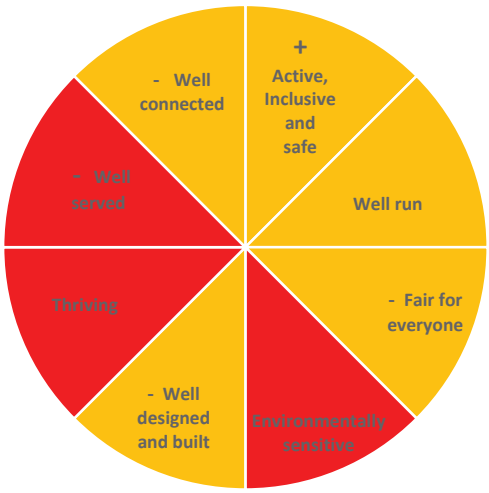
Assessing the sustainability of settlements: Bleadon

Settlement location:

- Green wedges indicate there is good evidence of sustainability characteristics for that component.
- Amber wedges indicate that there is some evidence.
- Red wedges indicate there is little evidence of sustainability characteristics for that component

Sustainability Assessment for Bleadon



1.	Sustainable Communities component	Is the component met? Factors to consider	Guide to RAG rating	Is the component met? Justification and examples:	Overall RAG rating
1. Social	**1. Active, inclusive and safe:** A community spirit is created. People are always welcome to join in events (e.g. sports, fundraising, festivals). Neighbours look out for one another, and respect each other. All people are treated fairly. There are low levels of crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour with viable, effective and community-friendly policing.	Does the community organise events and activities for itself and others for the community- are there groups/ venues suitable for all age ranges etc.?	**Green** - a wide range of activities, including those which stand out as not often found in an active village. The village may be well known for this activity. **Amber -** a smaller range of activities of those often found in an active village **Red** - a very limited range of activities, fewer than are often found in a village.	Bleadon BOB online directory of community activity. • Bridge club, art group, friendship club, photographic group, WI, dog walking group, coffee mornings, Bleadon players, School of Dance, horticultural society. • Bleadon Street Party, Barn Dance, Charity Quiz, Pantomime, choir • Short mat bowls, keep fit, croquet club, skittles group, yoga, folk dancing group • May Day Fayre. Spring Plant up- flower displays across village. • A purpose built youth club	**A +**
		Is the settlement likely to feel like a safe place to live? • Is there a neighbourhood watch scheme(s) in place? • Are there issues with crime / anti-social behaviour?	**Green** - very few reported incidents, with NW schemes and community policing **Amber** – few reported incidents, limited NW and community policing **Red** - a larger number of reported incidents, the risk	• A NW scheme network • Only a couple of reported incidents • PCSO	

		• Is there a PCSO attached to settlement?	of crime likely to make it feel less safe.		
2.	**Sustainable Communities component**	**Is the component met? Factors to consider**	**Guide o RAG rating**	**Is the component met? Justification and examples:**	**Overall RAG rating**
2. Social	**2. Well run:** When decisions are made about a community, local people are included in the decision-making process. The community enjoys a sense of civic values, responsibility and pride.	Does the Parish council meet regularly, provide an updated website/ newsletters/ noticeboard etc.? • Do the public regularly attend parish meetings? • Does the community have (or is considering preparing) a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)? • Are there any local organisations involved in delivering services or looking after vulnerable people?	**Green** – PC meets regularly and all kept informed. Public attend parish meetings. A NDP is in place. Community run organisations **Amber** - Parish information is not up-to-date. Considering preparing a neighbourhood plan. A few local organisations delivering local services. **Red** - little information on parish council activity. No NDP. No community organisations.	• Noticeboards around the village. • Encourage public to come to the meetings • Public attend when items of interest are discussed. • Quarterly Bleadon village news to all householders. • Website not as up-to-date as could be, the last meeting dates listed are 2013. • **No NDP**	**A**
3.	**Sustainable Communities component**	**Is the component met? Factors to consider**	**Guide to RAG rating**	**Is the component met? Justification and examples:**	**Overall RAG rating**
3. Social	**3. Fair for everyone:** People of all ages, races, cultures, sexes and abilities are given access	Are there focal points where people can meet to discuss things and pass on information to each other? If	**Green** - There is a range of community meeting places, including places of worship with a range of activities.	**3** community meeting places: • Coronation and Jubilee Halls	**A -**

	to services, jobs and education in the community. This fairness is not a luxury; it is normal to everyone. This fairness lasts to provide opportunities for future generations.	so, what are they? Are there places of worship with associated activities, which can	**Amber** – there are fewer meeting places with associated activities. **Red** – limited places for the community to meet and very few activities held.	• Church of St Peter and St Paul – Sunday club, Candle making workshop, fun Sunday. • Church Hall holds regular coffee mornings.	
		Are there a range of local employment opportunities, suitable for those living within the community? Or is the community reliant on one of two big employers?	**Green** - a good range of opportunities are available **Amber** - a limited range of opportunities are available **Red** - very few opportunities	Few opportunities within the village. However, good bus services to Weston-super-Mare.	
		Does the housing stock meet the needs of local people? Or do house prices cause problems for the local community? (data 2011 Parish Census)	**Green** - yes a good range of types and tenures **Amber** - some range of types and tenures **Red** - very limited range, skewed towards a single type/ tenure	The house type is skewed towards majority detached, very few smaller properties: • Detached = 66.6% • Semi-detached = 19.6% • Terraced = 4.0% • Flats = 0.6% • Mobile homes = 8.3% Nearly 90% owned, with only 10% rented properties, which is lower than most areas.	
		What are the Ofsted Report score(s) for the school(s) (June 14)	**Green** - outstanding **Amber** - good **Red** - requires improvement	N/A as no school in Bleadon	
4.	**Sustainable Communities component**	**Is the component met? Factors to consider**	**Guide to RAG rating**	**Is the component met? Justification and examples:**	**Overall RAG rating**

4. Environmental	**4. Environmentally sensitive:** Actively seek to minimise climate change (e.g. people are encouraged to recycle and save water, live in homes that do not waste electricity and that are built on waste land so that no new forest/ fields are destroyed). Create cleaner, safer and greener neighbourhoods (e.g. by reducing litter and graffiti and maintaining pleasant public spaces).	Is the community taking steps to make it more environmentally sustainable, more resilient? I.e. provision of allotments or community recycling schemes?	**Green** - there is range of community growing places/ recycling schemes. A community resilience/ transition group **Amber** - Some community recycling/ allotments/ orchards/ other activity **Red** - no known community recycling/ allotments/ orchards or other environmental activity	• No community transition initiative. • No detail of local recycling schemes.	**R**
		What is the probability of surrounding agricultural land being classified as Best and Most Versatile? (Grades 1,2 and 3a)	**Green** – majority low probability of BMV **Amber** – a mix of high, moderate and low probabilities of BMV **Red** – mainly high probability of BMV	A small amount of high probability, but predominantly medium and low probability.	
		Is the settlement susceptible to flooding (flood zone?) and/ or recently experienced flooding? Is it within or adjacent to any environmentally sensitive / high quality or designated landscapes?	**Green** - not in flood zone or at high risk of flooding and not in proximity to environmentally sensitive areas **Amber** - partially in flood/ some risk of flooding. Some environmentally sensitive areas. **Red** - in flood zone and deemed high risk and/or	• Within FZ 3a. • Is also susceptible to surface water flooding. • Bleadon Hill, Mendip Hill & Purn Hill SSSIs • Uphill Cliff SAC nature reserve. • Adjacent to Mendip Hills AONB	

			within or close proximity to a range of sensitive areas		
5.	**Sustainable Communities component**	**Is the component met? Factors to consider**	**Guide to RAG rating**	**Is the component met? Justification and examples:**	**Overall RAG rating**
5. Environmental	**5. Well designed and built:** A sense of place (e.g. a place with a positive feeling for people and local distinctiveness). Buildings are attractive, safe and useful to the people who use them. Buildings that people want to go into. Lots of open space for people to play and relax.	Does the village have a distinct character/ sense of place? There will be a good range/type of buildings with architectural and heritage value? Is there a conservation area?	**Green** – yes there is a distinct character/ sense of place **Amber** - some individual character/ sense of place **Red** – no real sense of place	Listed buildings but no conservation area	**A -**
		Is there a range of useful accessible public open space is available? Are these well managed and fit for purpose?	**Green -** there is a range available which are well managed **Amber** - limited, but well managed **Green** - v few and not well managed, fill for purpose	1 play area only.	
6.	**Sustainable Communities component**	**Is the component met? Factors to consider**	**Guide to RAG rating**	**Is the component met? Justification and examples:**	**Overall RAG rating**

6. Economic	**6.Thriving:** Local people have the opportunity to make money and have a good quality of life. They are encouraged to open up small businesses and spend their wages locally to help improve other people's businesses. Successful businesses create more jobs for more people and better standards of living for more people in the community.	• Are there a range of strong established local businesses? • Are businesses growing or declining? (data from retail survey comparison 2007–2015) • Are there community initiatives to support local businesses? E.g. farmers markets • Do businesses provide the opportunity for residents to work locally? (Measured by % self-containment - those who work from home or work within 2km of where they live?) • What is the number of business start-ups registered compared with other settlements? (*new business accounts 2014-15*)	**Green** – there is a strong and diverse businesses community which may be growing. Community initiatives supporting local business sector. Relatively high levels of self-containment. Relatively high levels of business start-ups. **Amber** –fewer businesses, but offer employment for some of local community. Average levels of self-containment and business start-ups. **Red** – declining business numbers and few people live and work within settlement**.** Few business start-ups.	There are not a range of local centre businesses or sectors located in the village. Data on units in use or business start-ups and self-containment is not available. Bleadon does have a monthly Village Market in the Coronation Hall	**R**
7.	**Sustainable Communities component**	**Is the component met? Factors to consider**	**Guide to RAG rating**	**Is the component met? Justification and examples:**	**Overall RAG rating**

7. Economic	**7. Well served:** High quality services for families and children (including early year's childcare). A good range of affordable public, community and voluntary and private services (e.g. retail, fresh food commercial, utilities, information and advice) that are accessible to the whole community.	Do people have access within the community to key services? If none, where is the nearest? **(schedule attached)** • Early years, Primary, Secondary, Tertiary • Hospital, GP, Dentists, Pharmacies, Opticians, Children centres, other e.g. physiotherapy • Community meeting places e.g. churches • Leisure centre, other sports facilities/clubs/gyms • Parks/ public spaces • Libraries • Public houses • Post office • Banks, ATMs	Choose RAG on circumstance most similar to description: **Green** – A primary school and some pre-school provision with spaces. Secondary within close proximity. A library with associated activities. A post office. A full range of healthcare/ sporting options and pubs & cafes. **Amber** – Schools, but limited spaces. A mobile library service only. Post office in nearby village/town. Limited health care/ sporting and pubs & cafes. **Red** – no easily accessible school. No library service. Few sporting options. No post office. None or just one pub/café.	**See Facilities schedule:** A limited range of facilities within the village. There are no schools or Healthcare. There is a mobile library and post office provision through the country stores. Those not within acceptable walking distance: • Primary school ~4.5km • Secondary school ~4km • Hospital ~3.5km • Dentist ~6km • Pharmacy ~6km • Opticians ~7km • Leisure centre ~6km	**R**

		What is the range of retail provision? If none, where is the nearest? **(schedule attached)** • Large, medium, express supermarket/ convenience store • Other food/ drink shop e.g. butchers/ bakers • Post office • Banks, ATMs • Non-food shops • Other (e.g. hairdressers) • Restaurants/cafes/ takeaways	**Green** – more than one shop and a (mini) supermarket, plus a range of other useful shops to meet every day needs. **Amber** – a limited range of top-up shops, which would satisfy basic needs, but would require trips to other retail outlets. **Red** – very limited options, which would not satisfy basic requirements, therefore will always require a trip to other places.	**See facilities schedule:** • There isn't a convenience store, but there is a combined country store/ farm shop/ coffee house • Local sales of veg/ eggs etc The nearest supermarkets are: • Large ~7km. • Medium ~ 4km	
8.	**Sustainable Communities component**	**Is the component met? Factors to consider**	**Guide to RAG rating**	**Is the component met? Justification and examples:**	**Overall RAG rating**

8. Economic	**8. Well connected:** The transport facilities, including public transport, help people to travel within and between communities and reduce dependence on cars. There are facilities to encourage safe local walking and cycling.	Are there sufficient means in place to help people access employment, education and services without reliance on a private car? • Is the settlement well connected with respect to principal roads, rail, regular bus services and, footpath and cycling networks? • Are there good connections to the nearby communities? • Does the settlement have superfast broadband provision?	**Green** – there's a rail station and good bus services. High percentage of people using sustainable travel methods with good footpath and cycling networks connecting to nearby communities. Good broadband coverage. **Amber –** can access a rail station and fairly good bus services and some cycle routes. Patchy broadband connection. **Red** - Most people use private car for commuting, some distance from a rail station, with few footpath and cycling networks available. No broadband connection	• 1.6% people use the train • 1.4% use the bus • 0.4% cycle • 4.3% walk Therefore **7.7%** use sustainable travel methods. This is **relatively low** for those recorded. • No rail station, closest is W-s-M (~5km). • An hourly daytime bus to Weston super Mare. • No cycling routes. • Good PROW network • Superfast broadband • Bleadon Hill is considered very poorly served, principally due to gradients accessing services on foot and bicycle.	**A -**
		Is the road design/ layout fit for purpose? Are there any capacity, congestion or safety issues?	**Green** - yes, no real issues with congestion/ safety **Amber** - some issues with congestion/ safety at peak times **Red** - recognised issues	No issues with congestion, but there are safety issues accessing onto the busy A370. If accident on the A370 that will impact severely on the village.	

Appendix D: Relative settlement sustainability at a glance

A green rating is given to those sustainability characteristics that are easily identified with associated evidence, amber to those which are met to a lesser extent and a red where there is little evidence of the characteristic being present.

The RAG ratings can be used to produce a hierarchy by giving a notional score to ratings, where a Green rating scores 3, Amber scores 2 and a Red component scores 1. The addition of the plus or minus scores, allows the settlements to be ranked in order of their relative sustainability and therefore the settlement hierarchy to be produced.

	Social			Environmental		Economic		
	1. Active inclusive and safe	**2. Well Run**	**3. Fair for everyone**	**4. Environ-mentally sensitive**	**5. Well designed & built**	**6. Thriving**	**7. Well served**	**8. Well connected**
Service Villages:								
1. Backwell	-			-	+	+		-
2. Long Ashton	-	-			+		+	-
3. Yatton	+	+			+	-	+	
4. Winscombe		+		-	-		-	-
5. Congresbury	+	+		+	+	+	-	+
6. Easton in Gordano/ Pill		-			-	+	-	
7. Banwell	+	+	+		+	-		
8. Churchill		+		-		-		-
9. Wrington		-	+			-	-	+
Infill Villages:								
1. Sandford			-		-			-
2. Locking		+		-	-	-		-
3. Claverham			-	-				
4. Bleadon	+		-		-		-	-