- 10.10 While road congestion in Cornwall is not yet at a comparable level to that regularly experienced in many other areas, increased population levels and rapid economic and employment growth have led to an increased demand to travel that is impacting on the county's traffic levels, in particular, on the approaches to the main urban centres. This has resulted in a higher rate of increase in traffic flows and there is now an emerging pattern of congestion on key corridors serving Cornwall, with increasing delays and journey times and increasing seasonal congestion and peak period delays.
- 10.11 The results of a recent community survey indicated that 42% of Redruth's residents consider the existing road infrastructure to be somewhat or completely inadequate to sustain future developments. Those unhappy with the road infrastructure describe access and layout being

<sup>105</sup> Kernow (2020): 'Timetables – Redruth', [online] available to access via: <https://www.firstgroup.com/cornwall/plan-journey/timetables/?operator=6&service=redruth&page=1&redirect=no>



inadequate, traffic congestion and delays, and problems with traffic planning and constant road works.

### Public rights of way network

10.12 The Neighbourhood Plan area is relatively well served by a network of footpaths and cycle paths, as shown below in **Figure 10.1**. Additionally, the Mining Trail Network centred around Camborne and Redruth offers approximately 60km of adventure and discovery for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. In this respect, parts of the Tolgus Trail, Coast to Coast Trail, and the Redruth & Chasewater Railway Trail pass through the Neighbourhood Plan area<sup>106</sup>. However, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group note that cycle routes and footways often do not join up and have areas where connections do not exist.

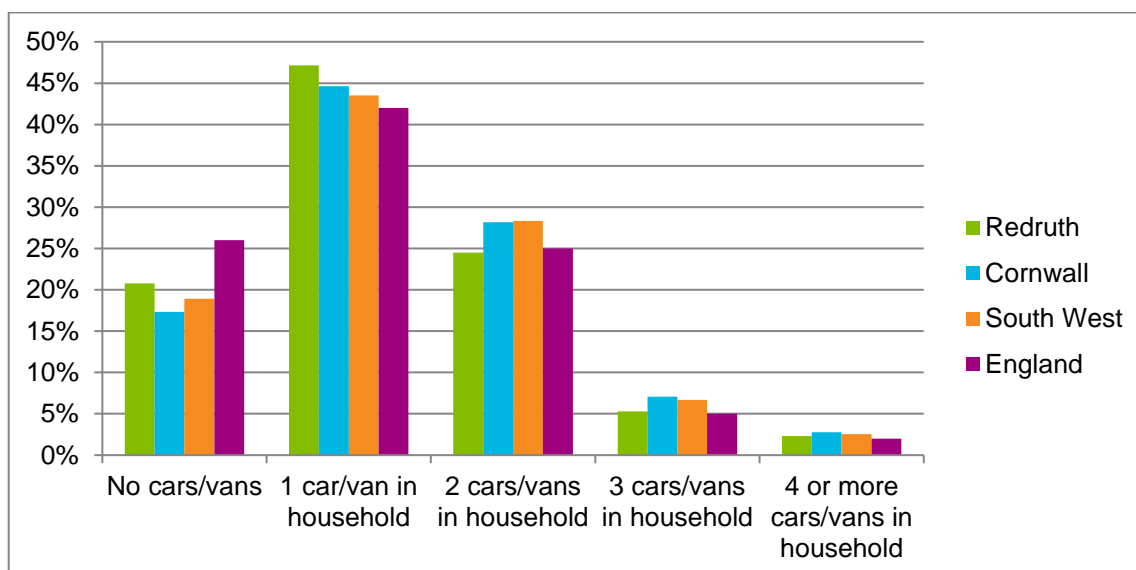


**Figure 10.1: PRoW and cycle lanes within the Neighbourhood Plan area (adapted from Cornwall Council's Interactive Map)**

### Access to cars and vans

10.13 **Figure 10.2** shows car and van ownership within the Neighbourhood Plan area. Based on the 2011 census data shown, 79.2% of households in the Neighbourhood Plan area have access to at least one car or van, lower than the totals for Cornwall (82.7%) and the South West of England (81.1%) but higher than the total for England (74.2%).

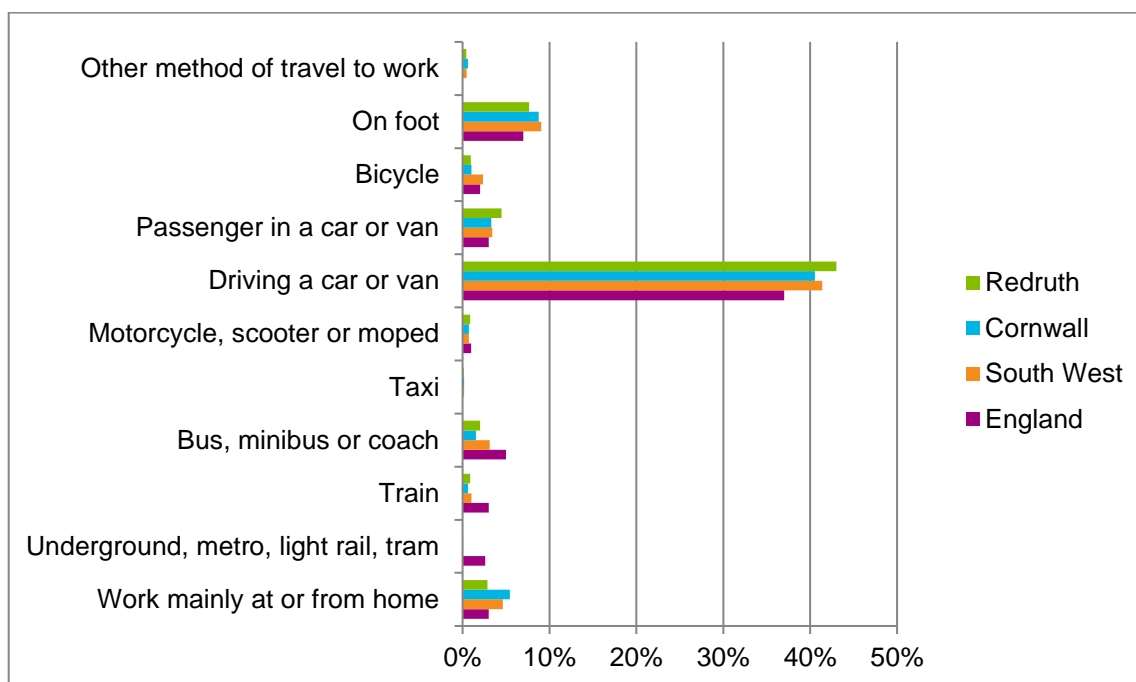
<sup>106</sup> Cornwall Council (2019): Mining Trails Leaflet', [online] available to access via: [https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/42421657/mining-trails-a2-leaflet\\_nov19\\_web.pdf](https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/42421657/mining-trails-a2-leaflet_nov19_web.pdf)



**Figure 10.2: Car and Van ownership in the Neighbourhood Plan area<sup>107</sup>**

### Method of travel to work

10.14 The most common form of travel to work for Redruth residents is via car or van (43.0%), higher than the totals for Cornwall (40.6%), South West England (41.4%) and England (37.0%). A total of 11.5% of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area choose to travel to work on foot, by cycle, by train, or by bus, minibuses or coach. This is similar to the total for Cornwall (12.0%) but lower than the totals for South West England (15.5%) and England (17.0%). This is shown below in **Figure 10.3**.



**Figure 10.3: Method of travel to work<sup>108</sup>**

<sup>107</sup> ONS (2011): Table KS404EW

<sup>108</sup> ONS (2011) Table QS701EW

## Summary of Future Baseline

- 10.15 New development has the potential to increase traffic and cause congestion within the Neighbourhood Plan area, principally at junctions on key routes. This is likely to continue to be more pronounced during peak times (i.e. rush hours). This is significant in the local context, due to the pressures from the local road network.
- 10.16 However, development within the Neighbourhood Plan area has the potential to lead to enhancements to the transport network in order to promote more sustainable modes of travel, such as the existing pedestrian and cycle network.
- 10.17 Additionally, there are opportunities to improve public transport networks within the Neighbourhood Plan area in order to facilitate for more sustainable modes of transport whilst alleviating pressures on main road networks. Similarly, the provision of infrastructure to promote at home (i.e. remote) working is likely to positively contribute towards these aims.
- 10.18 Whilst negative effects of new development on the transport network are likely to be mitigated in part by new infrastructure, there will be a continuing need for development to be situated in accessible locations.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The northern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area is relatively rural in character and is therefore less well connected in comparison to the central and southern sections (which encompass the town).
- The results of a recent community survey indicated that 42% of Redruth's residents consider the existing road infrastructure to be somewhat or completely inadequate to sustain future developments. Those unhappy with the road infrastructure describe access and layout being inadequate, traffic congestion and delays, and problems with traffic planning and constant road works.
- The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group note that cycle routes and footways often do not join up and have areas where connections do not exist.
- The recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to change travel patterns in the village in the short, medium and (potentially) longer term.

## 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>• Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel?</li> <li>• Facilitate working from home and remote working?</li> <li>• Improve road safety?</li> <li>• Reduce the impact on residents and the built environment from the road network?</li> </ul>

# 11. Next Steps

## Subsequent stages for the SEA process

- 11.1 The five stages of the SEA process<sup>109</sup> are identified below. Scoping (the current stage) is the second stage of the SEA process.
- i. Screening;
  - ii. Scoping;
  - iii. Assess reasonable alternatives, with a view to informing preparation of the draft plan;
  - iv. Assess the draft plan and prepare the Environmental Report with a view to informing consultation and plan finalisation;
  - v. Publish a 'statement' at the time of plan adoption in order to 'tell the story' of plan-making / SEA (and present 'measures concerning monitoring').
- 11.2 The next stage will involve appraising reasonable alternatives for the Redruth Neighbourhood Plan. This will consider alternative policy approaches for the plan, including, if appropriate, alternative spatial strategies. 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.
- 11.3 Once the draft 'pre-submission' plan has been prepared by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, it will be subjected to SEA and the Environmental Report prepared for Regulation 14 consultation alongside it.
- 11.4 Following subsequent submission to Cornwall Council, and consultation, the Neighbourhood Plan will be put forward for Independent Examination.

## Consultation on the Scoping Report

- 11.5 At this scoping stage, the SEA Regulations require consultation with statutory consultation bodies. The statutory consultation bodies are the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England. The Scoping Report has been released to these three statutory consultees.
- 11.6 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.
- 11.7 The consultation period runs from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 to Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Comments on the Scoping Report should be sent to:
- Ryan Putt, Environmental Consultant, AECOM
- Email address: [ryan.putt@aecom.com](mailto:ryan.putt@aecom.com)
- 11.8 All comments received on the Scoping Report will be reviewed and will influence the development of the SEA where appropriate.

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<sup>109</sup> In accordance with the stages set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance



