OLP2040 Site assessment proforma (including Sustainability Appraisal)

Site name	Osney Warehouse	Site location plan
	and St Thomas School	
	House	
HELAA reference	616	The Lion Brewery
Ward	Osney & St Thomas	2 2 14 to 25
Site size	0.41ha	O\$NEY ANE STATE OF Hamel Walk
Existing use	St Thomas School	
	House is currently	
	occupied by multiple	St Thomas School House
	social enterprises	g Empress Court
	including Broken	
	Spoke Bike Co-op.	
	Osney Warehouse is	i d
	currently occupied by	
	OVADA - a visual arts	
	company that	
	includes studio,	
	exhibition and	
	education spaces.	

Stage 1 assessment – are there any clear conflicts with national planning policy and/or any insurmountable environmental or physical constraints?

Assessment criteria	Outcome	Comments
Is the site an SAC or SSSI?	No	
Is the site greenfield in flood zone 3b?	No	Brownfield site, the majority of which lies in Flood Zone 2
Is the site area less than 0.25ha?	No	The two sites combined are greater than 0.25ha
Is the site already at an advanced stage in the planning process (development commenced)?	No	Both sites are currently in use

Stage 1 conclusion: No clear conflicts with national policy or insurmountable environmental or physical constraints. Continue to Stage 2 assessment.

Stage 2 assessment – Qualitative assessment of deliverability (incorporating Sustainability Appraisal)

SA Objective 1: To achieve the city's ambition to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2040. *See SA Objective 8 for decision-making criteria*

SA Objective	SA Objective 2: To build resilience to climate change, including reducing risks from overheating, flooding and the resulting detriment to well-being, the economy and the environment.	
Decision-	Is the use p	roposed suitable given the flood zone of the site?
making criteria		
	SA rating	Comments
What flood	-	Most of the site(s) lies within Flood Zone 2
zone is the site		
in		
Flooding of land	-	Surrounding access to the site off Osney Lane and Oxpens Road also
surrounding site		lies within Flood Zone 2
for access/		
egress		

SA Objective	SA Objective 3: To encourage the efficient use of land through good design and layout, and minimise the use of greenfield and Green Belt land		
Decision-making	Will the site	Will the site make use of previously developed land/buildings?	
criteria	Will the site be on Green Belt land?		
	SA rating	SA rating Comments	
Previously	0	Sites are previously developed land. Various social enterprises are	
developed land		using the former school house, whilst the warehouse is in use as	
		visual arts studio and exhibition space.	
Green Belt	0	Site is not on Green Belt land	

SA Objective	SA Objective 4: To meet local housing needs by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent affordable home	
Decision-making	Will the site provide significant quantities of net new housing?	
criteria	Will it improve the availability of decent affordable housing?	
	SA rating	Comments
Housing	1	The two sites in combination have the potential to deliver more than
provision		10 new homes
Affordable	1	Depends on implementation
housing		
provision		

SA Objective SA Objective 5: To reduce poverty, social exclusion, and health inequalities	
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Decision-making	Will it improve opportunities for people in the most deprived areas?	
criteria		
	SA rating	Comments
Regeneration	++	Site is in a regeneration area (lies within top 20% of the most
areas		deprived areas as defined by the 2019 Indices of Multiple
		Deprivation)

SA Objective	SA Objective 6: To provide accessible essential services and facilities	
Decision-making	Will it increase the provision of essential services and facilities?	
criteria		
	SA rating	Comments
Community facilities	I	One of the sites (former St Thomas School House) is currently occupied by more than one social enterprise which brings benefits to the local community. If the site is developed, these social enterprises will have to relocate. Unlikely that the site will increase the provision of essential services and facilities due to its size but difficult to
		ascertain until implementation.

See also SA Objective 8

SA Objective	SA Objective 7: To provide adequate green and blue infrastructure, leisure and recreation opportunities and make these readily accessible for all; and to conserve and enhance Oxford's biodiversity	
Decision-making	Will it increas	se the provision of public open space?
criteria	Will it protec	t and enhance existing flora, fauna and habitats?
	SA rating	Comments
Public open	1	Depends on implementation.
space		
Ecology and	+	Contains no nature conservation designations but has potential for
biodiversity		nature conservation interest.

SA Objective	SA objective 8: To reduce traffic and associated air pollution by improving travel choice, shortening journeys and reducing the need to travel by car/ lorry (also SA objective 1: To achieve the city's ambition to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2040)	
Decision-making	Will it enco	urage walking cycling and use of public transport?
criteria	Is the site within an Air Quality Management Area?	
	SA rating	Comments
Sustainable	+	<400m from a bus stop with frequent service every 20 minutes.
transport links		Multiple routes and at peak times service every 5-10 minutes (Park
(bus stop)		End Street – Stop D6)
Sustainable	++	<800m from Oxford Rail Station
transport links		
(rail station)		

Primary schools	-	>800m from the nearest primary school (West Oxford Community
		Primary School)
Secondary	-	
schools		>800m from the nearest Secondary School (The Cherwell School
		North Site)
GP surgeries	-	>800m from nearest GP Surgery (although Luther Street Medical
		Centre is within 850m)
Post office	-	>800m from nearest post office (although Oxford Post Office is 850m
		away)
Air quality		Site is within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)

SA Objective	SA Objective 9: To achieve water quality targets and manage water resources	
Decision-making	Does the site contain, or is it near, a water body?	
criteria		
	SA rating	Comments
Water	0	Site is not within 30m of a water body

SA Objective	SA Objective 10: To promote good urban design through the protection and enhancement of the historic environment and heritage assets while respecting local character and context and promoting innovation.	
Decision-making criteria	Does the site contain any historical, or archaeological features?	
	SA rating	Comments
Archaeology	-	Site lies within an area where there is potential for archaeological importance
Conservation Areas & Register of Parks and Gardens (RPG	-	Site partly lies within Central (University & City) Conservation Area
Listed Buildings	0	Site contains no identified historic building constraint
View Cones	0	Site lies outside of a view cone
High Buildings Area	-	Site lies within the City Council's locally designated high buildings area.

SA Objective	SA Objective 11: To achieve sustainable inclusive economic growth, including the development and expansion of a diverse and knowledge-based economy and the culture/leisure/ visitor sector	
Decision-making	Will it support key sectors that drive economic growth?	
criteria	Will it increase the quantity and quality of employment opportunities?	
	SA rating	Comments
Employment	1	No jobs or economic floorspace would be lost in the knowledge-
Opportunities		based economy given that the existing uses of the buildings are
		related to social enterprises and a visual arts studio. Will depend on
		implementation if there is to be a gain or no change.

	Current uses support a diversification of the employment base,
	therefore depending on implementation, there is potential to lose
	this if the site is redeveloped.

Other constraints which could affect suitability of site for development				
Can access for vehicles be achieved?	Yes – vehicular access is currently off Oxpens Road with limited potential to use Osney Lane due to no vehicular access onto Hollybush Row/Oxpens Road from the site.			
Can walking and cycling connections with the surrounding area be achieved?	Yes – there are already some connections in place and pedestrian only access routes can be utilised to reach further into the city centre			
Does the site include any significant physical features such as trees, rivers/streams or changes in ground level?	Site is level and no significant physical features are present			
Are land contamination issues likely?	Potential for contamination issues at eastern portion of the site due to the former use of the warehouse (Underhills Hide and Skin Market)			
Does the site adjoin a sensitive land use? Is there an adjoining land use that may cause disturbance or environmental issues such as noise or smells?	Surrounding land uses are mixed including residential, educational and employment. Not particularly sensitive given that the site in question is in employment use, although acknowledge that little noise/ other nuisance is likely to be generated given the current operation/ nature of use is likely to be fairly quiet with limited vehicular movements.			

Stage 2 conclusion

Continue to Stage 3 Assessment. The site is previously developed land and location is suitable for sustainable development. The site is also not sensitive from an ecological perspective and any heritage constraints identified are not insurmountable.

Stage 3 assessment – Qualitative assessment of deliverability and consideration of potential sustainability impacts. Identification of preferred options

Is there confirmed landowner intention to develop	Yes, these sites were submitted in the latest call for sites (autumn 2021) and the form indicates that the sites are available now.
Does the landowner specify types	The landowner identifies that a mix of uses would be appropriate
of development	including a variety of employment uses and/or specialist elderly/ retirement living, student accommodation and housing.

Stage 3 conclusion

The former West End Area Action Plan identified that this site was suitable for housing and this site assessment indicates that there is still potential for this type of development on the site.

Preferred option: Allocate for housing