

Cheshire West & Chester Council

Local Plan

Part Two: Land Allocations and Detailed Policies



Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Update December 2015

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Cheshire West
and Chester

1	Introduction	2
2	Sustainability Appraisal process	6
3	Climate change and energy	11
4	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	18
5	Water	26
6	Air	36
7	Land and resources	42
8	Waste	50
9	Cultural heritage and landscape	58
10	Population and human health	68
11	Housing	77
12	Community safety	84
13	Economic development	88
14	Summary	103
A	List of plans	109
	International	110
	National	130
	Regional	166
	Local	185
B	Quality assurance checklist	221
C	SEA Screening determination	225

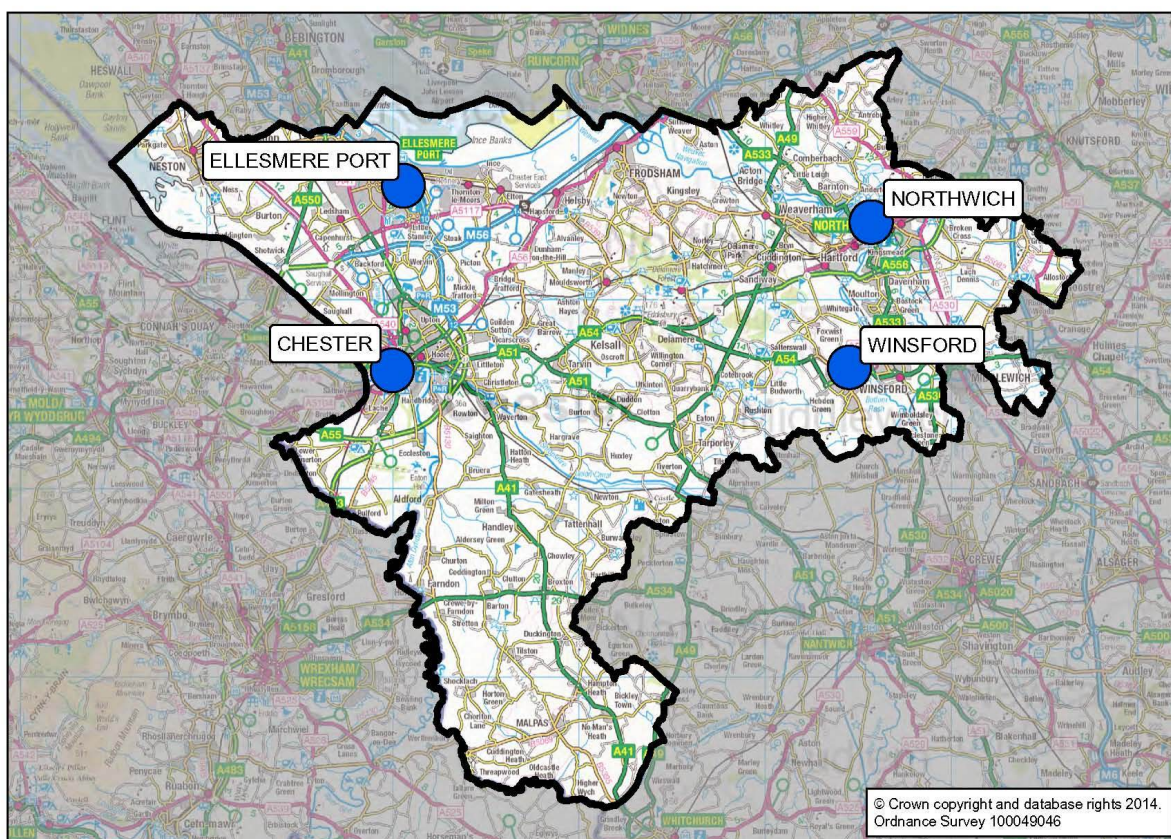
1 Introduction

Introduction to the scoping report

1.1 This is the scoping report October 2015 update for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

1.2 A scoping report brings together the results of the initial stages of the SA process. It sets out baseline information on a wide range of topics, highlighting key trends, issues and objectives for the area. A key output of the scoping report is the sustainability framework. This will be used to appraise the sustainability of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

1.3 This scoping report is based upon that of the Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies, but has been fully revised with reference to the continued relevance of issues, documents, indicators and objectives. It provides up-to-date baseline information and an up-to-date list of the contextual plans, programmes and strategies that could influence the preparation of the Council's Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. This background information is the basis of the sustainability framework that will be used to appraise the Council's forthcoming Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies and future Local Development Documents.



1.4 The updated baseline indicators and contextual documents has revealed that many of the sustainability issues identified for the work on the Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies Sustainability Appraisal are still relevant. The limited change in local circumstances means that the overarching sustainability objectives set out in the original sustainability framework have remained fundamentally unchanged, with only minor amendments to allow for clarity of assessment.

1.5 The scoping report review has been undertaken to meet the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).

1.6 The baseline information and sustainability framework is set out in a series of chapters dealing with a wide range of sustainability topics as follows:

- Climate Change and Energy
- Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
- Water
- Air
- Land and Resources
- Waste
- Cultural Heritage and Landscape
- Population and Human Health
- Housing
- Community Safety
- Economic Development

1.7 For each topic a summary is provided of relevant documents and information sources from which baseline information has been extracted. This provides a picture of the current situation with regard to each particular topic. Information on trends is then presented where available and targets included where they exist. For each topic area key issues and problems are identified, taking account of decisions already made in the Local Plan (Part One). It also includes sustainability objectives, sub-objectives/criteria and indicators. A list of all of the sustainability objectives, which together make up the appraisal framework, is included in the final summary in chapter 14 'Summary'.

1.8 A full list of relevant international, national, regional and local plans, policies and programmes is included in Appendix A: 'List of plans'.

The Local Plan

1.9 The Unitary Authority of Cheshire West and Chester was established on 1 April 2009 replacing the former Cheshire County Council, Vale Royal Borough Council, Chester City Council and Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council. The borough covers 916 square kilometres and is the fourth largest unitary authority in the North West. It is bounded on the west by the Welsh border, to the north by the Mersey Valley, to the east by Cheshire East and to the south by the Shropshire border. The borough includes the historic town of Chester, industrial towns of Ellesmere Port, Northwich, and Winsford, together with smaller settlements such as Neston, Frodsham, Helsby and Malpas.

The Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan will form the statutory development plan for the borough. The Local Plan is being developed in two parts, (Part One) Strategic Policies and (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. The Council's aim is to produce a comprehensive planning framework to achieve sustainable development in the borough.

The Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies provides the overall vision, strategic objectives, spatial strategy and strategic policies for the borough to 2030. This includes setting out the level and location of new housing and employment land as well as the identification of a number of strategic sites. The Local Plan (Part One) was adopted by the council on the 29th January 2015.

1.10 The Council is currently in the process of developing its Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. Once the Local Plan (Part Two) is in place, this, along with the Local Plan (Part One) will replace existing saved Local Plan policies which cover the former districts of Chester, Ellesmere Port and Neston and Vale Royal.

Council Plan

1.11 The Council has identified the most important priorities it is going to take forward in the Council Plan Altogether Better 2011-15. The detailed priorities are:

- Housing which meets the needs of our residents
- Improved opportunities to independent living
- Dynamic local economy offering real opportunities for all
- An excellent transport system which is accessible, safe, well maintained and sustainable
- Lower levels of crime and anti social behaviour
- First class services which champion and protect our vulnerable adults, families and children
- A narrower gap between our most and least disadvantaged communities
- Early help and support for children and families
- High quality cultural, sport and recreational opportunities
- Healthier and more active lifestyles sustainable, resilient and attractive environment
- Local people solving local problems
- Efficient and responsive services

1.12 It should be noted that the current Council Plan is likely to be replaced soon. The Council Plan is an important part of the policy context in which the SA of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is being carried out and has been used to inform the appraisal framework set out in this Scoping Report.

2 Sustainability Appraisal process

2.1 Planning authorities must ensure that their Local Plans are centred around the concept of sustainable development. Fundamentally, this is about balancing social, economic and environmental needs. Crucial to achieving this is the use of Sustainability Appraisal (SA).

2.2 SA is a process that identifies and reports on the likely effects of a plan and the extent to which the plan's implementation will impact upon the environmental, social and economic objectives for an area. The Council's SA must meet the requirements of two principal pieces of legislation:

- The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and
- The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulation 2004, which seeks to implement the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.

2.3 The overall aims of the Council's SA are:

- To ensure that all aspects of sustainable development are fully integrated into the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies throughout its preparation;
- To consult on the SA procedure, allowing the public and stakeholders to have an input into the process;
- To provide an assessment of the potential environmental, economic and social effects of the plan; and
- To meet the requirements of the SEA Directive.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

2.4 A SEA Screening Determination for the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies was undertaken prior to the commencement of the Scoping Report. It has now been updated in light of the current position in preparation of the Local Plan (Part Two) and current legislation. The SEA Screening Determination is included within this document at Appendix C: 'SEA Screening determination'. The Council is of the view that the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is likely to have potentially significant environmental effects. Accordingly, the SA of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will incorporate the requirements of an environmental assessment, in line with the SEA Directive.

2.5 To show how the requirements of the SEA directive are met during the appraisal process, a checklist is provided in Appendix B: 'Quality assurance checklist'.

SA methodology

2.6 The following sections contain a brief summary of the key SA stages the Council will complete during the course of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies production. The methodology used follows national guidance on the appraisal of Local Plans.

2.7 There are several stages in the SA process:

- **Stage A** – Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope
- **Stage B** – Developing and refining plan options
- **Stage C** – Appraising the effects of the plan
- **Stage D** – Consulting on the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies and the SA Report
- **Stage E** – Monitoring and implementation of the plan

Stage A - Scoping

2.8 This is the current stage and includes five key elements:

- **Stage A1** - the identification of key national, regional and local policies and programmes which will impact on the emerging Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies (see Appendix A: 'List of plans');
- **Stage A2** - the collection of baseline information to provide a picture of past, present and likely future conditions within the area (see Chapters 3-13). Where possible data trends have been identified. For the purposes of assessment, it has been assumed that these trends will continue, as identified, without the implementation of the new policies. Key sources of information include census data; population forecasts; commissioned studies and stakeholder consultation. Through this stage, indicators can be developed to monitor the effects and performance of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies;
- **Stage A3** - identification of sustainability issues and problems affecting the area, which can be addressed through the development of strategies and policies within the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies (see Chapters 3-13);
- **Stage A4** - development of a SA framework to assess the impacts of the emerging Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies objectives, policies and proposals (see Chapter 14 'Summary');
- **Stage A5** - consultation on the appropriateness and robustness of the scope of the SA and proposed appraisal framework.

Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects

2.9 Stage B will be undertaken alongside the development of Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. In this stage of the SA, the emerging Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies objectives will be tested against the sustainability objectives identified in the Scoping Report.

2.10 The likely effects of policy options on the baseline information will then be predicted and evaluated in terms of their significance. Where any potential adverse impacts are identified, mitigation measures will be proposed accordingly and there may also be opportunities to maximise any beneficial effects.

2.11 Similarly, proposed allocated sites, and their reasonable alternatives, will also be assessed. This assessment will be based upon the SA objectives identified in this document, where appropriate. To adequately assess sites more specific information will be required. Without greater clarity as to which sites are likely to be allocated, and for what reasons, it is difficult to identify what information will be

required, and how this assessment will take place. Site profiles will be produced, detailing the relevant site specific information, in time for the appraisal of the next version of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

2.12 Monitoring mechanisms for evaluating the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will also be put in place.

Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal report

2.13 The SA report will present information on how sustainability issues have been considered in the preparation of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. It will include references to the sustainability objectives and how proposals were judged against them. Proposed mitigation measures for any significant adverse affects, opportunities to maximise positive affects and proposals for monitoring will also be identified. The SA report will incorporate the Habitats Regulation Assessment, Health and Equality Impact Assessments on the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies, where relevant.

Stage D: Consulting on the draft Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies and the Sustainability Appraisal report

2.14 The draft Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies and accompanying SA report will then be formally consulted on (with statutory consultees and other relevant stakeholders in line with the regulations). The results of this consultation will then inform the finalised Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies

2.15 Following adoption, the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will be monitored to test its effects against those predicted in the SA report, and to identify any need to respond to unforeseen adverse effects. This will be done through the AMR, where possible.

Integration of SA and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies preparation

2.16 The table below shows how the SA stages fit into the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies preparation process.

Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies Stage	Community involvement and consultation	SA stage
Pre-production (current stage)	This stage involves the authority gathering evidence and establishing relevant planning issues for the area. The authority will seek input from relevant interested organisations and individuals.	Stage A The SA sets the context, baseline information and scope of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. There is a statutory consultation period of 5 weeks on a SA Scoping Report.
Pre-submission	This is a key stage of plan development and therefore wide stakeholder input is important.	Stages B and C As the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is developed, the SA will assess any social, environmental and economic effects. This is a continuous process and will help inform the pre-submission Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Pre-submission consultation	At this stage, the version of the document as amended following earlier consultation is considered 'sound' by the Council. Responses made to this stage of consultation should therefore only be concerned with matters of 'soundness'. The Council will produce a summary of the main issues raised by the responses and this will also be examined as part of the submission material.	Stages C and D The final SA report will be published and consulted on alongside the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies during the formal consultation period.
Submission	Following any revisions made the Council will formally submit the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies along with all representations made to the Secretary of State for independent examination.	The final SA report will be submitted to the Inspector alongside the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

10 Interaction with other assessments

2.17 The SA will incorporate other assessments such as Equality Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment where relevant. These assessments will be fed into the SA process and final SA report as they are carried out.

2.18 In addition work will be undertaken in relation to a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. This will involve an initial screening process, followed by a more detailed assessment if required. These assessments will run in parallel to the SA process. A HRA demonstrates compliance with the EU Habitats Directive. This sets out that any wildlife sites that have European-level protection, must not be negatively impacted as a result of new strategies, plans, policies and projects.

3 Climate change and energy

Evidence

3.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/issue	Relevant documents
Important to address the causes and potential impacts of climate change including reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the UK in all sectors by 80% by about 2050 and about 34% by 2020.	- Climate Change Act 2008 - Meeting the Energy Challenge: A White Paper on Energy 2007 - Cheshire West and Chester Sustainable Community Strategy 2010-2026
Adaptation measures for anticipated climate shifts should be developed together with tackling water supply, drainage and flooding issues (including sea and coastal flooding) and managing the future impact of climate change on environment, economy and society.	- Climate Change: The UK Programme 2006 - Securing the Future: UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy 2005
Securing clean affordable energy supplies, including from renewable energy resources, to address security of supply, the need to decarbonise electricity generation and likely rises in electricity demand and prices.	- Our Energy Future: Creating a Low Carbon Economy - Planning our Electric Future: A White Paper for Secure, Affordable and Low-Carbon Electricity 2011
Secure 15% of the country's energy from renewable sources by 2020, with scope for renewable energy to account for 30-45% of all energy consumed in the UK by 2030.	- Planning and Energy Act 2008 - UK Renewable Energy Strategy 2009
Deliver zero carbon homes by 2016 and zero-carbon non-domestic development by 2019.	UK Renewable Energy Roadmap 2011
Reducing carbon emissions from transport and reducing the need to travel and encourage greater use of sustainable forms of transport including public transport, walking and cycling.	- Building a Greener Future: Policy Statement 2006 - Cheshire West and Chester Affordable Warmth Strategy 2010-2013
Reducing energy use, ensuring high standards of energy efficiency in new development, improving energy efficiency in existing buildings and utilising decentralised energy opportunities.	- Cheshire West and Chester Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 - Cheshire West and Chester Low Carbon and Renewable Energy Study 2012
The high energy use of Stanlow presents a serious challenge to meeting our renewables targets.	

Message/issue	Relevant documents
Biomass, Coal Bed Methane (when linked to a renewable heat scheme) and community scale wind provide the greatest renewable energy generation potential within the borough.	

Baseline

3.2 Climate change is recognised as one of the biggest threats to the environment, society and economy of the UK. Over the past 20 years it has become increasingly clear that the current change in the climate being seen worldwide is a direct result of human activity and the release of greenhouse gases.

3.3 Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the main gas attributed to causing the greenhouse effect. Since the 19th century levels of CO₂ in the earth's atmosphere have risen by 30% as a result of the use of fossil fuels in industry, running vehicles and powering homes and businesses. It is important to reduce emissions of CO₂ to try to address the future issues climate change may cause.

3.4 The UK has committed itself to reducing CO₂ emissions by 80% by 2050 with real progress made by 2020 and has established the need to significantly cut emissions from homes, work and travel. CO₂ emissions per capita have fallen slightly between 2010 and 2011.

3.5 The UK currently has a reliance on imported fuels to meet its energy needs and has seen rising energy costs in recent years. The UK needs to find clean, secure and affordable ways of meeting its fuel requirements to achieve energy security and to tackle climate change through the reduction in carbon emissions. The use of renewable and low carbon sources of energy production will have an important role in helping to minimise CO₂ emissions whilst also helping to secure future energy supplies.

3.6 Within Cheshire West and Chester there was 13.26 MW of installed renewable energy capacity in 2013. A regional study has been carried out (2010) to assess the North West's renewable and low carbon capacity and potential for deployment.

3.7 Nationally there is a requirement for all new homes to be zero carbon by 2016. There is also the need to improve the energy efficiency of existing homes through improved insulation and heating systems. Levels of gas and electricity consumption in the borough above the average consumption for the North West although levels of gas and electricity consumption have fallen each year since 2005. However, at the current time there is still a reliance on traditional energy supplies to meet the borough's heat and energy demands.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Carbon emissions	Domestic tonnes CO ₂ emissions 2013: 724.5	Domestic tonnes CO ₂ emissions 2012: 745.6	Continue efforts to reduce CO ₂ emissions, particularly from public sector operations, to lead and set an example 26% reduction in CO ₂ emissions by 2020 and 80% by 2050	
	Industry and commercial tonnes CO ₂ emissions 2013: 3103.5	Industrial and Commercial tonnes CO ₂ emissions 2012: 4009.1	Continue efforts to reduce CO ₂ emissions, particularly from public sector operations, to lead and set an example 26% reduction in CO ₂ emissions by 2020 and 80% by 2050	
	Transport tonnes CO ₂ emissions 2013: 932	Transport tonnes CO ₂ emissions 2012: 938.7	Continue efforts to reduce CO ₂ emissions, particularly from public sector operations, to lead and set an example 26% reduction in CO ₂ emissions by 2020 and 80% by 2050	
	Total tonnes CO ₂ emissions per capita (2013): 14.5	Total tonnes CO ₂ emissions per capita (2012): 17.3	Continue efforts to reduce CO ₂ emissions, particularly from public sector operations, to lead and set an example 26% reduction in CO ₂ emissions by 2020 and 80% by 2050	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Transport and Accessibility	Means of Travel to Work in West Cheshire 2011 Car and Van: 79% Bus: 3.7% Train: 2.3% Motorcycle: 0.7% Bicycle: 2.8% Foot: 10.6% Other: 0.7%	Means of Travel to Work in West Cheshire 2001 Car and Van: 72% Bus: 4% Train: 1% Motorcycle: 1% Bicycle: 3% Foot: 9% Other: >1%	None identified	
Energy use and consumption	Domestic Energy Consumption 2013 Average domestic consumption of electricity: 3,965 kWh Average consumption of domestic gas: 13,581 kWh	Domestic Energy Consumption 2012 Average domestic consumption of electricity: 4,050 kWh Average consumption of domestic gas: 14,076 kWh	None identified	
	Amount of Renewable Energy Installed Capacity (MW) 2013 TOTAL: 13.26	Amount of Renewable Energy Installed Capacity (MW) 2011 TOTAL: 8.2	None identified	Data has not been previously collected on installed capacity for Cheshire West and Chester.
Energy efficiency	Housing energy efficiency (average SAP rating of private sector dwellings) 2010 Cheshire West and Chester: 56	Housing energy efficiency (average SAP rating of private sector dwellings) (2005) Ellesmere Port and Neston: 56.5 Chester City Council: 56.0 Vale Royal: 52.0	To increase the average SAP rating to 65 by 2015 in Cheshire West and Chester (Affordable Warmth Strategy 2010 -2013)	The standard assessment procedure (SAP) for new homes sets a scale from 1 to 100 for rating, where 1 is the worst and 100 the best.
<u>Sources of data:</u>				

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
CO2 Emissions per capita: DECC, 2005-2013 UK Local and Regional CO2 Emissions https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2013 Modes of transport to work by residents: Census 2011 Domestic energy consumption: DECC Sub National Electricity and Gas Consumption. https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sub-national-electricity-and-gas-consumption-statistics-analysis-tool-2005-to-2009 Amount of renewable energy installed by capacity: CWaC Annual Monitoring Report 2015 Energy efficiency SAP rating: Communities and Local Government, Housing Strategy Statistical Appendix, Cheshire West and Chester Private Sector Housing Survey 2010				

Issues

3.8 Issues relating to climate change and renewable energy are dealt with in the Local Plan (Part One) through policy ENV1 Flood risk and water management. This includes requirements to follow the sequential approach to determining the suitability of land for development, preventing risk of flooding elsewhere and incorporation of Sustainable Drainage Systems. Also through policy ENV6 High quality design and sustainable construction, which states that development should, where appropriate, incorporate energy efficiency measures and provide for renewable energy generation and mitigate and adapt to the predicted effects of climate change. Policy ENV7 Alternative energy supplies also provides support for renewable and low carbon energy proposals. The Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat these policies, but may impact on climate change and renewable energy in terms of the allocation of sites for residential and employment development, as the location may impact on flood risk and energy use. The implications of climate change will also need to be taken into account in the designation of sites and areas to protect important habitats and ecological frameworks, as climate change could result in changes to habitats.

3.9 The table below sets out key issues and problems and explains how they are relevant to the Local Plan (Part Two).

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Dealing with the impacts of climate change It is predicted that within the North West the effects of climate change will have particular impacts on agricultural practices, on how species and habitats adapt to different climates, and will lead to sea level rise. There is a need to ensure new development can adapt to the identified and projected effects of climate change.	Applies to the whole Cheshire West and Chester authority area. Sea level rise may have a particular impact on the shoreline of the borough and the residences, industries, and habitats located there.
Reducing greenhouse gas and carbon emissions To ensure that new development does not contribute further to the effects of climate change and the emission of greenhouse gases, in particular CO ₂ .	Applies to the whole Cheshire West and Chester authority area.
Improving energy efficiency The need to ensure all new homes are zero carbon by 2016 and to promote energy efficiency in all new development. There is also a need to improve energy efficiency in existing developments, particularly in industrial areas e.g. Stanlow.	Applies to the whole Cheshire West and Chester authority area.
Renewable and low carbon energy The need to improve the development, and take up, of renewable and low carbon energy resources.	Applies to the whole Cheshire West and Chester authority area, although for some technologies there will be some geographical limitations.

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/sub-objective	Baseline indicator
Address the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change	Will it reduce the potential impacts of climate change?	None identified
	Will it help to minimise and reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, in particular CO ₂ ?	Total CO ₂ emissions CO ₂ emissions per capita arising from domestic; industry and commerce and transport
	Will it ensure that new development is in accessible locations in order to reduce the need for car borne travel and/or encourage sustainable forms of transport?	None identified
	Will it minimise the impacts of flooding?	Relevant planning applications determined in accordance with policy and/or those granted contrary to Environment Agency advice (see Water)
		Proportion of applications granted by flood risk area (see Water)
	Will it promote and enhance current green infrastructure?	None identified
	Will it provide opportunities to create green infrastructure?	None identified
To reduce energy consumption, promote energy efficiency and increase the use of energy from renewable resources	Will it reduce energy consumption?	Annual average domestic consumption of electricity (Kilowatt Hours) Annual average domestic consumption of gas (Kilowatt hours)
	Will it promote energy efficiency?	Housing energy efficiency (SAP rating)
	Will it result in an increase in installed renewable energy capacity?	Amount of renewable energy generation by installed capacity

4 Biodiversity, flora and fauna

Evidence

4.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/ issue	Relevant document(s)
Development within the borough could have an impact on wildlife and nature conservation. Ensure that provision is made for enhancement, mitigation and protection.	- Cheshire Biodiversity Action Plans - Green Infrastructure Framework for North East Wales, Cheshire and Wirral 2011 - The England Biodiversity Strategy and Progress Report - Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 - Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities - Cheshire West and Chester Open Space Audit and Assessment of Need 2011 - The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature
Strain on environmental infrastructure from new allocations must be managed.	
Local authorities have a duty to regard the conservation of biodiversity in plan making. There is a need to conserve, protect and enhance the borough's most important environmental assets (parks, woodland, trees, open and green spaces, wetlands, other ecological sites) for their intrinsic value and contribution to quality of life, urban cooling/ adaptation to climate changes, image, tourism and recreation.	
Providing space for and maintaining and improving biodiversity will be a key consideration in planning green infrastructure provision in the borough.	
Chester city centre is identified as an area of significant opportunity for green infrastructure, with the Chester-Ellesmere Port corridor, the Mersey Riverbank, and the Winsford and Mid-Weaver Valley identified as areas of significant need.	

Baseline

4.2 As can be seen from the baseline data table there are a number of statutory and non-statutory designations within the borough as well as species and habitats listed in the Biodiversity Action Plan. These include European Protected Sites of Nature Conservation Importance; 28 Sites of Special Scientific Interest; 443 Local Wildlife Sites; 39 Areas of Nature Conservation Value; 6 Local Nature Reserves; 6159 hectares of woodland and 31 Biodiversity Action Plan habitats.

4.3 In 2015, 70.6% of the area of Cheshire West and Chester's SSSIs were in a favourable condition. However, of the remaining area, the greater part of the following SSSIs were in an unfavourable condition: Abbots Moss, Bar Mere, Bickerton Hill, Black Lake, Flaxmere Moss, Hatch Mere, Hallwood Farm Marl Pitt, Hatton's Hey Wood, Whittle's Corner and Bank Rough, Linmer Moss, Little Budworth Common,

Mersey Estuary, Oak Mere, Pettypool Brook Valley, River Dee (England), Well Rough and Long, Wimboldsley Wood, and Witton Lime Beds.

4.4 The maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity will be a key consideration in planning for green infrastructure in the borough. Green infrastructure is the network of multi functional green and blue spaces, wildlife sites and greenway linkages which unite town and country which provide a wide range of social, economic and environmental benefits.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Natura 2000 sites (SPA, SAC, Ramsar)	Sites located wholly or partly within the borough: Mersey Estuary Ramsar and SPA (Special Protection Area) The Dee Estuary Ramsar SPA and SAC (Special Area of Conservation) Midland Meres and Mosses - Phase 1 Ramsar Midland Meres and Mosses - Phase 2 Ramsar River Dee and Bala Lake SAC Oak Mere SAC West Midlands Mosses SAC	The current conservation status and conservation objectives (where appropriate) for each of these sites is contained in their Core Management Plans.	Targets may have been set in relation to the conservation objectives for these sites. These will be set out in their Core Management Plans.	The Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening for the Local Plan (Part One) identified that there were no realistic impact pathways linking development in CWaC with the Fenn's, Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses SAC and the Halkyn Mountain SAC. This will be reviewed through the HRA On the Local Plan (Part Two).
	Sites located within 15km of the Borough: Alyn Valley Woods SAC Berwyn SPA Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains SAC Brown Moss SAC Deeside and Buckley Newt Sites SAC Fenn's, Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses SAC Halkyn Mountain SAC Liverpool Bay SPA Manchester Mosses SAC Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Ramsar and SAC Rixton Claypits SAC Rostherne Mere Ramsar			

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)	2015 28 sites (5119 ha) including a site partially in CWAC. 2015 Favourable 70.6% Unfavourable Recovering 26.7% Unfavourable declining 0.4% Unfavourable no change 2.4%	2014 28 sites (5119 ha) including a site partially in CWAC. 2014 Favourable 70.6% Unfavourable Recovering 26.7% Unfavourable declining 0.4% Unfavourable no change 2.4%	To bring into favourable or recovering (target) condition 95% of the area of SSSIs in England by 2010 (Defra)	SSSI condition is not assessed annually.
Local Wildlife Sites	2015 = 443	2014 = 443	None identified	Locally recognised conservation designation. Local Wildlife Sites replaced the former designations of Sites of Biological Interest and Sites of Nature Conservation Value.
Areas of Nature Conservation Value (ANCV)	2015 39 Areas of Nature Conservation Value 4 Strategic Wildlife Areas	2012 39 Areas of Nature Conservation Value 4 Strategic Wildlife Areas	None identified	Locally recognised conservation designation. Former Local Authorities had different designations.
Local Nature Reserves (Statutory)	6 sites (103.53 ha)	Static since 2005-06	Natural England recommend that there should be 1 ha LNR per 1000 population	Cheshire West and Chester would require an additional 226 hectares to meet target provision. However, there are also non-statutory reserves.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Non-statutory Nature Reserves	15 Sites (344.79 ha) managed by Cheshire Wildlife Trust. 3 sites (76 ha) managed by National Trust. 15 sites (170 ha) managed by Woodland Trust. 3 Sites managed by RSPB (not all land area within the borough)	Not available	None identified	Whilst non-statutory these sites provide additional conservation resource.
Trees and woodland	Woodland cover 2015: 6159ha	Woodland cover 2012: 5796ha	None identified	
	Mersey Forest planting: 775Ha (cumulative between 1991 and 2015)	2009 (Mersey Forest) 8 million trees planted 6,000 ha new woodland and improved habitats	1994 (Mersey Forest) 8,000 ha new woodland by 2024	
Habitats and species	2009 31 Cheshire Biodiversity Action Plan habitats (including 17 UK BAP priority habitats)	Not available	None identified	The Cheshire BAP takes in areas in Wirral, Warrington and Halton and East Cheshire. Consideration of the potential impacts of proposals on habitats will need to take into account the wider environmental context beyond the plan boundaries.
	2009 63 Cheshire Biodiversity Action Plan species (including 32 UK BAP priority species)	Not available	None identified	The Cheshire BAP takes in the wider areas in Wirral, Warrington and Halton and East Cheshire. Consideration of the potential impacts of proposals on species will need

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
				to take into account the wider environmental context beyond the plan boundaries.
Sources of Data: Natura 2000 sites, SSSI, LWS, ANCV: Natural England/JNCC; Local nature reserves, Non-statutory nature reserves: Wildlife Trust; RSPB; Cheshire West and Chester Natural Environment team, Specialist Environmental Services Trees and woodland : Mersey Forest Habitats and species: Cheshire West and Chester Natural Environment team, Specialist Environmental Services/Cheshire Biodiversity Partnership				

Issues

4.5 Issues relating to biodiversity, flora and fauna are dealt with in the Local Plan (Part One) through policy ENV4 Biodiversity and geodiversity, which identifies and protects sites and features of international, national and local importance. Also, policy ENV3 Green Infrastructure which supports a network of green spaces, water bodies, and other natural elements across the borough. The Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat these policies, but may impact on biodiversity and geodiversity in terms of the allocation of sites for residential and employment development, as the location may impact on biodiversity and habitats. The allocation of sites for biodiversity and geodiversity purposes will also have a significant impact.

4.6 The table below sets out key issues and problems and explains how they are relevant to the Local Plan (Part Two).

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Information on wildlife habitats and protected species Lack of up-to-date information about the extent and condition of wildlife habitats and protected species.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester.
Impact of future development on biodiversity, flora and fauna Development within the borough will have an impact on wildlife and nature conservation and provision must be made for mitigation, protection and enhancement.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester.
Biodiversity and green infrastructure The role of biodiversity in planning for green infrastructure should be recognised as well as the wider links between biodiversity, landscape and waterways across the borough.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester.
Vulnerability of non statutory designations There are few statutorily designated conservation sites. The balance of non-statutory conservation sites may be more vulnerable to development pressure and lack of management.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester.

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
To protect and enhance the borough's biodiversity and wildlife habitats.	Will it protect and promote effective management of the borough's sites of ecological and nature conservation importance?	The percentage area of land designated as sites of special scientific interest (SSSI) within the local authority area in favourable condition.
		Number and total area of new statutory and non-statutory nature conservation sites.
	Will it provide opportunities for the enhancement and creation of habitats and to foster species conservation, diversity and resilience to climate change?	Number and total area of internationally and nationally designated nature conservation sites.
	Will it maintain, enhance and increase (rural and urban) tree cover and woodlands?	Tree planting in rural and urban areas.

5 Water

Evidence

5.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/issue	Relevant document(s)
Need for an integrated approach to all aspects of the sustainable management of the water cycle including water demand, water supply, water quality, surface water drainage and river and coastal flooding.	- Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies - European Floods Directive 2007 - Flood and Water Management Act 2010 - Water Framework Directive - Cheshire West and Chester Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment Nov 2011 - Defra: Making Space for Water - Biodiversity 2020 DEFRA - Future Water, DEFRA, 2008 - Cheshire West and Chester Water Cycle Strategy 2010 - NPPF 2012 - Local Government Association: Framework to assist the development of the Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management - United Utilities Water Resource Management Plan March 2015 - Weaver Gowry and River Dee Catchment Flood Management Plan - Dee Valley Water Resource Management Plan 2015 - North West River Basin Management Plan - Water for Life and Livelihoods - Cheshire West and Chester Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2008 and SFRA Update 2015
Development plan policies should take account of environmental issues such as the protection of groundwater from contamination, avoiding new development in areas of flood risk and sea level rise. To ensure the quality of land, air and water and the potential impacts from new development are considered through the planning process. To control and minimise pollution in line with sustainable development.	
Ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages of the planning process, avoiding inappropriate development and directing new development away from areas of highest risk. This is a particular concern in some areas of Chester, Northwich and Winsford. Prepare and implement strategies that help deliver sustainable development by appraising risk, managing risk, reducing risk and taking a partnership approach. New development should incorporate sustainable drainage schemes and encourage water efficiency.	
To take a holistic approach to water management and biodiversity. Environmental quality (including air, coastal and inland waters) should be protected and enhanced.	
To maximise opportunities of our waterways for recreation and leisure. To promote inland waterways encouraging a modern, integrated and sustainable approach to their use.	
Locate development where there is spare capacity in the existing waste water supply and waste water treatment, sewage and surface water mains capacity.	

Message/issue	Relevant document(s)
Ensure an adequate water supply . River Dee - Need to make the best use of existing water resources, including improving water efficiency measures. Rivers Weaver and Dane - no data available.	• Area Flood Risk Assessments for Northwich and Winsford • Cheshire West and Chester - Local Flood Risk Management Strategy - Consultation Draft Aug 2015
To achieve good status/good potential for all waters by 2027. The Local Plan should not cause the loss of potential to achieve this and where practicable contribute to enhancing water quality. Commitment to reduce pollution, promote sustainable use of water, protection of drinking water and help reduce effects of floods and droughts. Focus on the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment.	
To ensure that there is sufficient capacity of water supply and sewage treatment to support sustainable growth and to address flood risk issues that arise as a result of the growth proposals To continue to ensure there are no adverse impacts on the River Dee and Estuary SPA from increased abstraction and wastewater discharges.	

Baseline

5.2 Flood risk in Cheshire West and Chester may come from a range of sources, the main ones being fluvial (from rivers) and tidal (from the sea). Other sources may include groundwater, sewage and artificial sources (e.g. canals).

5.3 The main rivers in Cheshire West and Chester include the River Dee, the River Dane, River Weaver and River Gow. The Manchester Ship Canal also runs through the area, and the Mersey Estuary lies to the north. The areas particularly vulnerable to flood risk include:

- **Northwich** - this is the area at greatest risk of flooding due to three river catchments converging in the town centre. The SFRA identifies that the area is both at risk of flooding but also an area suitable for large scale regeneration through the Northwich Vision. An Area Flood Risk Assessment (AFRA) has consequently been undertaken to assess the risks further. It identifies that the vulnerability of key regeneration sites, applies the sequential test and makes recommendations for appropriate mitigation measures to be developed. Intensification of development would result in the loss of floodplain storage within the town centre. A Flood Mitigation Study was undertaken to identify possible solutions to this issue, however, this concluded that providing upstream storage on the River Dane would not result in peak water levels or floodrisk downstream in Northwich. The

Environment Agency and CWaC have secured £4million to design and build a sustainable flood risk management scheme in Northwich. The scheme seeks to reduce the risk of flooding from the Rivers Dane and Weaver to around 700 local homes and businesses. Construction started in March 2015.

- **Chester** - the River Dee runs through the centre and there is a risk of both tidal and fluvial flooding. Flood defences through the City centre offer protection from tidal flooding. The Sealand Basin to the west of Chester city centre is at risk of flooding from the Finchetts Gutter and Sealand Main Drain. This area acts as a flood storage reservoir during a flood event and is designed to a high standard of protection. The SFRA contains data from Environment Agency Breach Analysis modelling and the Sealand Basin would be flooded to significant depths in all of the breach scenarios considered. An up-to-date assessment of this area is provided through the SFRA Update 2015.
- **Winsford**: The town is at risk of flooding from the Weaver Navigation. Regeneration areas within the town may also be at risk and the AFRA sets out recommendations to reduce the vulnerability of these areas.
- **Ince Marshes** is lowlying reclaimed marshland following the dredging of the Manchester Ship Canal. The area is at risk of both fluvial and tidal flooding. There may also be a risk of flooding from the Manchester Ship Canal. Likewise, parts of Ellesmere Port waterfront may also be at risk of flooding from the Ship Canal.
- **Rivacre Brook**: This watercourse presents the greatest flood risk within the Ellesmere Port area. For the majority of the course the Rivacre Brook is confined by steep topography on both banks. However, the floodplain extends in Great Sutton around Farmers Heath and Manor Park. Flooding from Rivacre Brook in Great Sutton occurs on a regular basis.
- **Stanlow**: The Environment Agency's flood zone maps show that much of the Stanlow complex is at risk of flooding, however these do not take account of flood defences. The flood hazard for the whole of the complex is high, however flooding would only occur if the extensive flood alleviation scheme failed.

5.4 The area's waterways are also an important part of the green infrastructure within Cheshire West and Chester. A Green Infrastructure Feasibility Study has been undertaken by the Mersey Dee Alliance exploring the green infrastructure objectives for the River Dee area, and how this could enable sub-regional growth. The River Dee is designated as a site of European importance (SAC) and the estuary a SPA and Ramsar site. There are also a number of other nature conservation designations linked to the area's waterways (SSSI's, SBI's etc) and they form important features in the landscape. Rivers are home to nationally rare flora and fauna and also locally important species and habitats. Therefore maintaining and improving water quality is important. Water quality is also influenced by a number of factors outside the control of the planning system (e.g. agriculture).

5.5 A holistic Water Cycle Study has been undertaken for the borough to assess the potential impact of new growth on water quality limits, supply and demand. The main overall findings include:

- growth in the borough will not be constrained by water resource availability;
- water quality in many location in the borough is of poor ecological status and although not a direct constraint to growth it will require close liaison with the Environment Agency;
- new development within or near to Groundwater Source Protection Zones will need to consider appropriate mitigation to prevent contamination; rainfall and surface water levels will be vulnerable

to climate change and demand for water from agriculture is likely to increase with warmer drier summers;

- the potential impacts on international and national sites of conservation importance identified include surface water run off from new development, water discharge and water abstraction.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Water quality	River Dee River Basin (Dec 2009): Ecological status of water bodies: 10% poor 28% good/better 62% moderate	Quality of Rivers in the North West has improved - 92% are rated as good or fair. Recently in the North West the biggest improvement has been in urban areas.	Deliver 'good' ecological status on all water bodies by 2027.	Quality of surface water is influenced by various factors outside the planning system (agricultural run off, forestry, industry etc). The Environment Agency believes that achieving good status in all water bodies by 2027 will not be possible using only current technologies. Even achieving 75 per cent good status will require marked changes in land use and water infrastructure, such as a major programme to separate foul and surface water sewers across most of the river basin district. Both the River Dee River Basin, and the North West River Basin are currently being updated (due to be published in December 2015).
	Biological status of waste bodies: 1% bad 17% poor 31% moderate 35% good 16% high			
	North West River Basin (Dec 2009) Ecological status of water bodies: 3% bad 8% poor 59% moderate 30% good/better			
	Biological status of waste bodies: 11% bad 25% poor 28% moderate 31% good 6% high			

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Ground water quality	EA Groundwater Vulnerability Maps Nitrate Vulnerability Zones Source Protection Zones identified in Water Cycle Study. Only rural areas affected.	Parts of West Cheshire are identified as Nitrate Vulnerable Zones.	Drinking Water Standards and Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations should be met	
Water supply and abstraction	Dee Valley Water: supply-demand balance shows a surplus throughout the planning horizon (2015 - 2040) United Utilities: have a supply-demand surplus in three of our four water resource zones - 2015 – 2040 • The West Cumbria Resource Zone has a supply-demand deficit, due to the anticipated revocation of our abstraction licence at Ennerdale Water	Not available	Drinking Water Standards and Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations should be met	United Utilities - based on population growth figures issued by the Office for National Statistics

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
No. of properties in flood zone 2 and 3	Zone 2: 912(unknown from 2015 SFRA update) Zone 3: 1,011	Properties in Flood Zone 3: 2008 = 1959 2015 = 1,011	Directing development to areas at least risk of flooding (Flood Zone 1)	The number of properties at risk of flooding may increase as a result of climate change.
Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality grounds	2014-15:0	2010-11: 8 2011-12: 1 2012-13:11	0 applications granted contrary to EA advice	
Flood risk areas	Areas at greatest risk of flooding include: - Sealand Basin, Chester - Ince Marshes low lying reclaimed farmland - Towns within the catchment of the Weaver and Dane, particularly Northwich, Winsford and the industrial area around Frodsham. Rivacre Brook and Stanlow.	Not available	None identified	Further information is contained in the Council's SFRA Update 2015 and AFRA's for Northwich and Winsford.
<u>Sources of Data:</u>				

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
River Quality Dee River Basin Management Plan, December 2009, Defra/Environment Agency; North West River Basin Management Plan, December 2009, Defra/Environment Agency Groundwater Quality Environment Agency/DEFRA; Cheshire West and Chester Water Cycle Study 2010 No. of properties in flood zone 2 and 3 West Cheshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2008 and SFRA Update 2015. Water Supply and abstraction Cheshire West and Chester Water Cycle Study 2010 - figures updated through the United Utilities Water Resource Management Plan (March 2015) and Dee Valley Water Water Resource Management Plan (2015-2040).] No of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice: CWaC Annual Monitoring Reports Flood Risk Areas West Cheshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and Update 2015, Area Flood Risk Assessments for Northwich and Winsford				

Issues

5.6 Issues relating to flood risk and water management are dealt with through policy ENV1 in the Local Plan (Part One). This seeks to reduce flood risk, promote water efficiency measures, and protect and enhance water quality through a series of mechanisms. The Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat these policies, but may impact on flood risk and water management through the allocation of sites and may include more detailed policies on these issues.

Key issues and problems	Communities/areas most affected
Flood risk There is a need to minimise the risk of flooding from all sources arising from new development. New development should be steered to areas of lowest risk, and designed to manage surface water run off (with the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems being encouraged).	Chester, Northwich, Winsford, part of Frodsham, and Ince Marshes, may be at risk of flooding. Communities on the shoreline may be at risk as a result of climate change, together with some localised flooding in smaller villages (e.g. Farndon). Additional areas may also be at increased risk of flooding as a result of climate change.
Water supply and water efficiency There should be sufficient water capacity to accommodate new growth and development, with water efficiency measures in order to make the best use of existing resources.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester.
Water quality and green infrastructure The risk of water pollution arising from new development should be minimised. Water courses are valuable ecological habitats and landscape features, and contribute to the provision of Green Infrastructure. In addition, waterways are also a valuable recreational/leisure resource.	Issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester. Particularly important in the urban areas of Chester, Winsford and Northwich.

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria / sub-objective	Baseline indicator
To minimise the risk of flooding.	Will it reduce the risk of flooding e.g. encourage the integration of mitigation	Relevant planning applications determined in accordance with policy

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria / sub-objective	Baseline indicator
	measures such as SUDs into new development?	and/or those granted contrary to Environment Agency advice
	Is new development directed towards areas of least risk, dependant on the compatibility of the proposed use?	Proportion of applications granted by flood risk area
		Flood Risk areas within Cheshire West and Chester
To protect, maintain and improve the quality of water resources, minimise the risk of pollution and improve water efficiency.	Will the Plan protect, maintain and improve the quality of water resources?	Number of planning applications granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on water quality grounds
	Will the Plan minimise the risk of pollution arising from new development?	Water quality/ecological status of Rivers
	Will the plan encourage water efficiency and promote the use of grey-water recycling / rainwater harvesting?	None identified.

6 Air

Evidence

6.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/issue	Relevant document(s)
Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from air pollution.	- NPPF 2012 - Cheshire West and Chester Air Quality Progress Report 2013 - The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, DEFRA, 2007
Cumulative impact of new development on air quality	
Targets set for key pollutants: benzene, 1,3-Butadiene, carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, small particles (PM ₁₀)	
Potential to exceed of annual mean air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide at various roadside locations across the borough with particular concern at the Ellesmere Port and Boughton AQMA, and potential concern at Frodsham.	

Baseline

6.2 A major cause of air quality problems are the emissions of nitrogen oxides and particulate matter from vehicle exhausts. Serious health problems such as respiratory, cardiovascular illness and even premature death can also be associated with air pollution. The effects are most commonly felt by sensitive and vulnerable groups such as the infirm, people with asthma, children and the elderly. It is also often the case that those living in deprived areas suffer the worst air pollution. Air pollution can have impacts upon the natural environment, in particular on sensitive habitats and species, which need to be closely monitored and the causes identified.

6.3 The authority is required to assess and where necessary monitor the concentrations of key atmospheric pollutants, primarily those that represent a threat to human health, but also those thought to adversely affect vegetation. Where objectives are unlikely to be met, an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) must be declared, and an Air Quality Action Plan implemented to improve air quality.

6.4 There are two Air Quality Management Areas covering a relatively small proportion of Cheshire West and Chester. These are located on the A5032 Whitby Road/ Station Road in central Ellesmere Port and Boughton gyratory in Chester city centre. The 2010 air quality Assessment concluded that it would be necessary to extend the boundary of the Boughton AQMA, which was formalised in August 2011. An Air Quality Action Plan is already in place for the AQMA within Ellesmere Port and one is in

the process of being produced for Boughton. The primary reason for their designation is emissions of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) from vehicular traffic in these areas.

6.5 A key measure set out in the Air Quality Strategies is to ensure the planning system is used where possible to minimise the impact of new development and where possible reduce local air pollution. Local planning is one of the few areas a local authority can directly influence air quality impact.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Number of Air Quality Management Areas	Two: A5032 Whitby Road/ Station Road in central Ellesmere Port and Boughton gyratory in Chester city centre.	Ellesmere Port declared 2005 Chester declared 2008	To meet national air quality objectives - ultimately to enable existing AQMAs to be revoked	Local indicator of air quality in Cheshire West and Chester.
Annual average background nitrogen dioxide concentration in AQMAs (ug/m³)	The annual mean for NO ₂ at a automatic monitoring site within the Whitby Road/Station Road AQMA is 41mg/m ³ (2013) The annual mean for NO ₂ at a automatic monitoring site within the Boughton AQMA is 33mg/m ³ (2013)	Whitby Road/Station Road AQMA 38.2mg/m ³ (2010) 41mg/m ³ (2011) 44 mg/m ³ (2012) Boughton AQMA 32mg/m ³ (2011) 33 mg/m ³ (2012)	Annual mean not to exceed 40 ug/m ³	Background nitrogen dioxide concentration was well within the threshold at all locations, with the exception of the Whitby Road AQMA.
Number of dwellings in AQMAs	2015 Ellesmere Port: 131 Chester: 141	2014 Ellesmere Port: 131 Chester: 141	To meet national air quality objectives - ultimately to enable existing AQMAs to be revoked	
Number of tonnes of NOx emitted annually from road transport	2012: 2996.67	2006: 4325	None identified	
Number of tonnes of PM10 emitted annually from road transport	2012: 189.09	2006: 253	None identified	
Sources of Data: Annual average Nitrogen Dioxide concentration, No.AQMAs: 2014 Air Quality Progress Report, Cheshire West and Chester				

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
No.dwellings in AQMA: CWaC Environmental Health Team No.tonnes NOx, PM10: http://naei.defra.gov.uk/data/gis-mapping				

Issues

6.6 Issues relating to air are dealt with in the Local Plan (Part One) through policy SOC5 Health and Wellbeing, which sets out that development giving rise to significant adverse impacts on air quality will not be permitted. The Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat this policy, but will give additional details about the impact of new development on air quality. The impact on air quality will also need to be taken into account when allocating sites for development.

6.7 The table below sets out key issues and problems and explains how they are relevant to the Local Plan (Part Two).

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Air quality and health Air quality can have a significant impact on people's health, such as increasing incidences of respiratory illness	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester.
Transport emissions Poor air quality in Cheshire West and Chester is recognised by the presence of two AQMAs where acceptable levels of pollution are exceeded primarily caused by NO2 emissions from vehicles	A particular problem along the A5032 Whitby Road/ Station Road in central Ellesmere Port and along the Boughton gyratory in Chester city centre.
Impacts of new development of air quality across the borough Take appropriate action to identify, prevent or mitigate air quality problems emerging arising from new development elsewhere in Cheshire West and Chester	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester and in particular any development in the vicinity of Boughton gyratory where the need to carefully assess the impacts of new development in this area have been identified.
Impacts of new development of air quality in AQMAs To ensure that new development can proceed without a detrimental impact on existing areas of poor air quality	A particular problem along the A5032 Whitby Road/ Station Road in central Ellesmere Port and along the Boughton gyratory in Chester city centre.

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
To protect air quality where it is of a high standard and to improve it elsewhere	Will it improve or have an insignificant effect on local air quality, ensuring minimum impact on people's health?	Annual average background nitrogen dioxide concentration in AQMAs ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
		Number of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)
	Will it encourage the use of clean technologies and working practises and a shift to more sustainable modes of transport?	Number of tonnes of NOx emitted annually from road transport
		Number of tonnes of PM10 emitted annually from road transport

7 Land and resources

Evidence

7.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/Issue	Relevant document(s)
Protect the North Cheshire Green Belt.	- NPPF 2012 - Rural Strategy, DEFRA, 2004 - The Future Sub-Regional Apportionment in Cheshire 2005-2020 - Cheshire West and Chester Local Aggregate Assessment 2014
Encourage development to previously developed land.	
Need to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land and protect soil quality.	
Requirement to produce on average approximately 0.8 million tonnes of sand and gravel each year to meet Cheshire West and Chester's apportionment figures for aggregate provision	
The need to take account of the contribution of secondary and recycled aggregates in construction as an alternative to primary won products	

Baseline

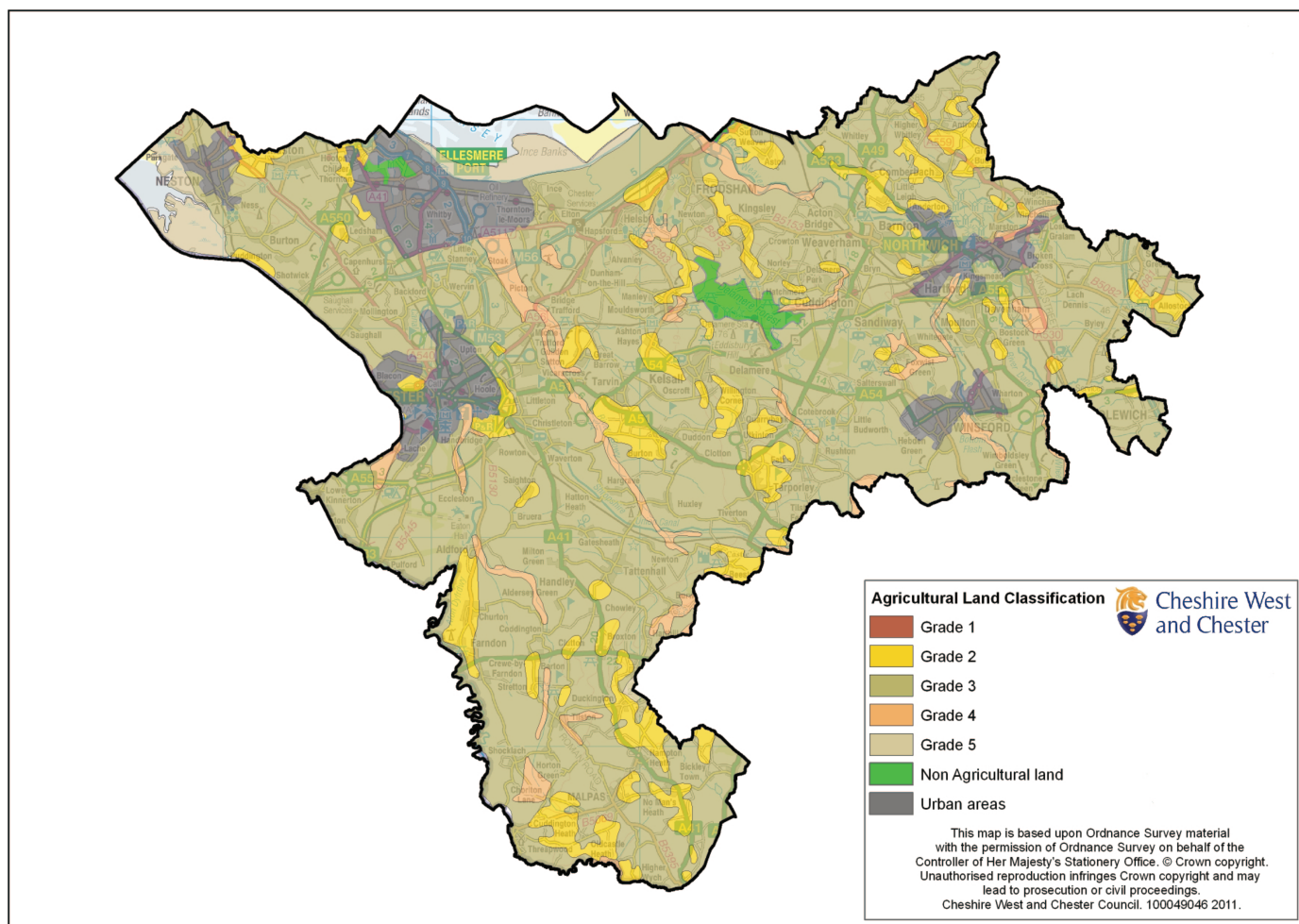
7.2 The North Cheshire Green Belt is a major designation in the borough and covers 42% of the land area (39,230 hectares). Green Belt surrounds much of the area around the City of Chester and most of the land between Chester and Ellesmere Port and Chester and Northwich. Green Belts have the fundamental aim of preventing urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; prevent neighbouring towns from merging; assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment; preserving the setting and character of historic towns and aiding regeneration by encouraging the reuse of derelict and other urban land.

7.3 The area of land that is considered vacant and derelict has decreased in the authority between 2002 and 2009. A relatively high percentage of new housing is being built on previously developed land, although this is lower than the level in previous years. During the 2014/15 period, 56% of housing completions recorded during the monitoring period were on previously developed land, 27% of greenfield land and 17% on sites that were a mix of greenfield and previously developed land.

7.4 Employment completions on previously developed land were high in 2012-13, but a slightly lower level than in 2009-10.

7.5 Agricultural land quality across the Cheshire area is generally good, with over 70% being of Grade 3 or above. Data for Cheshire West and Chester is difficult to get directly. The figure below illustrates the provisional Agricultural Land Classification for the whole of Cheshire

Map 7.1 Agricultural Land Quality in Cheshire West and Chester



7.6 Soils in the borough are predominantly slow permeable loams and clays although the Sandstone Ridge (running down the eastern part of the borough) is characterised by freely draining loamy and sandy soils. The marshland/coastal flats near the areas of Frodsham/Helsby and near Parkgate/Neston are naturally wet loamy and clayey soils.

7.7 The key mineral resources present in the borough are sand and gravel, salt and coalbed methane. There are currently two active sand and gravel sites within the borough (Crown Farm Quarry in Delamere and Forest Hill Quarry in Sandiway).

7.8 Salt is present in extensive areas underlying the borough in both its solid form as rock salt and in solution form as brine. Rock salt is currently mined underground at the Winsford Rock Salt Mine, which currently has a mine capacity of around 2.25 million tonnes per year. The Winsford Rock Salt Mine is considered to be a nationally significant resource of rock salt. The voids created by the extraction are also of strategic importance being used for document storage (archiving services) and contributing to hazardous waste storage capacity.

7.9 Salt is also extracted in solution form as brine at the Holford Brinefields. The brine is extracted at numerous brine wells which supply works at Northwich for use in industrial processes. Some of the cavities created at the Holford Brinefields also contribute to the nationally significant storage of natural gas, whilst others are left full of brine.

7.10 Coal also underlies the borough but no extraction currently takes place. In addition hydrocarbons are found in both conventional and unconventional form in sandstone and limestone reservoirs beneath the borough in the form of coalbed methane and shale gas. There are currently five permitted exploratory borehole sites and two sites which also have permission for the production phase of coalbed methane extraction. These permission do not allow for the exploration, appraisal and/or production of shale gas.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Area of vacant and derelict land in the borough	2009: 843 Ha	2007: 871Ha	None identified	This information is no longer produced by the HCA.
Percentage of new dwellings built on previously developed land	Cheshire West and Chester 2014-15: 56% of housing completions during the monitoring period were on previously developed land (27% on greenfield land and 17% on sites that were a mix of greenfield and previously developed land)	Cheshire West and Chester April - Sept 2013 - 80% 2012-13: 81%	None identified	
Percentage of employment floorspace on previously developed land	Cheshire West and Chester 2012-13: 88%	Cheshire West and Chester 2009-10: 91%	None identified	This indicator is no longer measured in the AMR.
Amount of best quality agricultural land (grade 1,2,3A)	Agricultural land quality in Cheshire: Grade 1+2= 12.5% Grade 3= 59.2% Grade 4= 8.0% Grade 5= 2.8% Non-agricultural land= 5.7% Urban land= 11.5%	Not available	None identified	The best available data for agricultural land quality is at the previous county level and also covers Cheshire East Unitary Authority.
Primary won aggregates	Production of Land-won sand and gravel during 2013: 0.42mt	Ten year average sales of sand and gravel: 0.68mt (2003 - 2013)	The apportionment figure for Cheshire West and Chester is 0.8mt of land won sand and gravel.	Sand and gravel is the only aggregate resource in the borough contributing to regional and national figures. Sand extracted in Cheshire West and Cheshire supplies markets in

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
	Permitted reserves of sand and gravel as at 31 December 2013: 8.4mt providing a landbank of 10.5 years based on an annual apportionment of 0.80mt per annum	Supply of permitted reserves of sand and gravel as at 31 December 2010: 4.4mt providing a landbank of 5.53 years	Maintain a landbank in excess of 7 years when calculated against the annual apportionment of 0.80mt per annum	Greater Manchester, Merseyside, West Yorkshire, Staffordshire and further afield. The landbank for sand and gravel has increased due to the release of a significant amount of reserve at Cheshire Sands. The landbank and number of sites should be monitored on an annual basis through the Council's Local Aggregate Assessment.
Production of Secondary and Recycled Aggregates	Material Arising in Cheshire and Merseyside 2005 (suitable as secondary aggregate): 720,000 tonnes Actual aggregate use: 270,000 tonnes per annum Production of recycled aggregates/soil 2006: 596,326 tonnes per annum NB the figures quoted above are separate and should not be added together or compared.	Material Arising in Cheshire and Merseyside 2005 (suitable as secondary aggregate): 720,000 tonnes per annum Actual aggregate use: 270,000 tonnes per annum Production of recycled aggregates/soil 2006: 596,326 tonnes per annum	To work with construction industry to achieve a target of 20% of construction aggregate to be from secondary or recycled sources by 2010 and 25% by 2021 (North West RSS) By 2012 - 50% reduction in CD&E waste to landfill compared to 2008 levels (Strategy for Sustainable construction, 2008)	Data for this indicator is difficult to gather and there is no consistent methodology or dataset available at the current time. The figures for recycled aggregate/soil are derived from a bespoke study carried for the North West Regional Technical Advisory Body (RTAB) and North West Planning Authorities in 2007 on Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste (CDEW). In relation to the baseline figure for landfill of CDEW in 2008 the Government have tried to consolidate and analyse the disparate datasets for CDEW to establish a methodology for calculated this,

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
		NB the figures quoted above are separate and should not be added together or compared)		further highlighting the challenges of data for this form of aggregate supply.
Sources of Data: Vacant and derelict land: via http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk Dwellings on Previously Developed Land: Cheshire West and Chester Housing Land Monitor 2014-15, April - September 2013 and 2012-13 Employment on Previously Developed Land: Cheshire West and Chester 2013 Annual Monitoring Report Agricultural Land Quality: Department for Food and Rural Affairs/Natural England via www.magic.gov.uk Production and supply of primary won aggregates: Local Aggregate Assessment October 2014 Production secondary and recycled aggregates: Study to fill the gaps on Construction, Demolition and Excavation Wastes in the North West, 2007, Smiths Gore				

Issues

7.11 Policy STRAT 2 Strategic Development in the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) sets the overall level of development within the borough and states that over the period of 2010 to 2030 the Plan will deliver at least:

- 22,000 new dwellings
- 365 hectares of land for employment development to meet a range of types and sizes of site.

7.12 This sets the context for the use of land in the borough. Policy STRAT 3 Chester refers specifically to the delivery of at least 5,200 new dwellings in Chester, of which in the region of 1,300 dwellings will be provided through Green Belt release. Policy STRAT 9 provides a policy to protect the Green Belt and countryside and limit development to specific types only. Policy STRAT 1 encourages the use and redevelopment of previously developed land and buildings in sustainable locations that are not of high environmental value and states that the loss of greenfield land and high grade agricultural land should be minimised. It also states that new development should ensure the prudent use of our natural finite resources whilst promoting the re-use, recovery and recycling of materials.

7.13 Policy ENV 9 Minerals supply and safeguarding makes provision for the steady and adequate supply of natural minerals, specifically aggregate sand and gravel through the maintenance of a seven year landbank. Policy ENV 9 also makes provision for the allocation of specific sites and preferred areas through the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies plan. It ensures the prudent use of our natural finite resources through support for proposals which enable the use of secondary or recycled material and ensuring the sustainable use of brine and salt. Policies in the Local Plan (Part Two) will support policy ENV 9 and provide greater detail relating to operational requirements, restoration, alongside identifying those areas considered suitable for the future extraction of minerals and will therefore have an impact on land and resources.

7.14 All policies within the Local Plan (Part One) have already been subject to a SA incorporating the requirements of SEA and HRA. The scope of the SA for the Local Plan (Part Two) is limited to those policies that will be provided within the plan and the necessary allocations to meet the requirements of policies in the Local Plan (Part One) and (Part Two).

7.15 The table below sets out key issues and problems and explains how they are relevant to the Local Plan (Part Two).

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Pressure on Green Belt from new development The need to protect Green Belt coming under increased pressure from new development. This is dealt with through Local Plan (Part One) Policy STRAT 9, but is also relevant to the allocation of sites for development within the Local Plan (Part Two).	Communities in and adjoining the North Cheshire Green Belt.

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Bringing Previously Developed Land back into use Ensuring that previously developed land is brought back into use. This is dealt with through Local Plan (Part One) Policy STRAT 1, but is also relevant to the allocation of sites for development within the Local Plan (Part Two).	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester, but particularly urban areas.
Ensuring an adequate and steady supply of minerals The need to meet the apportionment figures for land won sand and gravel and ensure a 7 year land bank.	An issue for the areas with sand and gravel deposits in Cheshire West and Chester.
Prudent use of natural resources and using secondary and recycled materials in new development Ensuring the prudent use of natural resources to protect natural reserves including minerals reserve and promoting the use of secondary and recycled materials as an alternative to primary resources	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester but particularly developers and the construction industry and communities in areas of minerals extraction in the borough.

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
To reduce the consumption on natural resources	Will it result in the prudent use of natural resources?	Production of Primary Won Aggregates
	Will it promote the use of secondary/recycled aggregates?	Production of Secondary and Recycled Aggregates
To protect land and soil quality	Will it impact on the extent and quality of soils?	Area of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land
To optimise the re-use of of previously developed land and buildings	Will it promote development on brownfield land?	Percentage of new and converted dwellings built on previously developed land Percentage of employment floorspace completed on previously developed land

8 Waste

Evidence

8.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/ issue	Relevant document(s)
Need to reduce the amount of waste arising (from all waste streams - Municipal Solid Waste; Commercial and Industrial waste and Construction, Demolition and Excavation Wastes) and to decouple waste and economic growth	• Securing the Future: UK Sustainable Development Strategy • Cheshire Consolidated Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy • Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester Councils Waste Needs Assessment Report 2011 • National Planning Policy for Waste 2014
To see waste as a resource and to work towards a zero waste economy	
Need to deliver sustainable waste management through the application of the waste hierarchy by prevention, preparation for re-use, recycling, other recovery and disposal to landfill as a last resort.	
Requirement to meet EU Landfill Directive targets for diverting biodegradable municipal waste from landfill.	
Communities must take responsibility for their own waste and planning authorities must assist in delivering the waste management facilities to meet the waste management needs of their communities.	
Need to reduce fly tipping and for better prevention and detection and enforcement against fly tipping and other illegal waste activity to reduce the costs of clear up operation.	

Baseline

Waste

8.2 The Government's overall objective for waste is to protect human health and the environment by producing less waste and using it as a resource wherever possible. The emphasis is on reducing the volume of waste produced initially, then increasing the volume of waste which is re-used and recycled. This will significantly reduce the amount of residual waste which is disposed of at landfill.

8.3 Levels of the production of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), mainly waste collected from households and at household waste recycling centres, had been falling, but has seen a small recent rise. Levels of recycling and composting of municipal waste have increased significantly since 2003/04 resulting in a reduction in the amount of municipal waste being sent to landfill since this time. The need to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill is driven by EU legislation which sets restrictions on the amount of biodegradable waste that can be sent to landfill. Alternative forms of waste treatment for the final disposal of waste as alternatives to landfill are required.

8.4 Commercial and Industrial is the second largest waste stream in Cheshire West and Chester behind Construction, Demolition and Excavation waste. Recycling rates for commercial and industrial waste are improving.

8.5 Nationally the emphasis is on developing new types of waste management facilities to deliver sustainable waste management including new facilities that take residual waste for treatment and produce an end product that can re-used. For example waste can be treated to provide a Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) or Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) or biogas which can be used as a renewable energy source for heat and power. Proposals for new types of waste management facilities for re-use, recycling and treatment with energy recovery and are being brought forward in the borough although not all are as yet operational.

8.6 Fly tipping incidents in Cheshire West and Chester have increased over the recent years. However, the authority has measures in place to control flytipping and to encourage the reporting of incidences.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Waste Arisings (tonnes)	2013/14: 683,000	2011/12: 750,000		Total waste is now measured rather than Municipal Waste Arisings.
Waste management capacity by waste planning authority	2014/15: 1,316,500 tonnes per annum	Not available.	None identified	New waste capacity is being provided in the borough for a variety of waste management options including waste transfer, recycling, composting, landfill and energy recovery. However, not all sites with planning permission are yet operational.
Local Authority Waste Collected (tonnes)	2013/14: 168,172	2011/12: 177,424 2012/13: 163,087	To reduce the rate of waste growth to 1.5% by 2009 and 1% by 2015 (Cheshire Consolidated Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, 2008)	Kilogrammes of household waste collected per head data no longer available.
Percentage of Local Authority Collected Waste Landfilled	2013/14: 42.3%	2011/12: 51.2% 2012/13: 43.5%	Meet and exceed the Landfill Directive Diversion Targets (Waste Strategy for England, 2007) Reduce the amount of waste not re-use, recycled or composted by 29% (from year	Percentage of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Landfilled no longer collected.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
			2000 figures) and 45% by 2020 (Waste Strategy for England, 2007)	
Percentage of Local Authority Collected Waste Recycled and Composted	2013/14: 56.8%	2011/12: 48% 2012/13: 54.1%	To recycle and compost at least 40% of household waste by 2010; 45% by 2015 and 50% by 2020. (Waste Strategy for England, 2007)	Percentage of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Recycled and Composted no longer collected.
Percentage of Local Authority Collected Waste sent for Energy Recovery	2013/14: >1%	2011/12: 0% 2012/13: >1%	None identified	Percentage of Municipal Solid Waste sent for Energy Recovery no longer collected.
Total amount of Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Waste	In Cheshire West and Chester the approximate amount of C&I waste was 345,000 tonnes in 2009 (44% of the Cheshire C&I waste arisings).	In Cheshire as a C&I arisings have fallen 18.5% between 2006 and 2009 (967,571 to 788,194 tonnes). There is no data available for the Cheshire West and Chester level in the 2006 survey as it was carried out prior to Local Government Organisation.	0% waste growth (year on year) for all waste streams to 2020 (Updated Regional Waste Strategy for the North West, 2010)	Data for this indicator is difficult to gather and there is no consistent methodology or dataset available at the current time.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
% of Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Waste Landfilled/Land Recovered	In Cheshire West and Chester 28.7% of C&I waste was landfilled/land recovered in 2009.	In Cheshire in 2009 29% (236,522 tonnes) was landfilled/land recovered compared to 53.1% in 2006. There is no data available for the Cheshire West and Chester level in the 2006 survey as it was carried out prior to Local Government Organisation.	None identified	Data for this indicator is difficult to gather and there is no consistent methodology or dataset available at the current time.
% of Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Waste Recycled	In Cheshire West and Chester 56.8% of C&I waste was recycled in 2009.	In Cheshire 55% of C&I waste was recycled in 2009 compared to 27.3% (264,399 tonnes) in 2006. There is no data available for the Cheshire West and Chester level in the 2006 survey as it was carried out prior to Local Government Organisation.	Recycle 55% of C&I waste by 2020 (Updated Regional Waste Strategy for the North West, 2010)	Data for this indicator is difficult to gather and there is no consistent methodology or dataset available at the current time.
Number of fly tipping incidents	2013-14: 4,547	2010-11: 1,543 2011-12: 3,353 2012-13: 4,357	None identified	This data is no longer monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report.
Sources of Data:				

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Waste Arisings (tonnes); Local Authority Waste Collected (tonnes); Percentage of Local Authority Collected Waste Landfilled; Percentage of Local Authority Collected Waste Recycled and Composted; Percentage of Local Authority Collected Waste sent for Energy Recovery: CWaC Waste Needs Assessment Update 2015 Commercial and Industrial Waste: Study to fill the evidence gap for C&I Waste Streams in the North West Region, Urban Mines, 2007; North West of England Commercial and Industrial Survey 2009 for the Environment Agency, March 2010 Flytipping: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env24-fly-tipping-incidents-and-actions-taken-in-england				

Issues

8.7 Policy ENV 8 Managing Waste of the Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies sets out how the borough's waste management needs will be met, including the safeguarding of sites for waste uses which have planning permission. Policy ENV 8 also supports the development of farm scale anaerobic digestion facilities. The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies plan will provide additional detailed development management policies for the management of waste. These additional policies will impact on waste in terms of arisings and management in the borough.

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Need to significantly reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill for disposal To meet the requirements of the EU Landfill Directive, including restrictions on the amount of Biodegradable Municipal waste that can be landfilled, and the rising cost of landfill as a result of the landfill tax.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester
Delivery of new waste management facilities to meet the borough's waste management needs To ensure communities take responsibility for their own waste, and for planning authorities to assist in delivering the waste management facilities necessary to meet communities waste management needs.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
Achieve sustainable waste management by reducing the production	Will it encourage a reduction in the amount of waste produced?	Municipal Solid Waste Arisings Kilogrammes of household waste collected per head Total amount of Commercial and Industrial Waste

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
of waste, increasing opportunities for recycling and reducing the amount of waste being sent for final disposal to landfill	Will it encourage increased recycling and composting and achieve the diversion targets for waste away from landfill?	% of Municipal Solid Waste landfilled % of Commercial and Industrial Waste landfilled / land Recovered % of Municipal Solid Waste recycled and composted % of Municipal Solid Waste sent for energy recovery % of Commercial and Industrial Waste recycled
	Will it result in new or enhanced waste management facilities to meet the waste management needs of the area?	Capacity of new waste management facilities by waste planning authority
	Will it result in improvement in the management of fly tipping and reduction in the number of incidences of fly tipping?	Number of fly-tipping incidents

9 Cultural heritage and landscape

Evidence

9.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/ issue	Relevant document(s)
Landscape plays an important role in well-being. Public authorities should adopt policies and measures for protecting, managing and planning landscapes so as to maintain and improve landscape quality. These policies and measures should cover the cultural, man-made or natural components of landscape	• Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies • Cheshire Historic Environment Record • European Landscape Convention 2000
Protect archaeological heritage as a source of collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study. Archaeological remains are finite and irreplaceable. They contain valuable information about our past, are part of our national identity and are valuable both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and tourism.	• European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage 1992 • Chester Historic Characterisation Study 2011
Enhance and protect the natural and built environments and their settings. The historic environment and its heritage assets should be conserved and enjoyed for the quality of life they bring to this and future generations. Chester is an important historic city both locally and nationally which is currently experiencing a number of challenges for its future. Its archaeology, historic buildings and townscape are under pressure through demands for modern retail and office needs, redevelopment and new development. It is important to understand the existing character of the city and the capacity to which it can accommodate development and future change.	• Cheshire Historic Towns Survey 2007 • Statutory List of Buildings of Archaeological Interest • Register of Historic Battlefields • Conservation Area Appraisal Management Plans • Town and Village Design Statements
Landscape is important for making a place unique and providing local distinctiveness. Landscape has economic value, providing the setting for economic activity and attracting businesses and tourism, social and community value through contributing to sense of identity and wellbeing and environmental value.	• Cheshire Landscape Character Assessment 2008 • Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project Study 2007
Protect important sites of geological and geomorphological interest	• Cheshire Regional Local Geodiversity Action Plan 2004

Message/ issue	Relevant document(s)
Importance of design and management of streets and open spaces	Streets for All North West (2006)

Baseline

9.2 Heritage Assets and the wider Historic Environment are important for the contribution they make to cultural heritage and helping to provide an understanding of history for present and future generations.

9.3 Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, and Conservation Areas are the key formally designated built heritage features located within Cheshire West and Chester. There are a total of 2,498 Listed Building Entries, 118 Scheduled Monuments, and 96 Conservation Areas distributed throughout the authority area. Although many of these sites are located within and around Chester City Centre, the whole district has a rich and varied heritage, reflected in the strong value of the areas historic environment. International, national and local programmes together provide a framework for the appropriate conservation of these features, recommending that policies and measures are formulated for their protection. Cheshire West and Chester has 33 entries on the Heritage at Risk Register, held by English Heritage. These consist of 19 Listed Buildings Entries and 14 Scheduled Monuments. The Heritage at Risk Register only include Grade i and ii* Listed Building Entries. There is also the potential for undesignated assets and archaeology on some sites.

9.4 Cheshire-wide there are 20 different landscape character areas, with a diverse range located within Cheshire West and Chester, from coastal to sandstone ridges. There are also 12 Historic Landscape Character groups, consisting of 34 character types, which can be used to assess capacity to accommodate change. It is important that the character of the landscape is understood when considering how it might change, so that any change will be for the better. A Landscape Character Survey for Cheshire West and Chester is currently being undertaken as part of the evidence base work for the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

9.5 Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS) is a non-statutory designations intended to help protect areas of geological importance. These can be designated for scientific significance, aesthetics, historical importance or educational purposes. Cheshire West and Chester has a number of sites of importance, some crossing administrative boundaries.

9.6 The Cheshire West and Chester Open Space Audit and Assessment of Need is currently being updated. The study informs of the the existing amount of open space, sport and recreational facilities and identifies appropriate standards of provision to which new development could contribute with the aim of ensuring all households can access a broad range of high quality facilities.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Conservation Areas	96 Conservation Areas in Cheshire West and Chester	Not available	None identified	
	2015 5 Conservation Areas recorded as being at risk within CWAC by English Heritage.	2013 5 Conservation Areas recorded as being at risk within CWAC by English Heritage.	Reduction in the number of Conservation Areas at Risk	
Number and area of Regionally Important Geological Sites	24 sites (wholly or in part), covering 174ha	Not available	None identified	
Listed Buildings	2015 Number of Listed Building Entries: 2498 Grade I : 86 Grade II*:177 Grade II: 2235	2013 Number of Listed Building Entries: 2500 Grade I : 86 Grade II*:177 Grade II: 2237	None Identified	
	2015 No of Locally Listed Buildings:1313	2013 No of Locally Listed Buildings:1310	None Identified	No locally listed buildings within the former Chester City Council area
	2015 Listed Buildings at Risk: 19 Scheduled Monuments registered as being at risk on the English Heritage Buildings at Risk register:14	2013 Listed Buildings at Risk: 14 Scheduled Monuments registered as being at risk on the English Heritage Buildings at Risk register:23	Reduction in the number of Buildings at Risk.	The majority of the buildings recorded on the register in Cheshire West and Chester are located within rural areas.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Archaeology and Monuments	2015 Scheduled Monuments: 118 Area of Archaeological Importance: 1	2013 Scheduled Monuments: 116 Area of Archaeological Importance: 1	None Identified	
	Number of Cheshire Historic Environment Record entries 2015: 10,036	Number of Cheshire Historic Environment Record entries 2009: 3,194 2014: 5,727	None Identified	The number of records is continually changing as new information is received
Historic Parks and Gardens	2015: 7	2013: 7	None Identified	
Areas of Archaeological Potential	2015:11	2013:11	None Identified	
Number of Historic Battlefields	2015: 1 (Battle of Rowton, Waverton)	2013: 1 (Battle of Rowton, Waverton)	None Identified	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Open Space	Total amount of recreational and open space (ha/1000 people) 2011 Parks and Gardens: 0.23 Amenity Greenspace: 0.81 Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace: 1.40 Provision for Children (Under 12): 0.06 Provision for Young People: 0.023 Allotments: 0.12 Tennis Courts: 0.45, Bowling Greens 0.23 Cemeteries and Churchyards - 0.22 Green Corridors: No information available Civic Spaces: No information available	Total amount of recreational and open space (ha/1000 people) Cheshire City Council (2008) Parks and Gardens: 0.17 Amenity Greenspace: 0.83 Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace: 0.53 Green Corridors: 0.43 km Outdoor Sport and Recreation: 0.85 Young People and Children: 0.06 Allotments: 0.165 Cemeteries and Churchyards: 0.27 Ellesmere Port and Neston - Information Unavailable Vale Royal Borough Council (2005) Parks and Gardens - 0.88 Amenity Greenspace: 0.93 Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace: 6.43 Green Corridors: Information Unavailable Outdoor Sport and Recreation: 1.7 Young People and Children: 0.06 Allotments: 0.05 Cemeteries and Churchyards:	Local Standards (ha) per 1,000 population Parks and Gardens: 0.37 Amenity Greenspace: 0.81 Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace: 1.5 Provision for Children (Under 12) - No standard set Provision for Young People - No standard set Allotments: 0.15 Grass pitches and synthetic turf: Protection of existing provision Tennis Courts: 0.45 Bowling Greens: 0.23 Golf course: No standard set Cemeteries and Churchyards: 2.34 hectares of burial space will	An updated Open Space Study is currently being undertaken.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
			be required up to 2026 Green Corridors: No standard set in line with PPG17 guidance Civic Spaces - No standard set line with PPG17 guidance	
Areas of Special County Value (ASCV)	2015: 8	2009: 8	None Identified	
Landscape Character	2008 There are 20 landscape character areas in Cheshire as a whole	Not available	None identified	Work is underway to reassess Landscape Character Areas in Cheshire West and Chester.
	2007 The are 12 Historic landscape character groups in Cheshire as a whole: • Settlement • Woodland • Non-improved Land • Ornamental Landscapes • Ancient Fieldsapes • C20th Fieldsapes • Military • Communications	Not available	None identified	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
	- Industry - Recreation - Water Bodies			
Tourism	Examples of tourist attractions in Cheshire West and Chester - Blue Planet Aquarium - Chester Zoo - National Waterways Museum - Anderton Boat Lift - Delamere Forest - Cheshire Oaks - Waterways Network - Weaver Hall Museum - Ness Gardens - Oulton Park	Not available	None Identified	
	Number of visits to tourist attractions in Cheshire West and Chester (2013) Paid Chester Zoo: 1,413,936 Delamere Forest: 233, 330 Ness Botanic Gardens: 68,832 Beeston Castle: 51,997 Free	Number of visits to tourist attractions in Cheshire West and Chester (2012) Paid Chester Zoo: 1,405,233 Free Cheshire Ice Cream Farm: 400,000	None Identified	This information is for the attractions in Cheshire West and Chester that appear in top 20 paid and free North West attractions in the Visit England 2013 Annual Attractions Report.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
	Cheshire Ice Cream Farm: 510,000 Chester Cathedral: 55,000			
Sources of Data Number of Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Locally Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and Historic Parks and Gardens: English Heritage National Heritage List for England, Cheshire West and Chester Council Specialist Environmental Services Regionally Important Geological Sites: Information held by Cheshire West and Chester Special Environmental Services Heritage at Risk and Conservation Areas at Risk: Cheshire West and Chester AMR Open Space: Cheshire West and Chester Council Open Space Assessment 2011, Chester City Council Areas of Special County Value: Chester City Council, Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council, Vale Royal Borough Council adopted Local Plans Historic Landscape Character: Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Study 2007 Landscape Character Areas: Cheshire County Council Landscape Character Assessment 2008 Number of Visitors and Tourist Visits to Cheshire West and Chester: Visit Britain 2013 Annual Attractions Report				

Issues

9.7 Policy ENV 5 of the Local Plan (Part One) relates to the historic environment. It states that the Local Plan will protect the borough's heritage assets through the protection and identification of designated and non-designated heritage assets. The Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat this policy, but will impact on cultural heritage and landscape in terms of allocation of sites for development and for open space purposes and in more detailed heritage and landscape policies.

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Protection and enhancement of built heritage It is important to preserve and enhance the designated and non-designated historic environment resource and conserving the heritage of the area, for current and future generations. Listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments and historic parks and gardens all contribute to cultural heritage and should be afforded adequate protection from development.	Ensuring the protection of built heritage will be an issue for all parts of the borough where these features occur, however, Chester will require specific consideration.
Local distinctiveness and character Protecting and enhancing the natural, historic and cultural elements that contribute to local character is important to contribute to sustainability.	Applies to the whole Cheshire West and Chester authority area
Open space provision Under supply in the provision of some types of open space when compared to recommended standards.	Applies to the whole Cheshire West and Chester authority area

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
To preserve and enhance sites, features, areas and settings of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance	Will it ensure the continued protection and enhancement of physical sites and areas of importance to cultural and historical heritage and their settings, including the setting and character of Chester? Will it ensure the protection and enhancement of the significance of heritage assets?	Number of listings on the Heritage at Risk Register
		Number of built heritage features (Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments)
	Will it protect and enhance the number and area of RIGS?	Number and area of RIGS

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
To protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	Will it protect and reinforce the borough's landscapes and the natural, cultural and historic elements which make them distinct?	None identified
	Will it increase the provision of open space?	Total amount of open space (ha) per 1,000 persons

10 Population and human health

Evidence

10.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review . The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Table 10.1

Message/Issue	Relevant Documents
Need to improve current areas of deprivation and to tackle fuel poverty	- Cheshire West and Chester Affordable Warmth Strategy 2010-2013 - Home Energy Conservation Act Further Report 2015 - Vision 2050: A Sustainable Future for Cheshire West and Chester 2009 - Healthy Lives, Healthy People White Paper 2010 - Lifetime Homes, Lifetime Neighbourhoods: A National Strategy for Housing in a Ageing Society, 2008
Need to promote a healthy society	
Changing population structure, particularly with the threat of an ageing society	
Health issues and profiles for the borough as a whole and for specific areas within the borough	- Integrated Strategic Needs Assessment - Public Health Annual Reports
Health priorities and objectives for the borough	Cheshire West and Chester Council Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Draft 2015)

Baseline

10.2 Cheshire West and Chester has a population of approximately 330,000. The population density is comparatively low, reflecting the rural nature of much of the borough. The population structure shows an ageing population and a decreasing death rate as well as a decreasing average household size. This suggests that pressure for residential development is growing especially for particular forms of development, e.g. extra care homes.

10.3 Deprivation of a social, economical or environmental nature, can lead to social exclusion, and social problems. These include increases in crime rates, and decreases in the quality of the housing stock, living conditions, health, and educational attainment. Some indicators measure the effects of deprivation, and can act as secondary indicators themselves. The measure of the percentage of the population who smoke, binge drink or are obese can to some degree identify the scale of deprivation.

10.4 Cheshire West and Chester is a comparatively affluent area. However, fuel poverty is above the regional average and whilst overall the borough scores comparatively well on the Index of Multiple Deprivation, Cheshire West and Chester does have some of the worst areas of deprivation in the country, measured at Lower layer Super Output Area (LSOA) level. 30 LSOA's (14%) in Cheshire West and Chester were within the bottom 20% nationally. The most deprived LSOA was Lache Park L1 in Overleigh ward, with a national ranking of 363. The areas of deprivation identified are predominantly urban, and close to the centres of major urban areas within the Borough (Chester, Ellesmere Port, Northwich, and Winsford).

10.5 The Local Plan (Part Two) land Allocations and Detailed Policies will be subject to a Health Impact Assessment, which will be used to feed back into subsequent stages of the Sustainability Appraisal.

10.6 Health and wellbeing can also be improved by access to various forms of Green Infrastructure, either for recreation or physical exercise. It is currently difficult to quantify this impact.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Population	Population Size 2014: 332,210	Population Size 2011: 329,608	None identified	
	Population Structure 2014 (Mid-year estimate): 0-19: 74,020 (22.3%) 20-29: 38,564 (11.6%) 30-44: 60,045 (18.1%) 45-64: 92,017 (27.7%) 65-84: 58,915 (17.7%) 85+: 8,649 (2.6%)	Population Structure 2011: 0-19: 74,335 (22.6%) 20-29: 38,307 (11.6%) 30-44: 64,058 (19.4%) 45-64: 91,808 (27.9%) 65-84: 53,169 (16.1%) 85+: 7,931 (2.4%)	None identified	The population structure of the borough is increasingly older. This will have an impact on the types of housing and services needed, as well as their accessibility. The falling numbers of school age children may have an impact on the provision of schools.
	Total deaths in 2013: 3,186	Total deaths in 2012: 3,316	None identified	
	Average Household size (2011 census): 2.23	Average Household size (1991 Census): 2.43 Average Household size (2001 census): 2.42	None identified	
	Cheshire West and Chester Predicted Population Size 2026: 345,700	Not available	None identified	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Ethnicity and religion	Ethnicity Structure (2011 Census) White: 321,025 (97.4%) Mixed: 3,050 (0.9%) Asian/Asian British: 3,162 (1%) Black/Black British: 908 (0.3%) Chinese or Other: 1,463 (0.4%)	Ethnicity Structure (2001 Census) White: 317,157 (98.5%) Mixed: 1,641 (0.5%) Asian/Asian British: 1,418 (0.4%) Black/Black British: 362 (0.1%) Chinese or Other: 1,393 (0.4%)	None identified	
	Religious Groups (2011 Census) Christian: 231,126 (70.1%) Buddhist: 776 (0.2%) Hindu: 653 (0.2%) Jewish: 250 (0.1%) Muslim: 1,686 (0.5%) Sikh: 195 (0.05%) Other: 854 (0.3%) No Religion: 72649 (22%) Not Stated: 21,419(6.5%)	Religious Groups (2001 Census) Christian: 259,981 (80.7%) Buddhist: 540 (0.2%) Hindu: 393 (0.1%) Jewish: 236 (0.07%) Muslim: 1,058 (0.3%) Sikh: 163 (0.05%) Other: 440 (0.1%) No Religion: 36,997 (11.5%) Not Stated: 22,163 (6.9%)	None identified	
Deprivation	Index of Multiple Deprivation (2010) Cheshire West and Chester: 177	Index of Multiple Deprivation (2004) Rank: Chester: 178 Ellesmere Port & Neston: 141 Vale Royal: 176	Reduce number of areas in the worst 5% nationally for deprivation, by 2009. Longer term ambition is to have less than 20% of people with a household income of under 60% of the GB median by 2020	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
			(Regional Economic Strategy, NWDA 2006)	
	Percentage of Lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOA's) within Cheshire West and Chester in the bottom 20% in the Index of Multiple Deprivation (2010): 15.6%	Not available	Reduce number of areas in the worst 5% nationally for deprivation, by 2009. Longer term ambition is to have less than 20% of people with a household income of under 60% of the GB median by 2020 (Regional Economic Strategy, NWDA 2006)	These LSAO's were predominantly concentrated in Ellesmere Port (Grange, Stanlow & Wolverham, and Central wards) and Chester (Blacon Hall, and Blacon Lodge wards). Northwich Witton, and Winsford The most deprived LSOA was Lache Park in Overleigh ward, with a national ranking of 363.
	Households in fuel poverty (2013): 12,823 (8.9%)	Households in fuel poverty (2011): 22,877 (16.1%)	No-one should be living in fuel poverty by 2016/18, with no vulnerable households by 2010	
	Car/Van Ownership (2011 census): 115,145 households (81.4%)	Car/Van Ownership (2001 census): 105,922 households (79.7%)	None identified	
Health	Number of Super Output Areas within 20% most deprived with regard to health (2010) : 31 (14.7%)	Not available	None identified	These LSOA's are predominantly concentrated in the wards of Blacon Hall, Central, Stanlow &

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
				Wolverham, and Grange, although 22 other wards in the borough have an area of need.
	Percentage of population with a limiting long term illness 2011: 18.5%	Percentage of population with a limiting long term illness 2001: 12.4%	None identified	
	Alcohol attributable hospital admissions (2014): per 100000 males: 1633.61 per 100000 females: 804.05	Alcohol attributable hospital admissions (2010): per 100000 males: 1539.1 per 100000 females: 940.2	None identified	Figures do not include A&E attendance.
	Adult population that smoke: 2011/12 = 19.5%	Adult population that smoke: 2009/10= 20.4% 2010/11= 19.4%	None identified	
	Adult population classified as obese 2012: 25.5%	Percentage of population classified as obese (2003-5): Chester: 19.2% Ellesmere Port & Neston: 23.7% Vale Royal: 21.3%	None identified	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
<u>Sources of Data:</u> Population Size, Age Structure, Total Deaths, Car Ownership, Average Household Size, Ethnicity Structure, Religious Groups, Percentage of population with limiting long term illness (both in Cheshire West and Chester and England):Office for National Statistics Predicated Population Size: ONS 2007 Registrar General's Mid Year Estimates (MYE)/2008 - 2027 Cheshire West and Chester Council, Population Forecasts Source: Office for National Statistics Index of Multiple Deprivation: including botton 20% LSOAs: DCLG via http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/indices/2010 Households in Fuel Poverty: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/2013-sub-regional-fuel-poverty-data-low-income-high-costs-indicator Number of Super Output Areas within the 20% most Deprived with regard to Health, DCLG via http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/indices/2010 No of Alcohol Attributed Hospital Admissions, Percentage adult population that Smoke from CWaC Compendium of Health and Wellbeing Statistics, 2014 Percentage of population classified as obese in England 2004from NHS data: http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/opadjan08, 2012 from http://www.noo.org.uk/LA/obesity_prev/adults All ONS data is ONS Crown Copyright 2011. Crown Copyright material is produced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. ONS website http://www.statistics.gov.uk				

Issues

10.7 Issues relating to population and human health are dealt with in the Local Plan (Part One) through policy SOC5 Health and Wellbeing, which looks to support proposals that improve the health and wellbeing of residents. The Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat this policy, but may include greater detail.

10.8 The table below sets out key issues and problems and explains how they are relevant to the Local Plan (Part Two).

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Population change Increasing population due to falling death rate and increasing life expectancy, putting strain on infrastructure and resources. The Local Plan (Part One) sets the level of development for the borough, but the provision of infrastructure and the location of allocated sites for new development will be considered through the Local Plan (Part Two).	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester
Ageing population Ageing population putting strain on health infrastructure, and community services, as well as reducing the tax revenue. This will have a further impact upon the numbers and type of housing need in the Borough. The requirements for health infrastructure and community services as part of new developments are set through the Local Plan (Part One), but the provision of infrastructure and the location of allocated sites for new development will be considered through the Local Plan (Part Two).	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester
Areas of deprivation Increase in the percentage of LSOA's within the borough in bottom 20% nationally. The Local Plan (Part One) Policy SOC 5 provides support for proposals that work to reduce poverty and deprivation. This issue will also need to be considered when assessing potential sites for development, as new development may help to reduce deprivation.	Blacon, and the central areas of Ellesmere Port, Winsford and Northwich are all within the bottom 20% nationally.
Health problems Some areas of high levels of population with limiting long term illness, smokers, binge drinking, and classified as obese. Policy SOC 5 in the Local Plan (Part One) sets out support for proposals that specifically deal with health and wellbeing issues. The Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat these requirements, but the impact on health	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester, particularly for former Ellesmere Port & Neston district with regards to limiting long-term illness.

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
will need to be taken into account when allocating sites for development and any sites for services and facilities.	
Fuel poverty To bring an end to fuel poverty in Cheshire West and Chester. Policy ENV 6 in the Local Plan (Part One) states that development should include energy efficiency measures and provide for renewable energy generation. Policy ENV 7 relates to alternative energy supplies and includes district heating networks. The Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat these requirements, but the potential new allocations will need to take account of possibilities for sustainable energy generation and connection to district heating networks.	Vulnerable and low income households in Cheshire West and Chester

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
Improve health and social inclusion, whilst reducing inequality, and valuing diversity and equality.	Will it improve the health, or access to health facilities, particularly in those areas identified as in need?	Index of multiple deprivation within Cheshire West and Chester
	Will it improve the access to services especially in rural areas?	None identified
	Will it reduce the poverty gap?	Households in fuel poverty Index of multiple deprivation within Cheshire West and Chester
	Will it improve social inclusion and access to services from both urban and rural areas?	Reduction in the numbers of LSOA's in the bottom 20%

11 Housing

Evidence

11.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/ issue	Relevant document(s)
Need to reduce the impact of houses on the environment, and to increase the number of sustainable homes and communities.	• Lifetime Homes, Lifetime Neighbourhoods: A national strategy for housing in an ageing society DCLG, 2008 • Building a Greener Future: policy statement DCLG, 2007 • Homes for the future: more affordable, more sustainable Housing Green Paper DCLG, 2007 • Making it Happen: Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council Corporate Plan 2009-2011 • Cheshire West and Chester SHMA, 2013
Need for additional housing, both market and affordable, and with consideration of specialist groups including Gypsies and Travellers, and students.	
Need to address increasing homelessness, and an increasing need for affordable housing within the borough.	

Baseline

11.2 Local Planning Authorities are required to plan, monitor and manage the supply of new housing. As part of this there must be regular reviews of the amount and type of housing required and the manner in which this need is met. This was previously set out in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), identifying a profile of the housing stock and requirements of the population within the housing market; and the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA), which identified a broad supply of sites for housing that have been assessed for developability over the plan period. The five year deliverable supply of housing was updated through the evidence presented at the Local Plan (Part One) in the Matter Eight statement and supporting information. These documents will be replaced with the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment, which the council is in the process of completing.

11.3 As is shown below, the number of new houses being built over the last few years has been in decline. This is likely to be due to the prevailing economic conditions, and not a long term trend. It does, however, increase pressure on housing completion figures further to meet regional targets.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Housing stock	Occupied Housing stock 2013 Detached House: 27.7% Semi-Detached House: 31.2% Terraced House: 16.9% Bungalow: 12.6% Flat/apartment/Maisonette: 11.1% Other: 1%	Occupied Housing stock 2009 Detached House : 28.3% Semi-Detached House: 33.1% Terraced House:18.7% Bungalow: 8.9% Maisonette: 0.5% Flat/apartment: 9.7% Caravan/Park home: 0.4% Other: 0.5%	None identified	
Vacant property		2011 = 4945 2012 = 4967 2013 = 4266 2014 = 4059	Reduce vacancy rates to 3% of existing dwelling stock, through an increase in bringing empty homes back in to use	Change in national dataset used.
Housing need	Housing Preferences by Type (2013): House: 52.6% Flat: 30.8% Bungalow: 16.6%	Housing Need by Type (2009): House: 86.1% Flat: 17.5% Bungalow: 35.6%	None identified	Part One requires a mix of house type and size to meet a range of needs
	Housing Need by Tenure (2013): Owner Occupied: 7711 Affordable: 1673 Private Rented: 3234	Housing Need by Tenure (2009): Owner Occupied: 5,660 Council/Transfer RSL: 2,089 Other RSL: 335 Private Rented: 1,736 Intermediate: 26	None identified	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Housing supply	At the base date of the Plan the baseline figure is zero against a target of 22,000 net new dwellings (2010-2030)	2010-11= 654 2011-12= 796 2012-13= 673 2013-14 = 970 2014-15 = 1,571 Total net new dwellings delivered since the base date of the plan is 4,664	Provision of 1,100 net dwellings per annum. At least 22,000 net dwellings between 2010 and 2030	
House prices	Average (median) House Price 2015 = 157,954	Average (median) House Price 2001= £82,608	None identified	
Homelessness	At the base date of the Plan the level of homeless sleepers recorded = 72	2009/10 = 34 2010/11 = 72 2011/12 = 100 2014/15 = 90	None identified	
Affordable housing	Need for Affordable Housing (2013): 1,662 per year	Need for Affordable Housing (2009): 1,244 per year	None identified	SHMA identifies a target of 714 affordable units per year?
	At the base date of the Plan the baseline figure for affordable housing delivery is zero	Annual affordable housing delivery 2010/11 = 263	Up to 30% affordable housing on schemes that:	

Housing

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
		2011/12 = 390 2012-13 = 184 2013/14 = 161 2014/15 = 572	- in the urban areas have a capacity for 10+ dwellings / 0.3 ha or more; and - in the rural area have a capacity for 3+ dwellings / 0.1 ha or more.	
Housing quality	Private Sector Housing 2010: 21.3% (31,430 houses) are classed as non decent	Not available	None identified	Non decency in the borough is significantly higher in the private rented sector and geographically in the rural areas and Broxton, Goway, Ledsham & Willaston and Upton wards.
Gypsy and Traveller	Number of Gypsy and Traveller Pitches (2014-5): 9 sites with permanent planning permission with a combined total of 95 pitches.	Number of Gypsy and Traveller Pitches (2014): 7 sites with permanent planning permission with a combined total of 65 pitches. A further 8 sites have temporary planning permission with a combined total of 25 pitches. 1 site for travelling show persons with 14 pitches.	Gypsy and Traveller pitches - 15 pitches 2013 - 2018, 15 pitches 2018 - 2023 and 16 pitches 2023 - 2028 Travelling Showpersons plots - 11 plots 2013 - 2018, 1 plot 2018 - 2023 and 1 plot 2023 - 2028	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
			Transit site - 5-10 pitches by 2030	
<u>Sources of data</u> Housing Stock, Housing Need: Cheshire West and Chester SHMA 2009, and SHMA 2013 Homelessness:https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness Number of vacant dwellings: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-dwelling-stock-including-vacants Housing Supply, Affordable Housing, Number of Gypsy and Traveller Sites: Cheshire West and Chester AMR Average House Price 2012 England and Wales taken from Land Registry Press Release July 15 Housing Quality: Cheshire West and Chester Private Sector Housing Conditions Report, April 2010				

Issues

11.4 The Local Plan (Part One) policy STRAT 1 sets the overall housing requirement for the borough between 2010 and 2030. 22,000 net new dwellings by 2030 is an ambitious figure and this level of growth will enable a significant boost in housing supply in line with the Framework. The spatial strategy of the Plan to deliver the required level of development set in STRAT 1 is detailed in the individual policies for each spatial area (STRAT 3 to 9).

11.5 The mix and type of housing provided needs to be appropriate in terms of the needs for different sizes and types of homes. Policy SOC 3 seeks to provide new developments that take account of the needs of the particular area.

11.6 Providing affordable housing across the borough is to be met through securing affordable units within all new residential development. SOC 1 seeks to secure up to 30% affordable dwellings as per the policy requirements. In the rural area policy SOC 2 allows for 100% affordable housing where necessary to meet local housing needs on small exception sites. Rural exception sites are classed as those that would otherwise not be appropriate for housing, adjacent to key service centres and local service centres including those in the Green Belt.

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
New housing Identify land / sites to meet the overall requirement for new housing Identify land / sites to meet the housing requirements in each spatial area	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester
Mix and type of new housing Need to secure a mix of housing types and sizes in new residential developments, including affordable housing / starter homes	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester
Environmental impact of new housing Need to reduce the impact of existing and new housing on the environment	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester
Housing for specialist groups Need to provide adequate accommodation, both in numbers and quality, for specialist housing needs, e.g. Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester
Housing for older people	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Need to ensure adequate provision of extra care/sheltered housing for elderly residents. This will be of increasing importance as the population structure of the Borough ages.	
Housing in rural areas Need to ensure adequate housing provision, both market and affordable, in rural areas.	An issue for all rural areas in Cheshire West and Chester.

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
Provide sufficient housing to meet identified needs including affordable housing, and specialist groups	Will the housing meet relevant accessibility standards?	None identified
	Does the housing meet identified needs?	Number of gross affordable housing completions
		Number of Extra Care schemes approved
		Number of vacant and unfit dwellings
		Number of gross new dwellings completed on previously developed land.
		Net additional gypsy and traveller pitches delivered

12 Community safety

Evidence

12.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/ issue	Relevant document(s)
Ensure good design, including designing out crime	- World Class Places - The Government's Strategy for Improving Quality of Place - Sustainable Communities in the North West - Cheshire West and Chester Sustainable Community Strategy 2011-2026 - Cheshire West and Chester Sustainable Community Strategy 2011-2026 - Tomorrow's Roads: Safer for Everyone - Cheshire West and Chester Local Transport Plan 2011-2026
Ensure that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable and liveable communities.	
Reduce the level of crime and fear of crime.	
Reduce the number of people and children killed and seriously injured on the roads	

Baseline

12.2 Safe and healthy neighbourhoods are fundamental to the economic, social and environmental well-being of the community. Crime is not a particular problem in Cheshire West and Chester, however, a disproportionately high percentage of residents remain worried about becoming a victim of crime.

12.3 Well designed places can reduce the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime, helping to create safer, more attractive environments. Consideration of crime reduction measures at all stages of the planning process has a demonstrable positive impact on levels of crime and anti-social behaviour.

12.4 Such proactive measures can have a significant impact on public spending on community safety issues and should therefore form a key consideration in the design and layout of new development. The recognised standard for incorporating these principles into the planning process is 'Secured by Design'.

12.5 The number of people killed or seriously injured on roads in Cheshire West and Chester saw a rise in 2011, but has begun to drop again. There has been a small increase in the total number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Burglaries in a dwelling	2013/14: 831	2011/12: 762 2012/13: 650	None identified	
Assault with injury	2013/14: 1800	2011/12: 1595* 2012/13: 1446	None identified	*Figures for Assault with Injury do not exist before 2012/13. As such, figures for Actually Bodily Harm and other Injuries have been used as a comparator.
Fear of crime	2011 Perceive a high level of anti-social behaviour: 11.4% Agree that crime issues are successfully dealt with in their local area: 31.6%	2010 Perceive a high level of anti-social behaviour: 12.3% Agree that crime issues are successfully dealt with in their local area: 28.4%	Reduction over time	
Total number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions	2013: 136	2010: 185 2011: 228 2012: 214	None identified	Whilst no formal target is identified, the clear aim is for there to be no-one killed or seriously injured on our roads.
Total number of children (aged under 16) killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions	2013: 15	2010: 11 2011: 10 2012: 13	None identified	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
<u>Sources of Data</u> BUrglaries in a dwelling, Assault with injury: Police Recorded Crime by Local Area, 2013/14 http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/re1/crime-stats/crime-statistics/period-ending-march-2014/sty-police-recorded-crime.html Fear of Crime: Cheshire West and Chester Our Community Survey (2010 and 2011) KSI data: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/357438/ras41003.xls				

Issues

12.6 Issues relating to community safety are dealt with in the Local Plan (Part One) through policy SOC5 Health and wellbeing which looks to promote safe and accessible environments and developments. The Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat this policy, but may add greater detail.

12.7 The table below sets out key issues and problems and explains how they are relevant to the Local Plan (Part Two).

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Reducing fear of crime Reduce the fear of crime and increase feelings of safety	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester and particularly for the night time economy in Chester City Centre
Monitoring of the designing out of crime Difficulty in monitoring planning applications granted permission which meet the principles of 'Secured by Design'	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester
Road Safety Reduce the number of people and children killed and seriously injured on Cheshire West and Chester's roads	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
To create a safe environment to live in and reduce the fear of crime.	Will it reduce opportunities for crime, and therefore, levels of crime?	Domestic burglaries per 1000 households
		Violent crime per year per 1000 population in the LA area
	Will it affect the fear of crime and feelings of safety?	Fear of crime (Community Survey)
	Will it improve road safety and reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on the roads?	Total number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions
		Total number of children (aged under 16) killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions

13 Economic development

Evidence

13.1 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below illustrates the messages and issues deemed most relevant and the source documents.

Message/ issue	Relevant document(s)
To deliver the levels of employment growth identified in the Local Plan (Part One), supporting an additional 14,000 people in employment.	
Achieving Sustainable Development, covering economic, environmental and social benefits.	- Local plan (Part One) Strategic Policies - Cheshire and Warrington Means Business, 2010 - Cheshire and Warrington Local Economic Assessment 2011 - North East Wales / West Cheshire Sub-Regional Spatial Strategy (non-statutory), 2007 - MDA Business Plan and Delivery Plan 2008-2011 - Cheshire West and Chester Local Economic Assessment, 2011 - Cheshire West and Chester Employment Land Study Update, 2013 - Cheshire West and Chester Sustainable Community Strategy - Cheshire West and Chester Corporate Plan - NPPF, 2012 - Stern Review: The Economics of Climate Change, 2006 - Winsford Neighbourhood Plan
Need to plan positively and proactively for economic development in both urban and rural areas, promoting the vitality and viability of existing centres.	
To consider the economic impact of climate change. There is an opportunity to exploit the market in the growth of environmental technologies.	
Need to recognise the importance of tourism to the local economy and deliver new tourism developments in a sustainable manner.	
Cheshire and Warrington should contribute significantly to economic growth by accommodating significant increases in population, housing, jobs and GVA, which can be achieved through the sustainable development of existing settlements across the area. Priorities for the Cheshire and Warrington area build on the sub-regions competitive advantages, including a knowledge-rich economy, enterprise culture, educated and skilled workforce, and a well connected location.	
Need to consider sub-regional links with North East Wales to promote a sustainable sub-regional economy.	
Cheshire West and Chester is an affluent skilled area, although it has some pockets of deprivation. The most attractive business locations are the areas close to key road routes and on the main business parks and industrial estates, together with Chester city centre. The key long term economic issue for the Borough is likely to be its ageing population and slow population growth.	

Message/ issue	Relevant document(s)
To deliver major regeneration programmes, whilst supporting the development of a sustainable and resilient economy, with improved access to employment for all sectors of the community.	

Baseline

13.2 The baseline information identifies that there is a large land resource for employment land across Cheshire West and Chester. However, there are a small number of large allocations that make up the majority of the supply. In addition, some land may be reserved for specialist uses and/or retained as expansion land by a specific employer. The employment land allocations across the Borough will be reviewed in preparation of Local Plan (Part Two).

13.3 Employment distribution by sector varies across the borough, with Public Administration, Education and Health, and Wholesale and Retail the largest employment groups. Manufacturing, primarily in the north of the borough, still accounts for around a tenth of all jobs. The Weaver Valley area to the east has a more balanced distribution of both manufacturing and service sectors.

13.4 Business start up rates give an indicator of the health of local businesses and entrepreneurial activity. There has been an increase over the last couple of years in new business births and a small decrease in deaths.

13.5 Unemployment rates continue to vary across Cheshire West and Chester. Higher levels of unemployment continue to be found in the large urban areas of the borough, in particular in central parts of Ellesmere Port, Winsford, Northwich and the Blacon, Lache, Hoole Groves and Vicars Cross areas of Chester, with the lowest levels still being seen in rural areas. The percentage of economically active working age persons in the borough has fallen since 2013. The proportion of the population with a no qualifications has increased since 2012, whilst the proportion of the population with at least an NVQ level 2 qualification has stayed static.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Land / floorspace	Realistic Employment Land Supply (ha) April 2015: 322.1ha Realistic Employment land supply by type and location (ha): Chester 13, Ellesmere Port 166, Northwich 48, Rural 30, Winsford 65	Employment Land Available Cheshire West and Chester (ha) 2013: 315.7ha	2010-2030: at least 365ha employment land - on target	The majority of employment land supply comprises undeveloped allocations to be reviewed through Part Two. There is a range of sizes and types of site Borough wide, with the majority of current provision in Ellesmere Port.
	Cumulative employment Land (ha) developed 2010-2030: 1st April 2015: 85ha Employment completions by type and location(ha): 1st April 2015 Chester:0, Ellesmere Port 3.75, Northwich 5.72, Rural 9.14, Winsford 2.03. Amount of gross floorspace (m²) developed for employment land by type April 2015: B1a: 2765 B1b: 0	Cumulative employment Land (ha) developed 2010-2030: 1st April 2013: 65ha Amount of gross floorspace (m²) developed for employment land by type April 2013: B1a: 5590.9 B1b: 0 B1c: 30 B2: 797.1 B8: 3681.6 Mixed B uses: 323	2010-2030: at least 365ha employment land - on target	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
	B1c: 4212 B2: 14506 B8: 12101 Mixed B uses: 870 Total: 32842 Loss of employment land 1st April 2015: 11ha	Total: 10422.6		
Retail & town centres	Amount of gross floorspace (m ²) for town centre uses in town centres April 2015 A1: 49,707.5 A2: 677 A3: 5769.6 A4: 3054.15 A5: 752.4 B1a: 0 D2: 430 Total: 60390.65	April 2013 A1: 4670.4 A2: 0 A3: 246 A4: 0 A5: 102.8 B1a: 0 D2: 0 Total: 5019.2	None identified	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
	Vacant retail units April 2015 Chester - Primary/Secondary shopping streets: 12.9% Northwich Primary Shopping Area: 20.2% Winsford Town Centre: 19.4% Ellesmere Port Town Centre: 13.3% Neston: 15.6% Frodsham: 5.9%	April 2013 Chester - Primary/Secondary shopping streets: 13.2% Northwich Primary Shopping Area: 21.6% Winsford Town Centre: 19% Ellesmere Port Town Centre: 16.6% Neston: 10.9% Frodsham: 3.9%	None identified	
Unemployment	Unemployment rate Dec 2014 8,400 (5%)	June 2011 6,298 (3.0%) Sep 2013 10,100 (6.1%)	None identified	
	Number and percentage of Job Seekers Allowance claimants claiming for more than 12 months May 2015 Aged 18-24: 50 (0.2%) Aged 25-49: 280 (0.3%) Aged 50-64: 160 (0.2%)	June 2011 Aged 18-24: 30 (0.1%) Aged 25-49: 500 (0.5%) Aged 50-64: 175 (0.3%) Sep 2013 Aged 18-24: 125 (0.5%)	None identified	Percentages are as a proportion of the resident population of the same age

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
		Aged 25-49: 600 (0.6%) Aged 50-64: 240 (0.4%)		
	No of borough residents in employment Dec 2014 = 74%	January to December 2010: 74.5% Oct 2012 to Sep 2013: 80.3%	None identified	
Employment	Employment by Broad Industrial Group 2013 Primary Services (Agriculture and Mining)= 0.2% Energy and Water = 0.7% Manufacturing= 9.3% Construction= 3.8% Wholesale and Retail= 17.8% Transport Storage= 4.1% Accommodation and Food Services= 7.9%	2012 Primary Services (Agriculture & Mining)= 0.2% Energy and Water = 0.6% Manufacturing= 9.1% Construction= 4.1% Wholesale and Retail= 17.8% Transport Storage= 4.2% Accommodation and Food Services= 8.5% Information and Communication= 2.3% Financial and Other Business Services= 24.6%	None identified	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
Enterprise	Information and Communication= 2.0% Financial and Other Business Services= 24.1% Public Admin, Education and Health= 24.7% Other Services= 5.3%	Public Admin, Education and Health= 25% Other Services= 3.7%		
	Homeworking Cheshire West and Chester 2011: 5.3%	Not available	None identified	
	Births of new enterprises in Cheshire West and Chester 2013: 1,800	2010: 1,160 2011: 1,350 2012: 1,425	None identified	
	No of businesses 2014: 12,195	2013: 11,630	None identified	
Skills	Deaths of enterprises in Cheshire West and Chester 2013: 1,235	2010: 1,205 2011: 1,185 2012: 1,305	None identified	
	Working age population with no qualifications January to December 2014: 10.8%	January to December 2010: 7.7% January to December 2012: 7.3%	None identified	

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
	Working population qualified to NVQ level 2 and above January to December 2014: 76.1%	January to December 2010: 73.2% January to December 2012: 76.2%	None identified	
	Working population qualified to NVQ level 4 and above January to December 2014: 36.9%	January to December 2010: 35.2% January to December 2012: 31.8%	None identified	
Output	Gross Value Added (£million) 2013 = 7,567	Gross Value Added (£million) 2010 = 7,646 2011 = 7,658 2012 = 7,400	None identified	2013 figure is provisional
Travel to work patterns	Percentage of residents who commute outside of Cheshire West and Chester 2011: 31.56%	Percentage of residents who commute outside of Cheshire West and Chester 2011: 34.3%	None identified	The majority of outward trips were to East Cheshire, Warrington, Greater Manchester, and the Wirral.

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
	Distance travelled to work by residents 2011 Works mainly at or from home: 10.8% Less than 2km: 16.6% 2km-<5km: 16% 5km-<10km: 14.6% 10km-<20km: 17% 20km-<30km: 8.5% 30km-<40km: 3.6% 40km-<60km: 2.6% 60km and over: 3.4% Other: 6.7%	2001 Works mainly at or from home: 9.2% Less than 2km: 18.76% 2km-<5km: 18.7% 5km-<10km: 15.62% 10km-<20km: 17.65% 20km-<30km: 7.9% 30km-<40km: 3.41% 40km-<60km: 2.44% 60km and over: 2.5% No fixed place of work: 3.34% Working outside the UK: 0.3% Working at offshore installation: 0.08%	None identified	
	Percentage of people working in Cheshire West and Chester that commute into the Authority area. 2011 34.69%	Percentage of people working in Cheshire West and Chester that commute into the Authority area. 2001 33.4%	None identified	
Source of Data: Land/Floorspace, Retail & Town Centre Vacancies - Cheshire West and Chester Annual Monitoring Report. Unemployment statistics and Economic Activity, Employment by Broad Industrial Group, Home Working, Skills -Official Labour Market Statistics (Nomisweb). https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/imp/la/1946157072/report.aspx#tabempunemp No of borough residents in employment - Cheshire West and Chester AMR Enterprise - Office for National Statistics, Business Demography 2012. http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcml?edition=tcml%3A77-357041				

Feature	Baseline	Trends	Targets	Comment
No of businesses - Cheshire West and Chester AMR GVA Output - ONS NUTS3 data http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/search/index.html?nscl=Regional+GVA&nscl-orig=Regional+GVA&content-type=Dataset&content-type=Reference+table&sortDirection=DESCENDING&sortBy=pubdate Travel to Work Patterns - Neighbourhood Statistics, 2011 Census. http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/HTMLDocs/Commute_APS_Chart/APS_2010_11.html				

Issues

13.6 The Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies sets out the Council's ambitions for growth and development to 2030 and how this will be distributed across the Borough. Key components of the Plan are to support a level of growth and delivery of 22,000 new homes and an additional 14,000 people in employment. Economic growth and development is a key part of the strategic policies STRAT2-9, which set out the overall Borough wide strategy and the specific economic development issues for each of the main urban areas, the rural area and elsewhere in the Green Belt and open countryside. During the period 2010-2030, the Plan will deliver at least 365ha of land for employment development to meet a range of types and size of site. Development will be brought forward in line with the settlement hierarchy and some key sites have been identified through the Part One Plan. To deliver the levels of development outlined, existing land allocations will be reviewed and identified in the preparation of Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies and/or Neighbourhood Plans.

13.7 In addition, Local Plan (Part One) provides a policy framework for future economic growth, employment and enterprise (policy ECON1), town centres (policy ECON2) and the visitor economy (policy ECON3).

13.8 Local Plan (Part Two) will not repeat these policies, but will review existing employment land allocations and identify new allocations (in some locations) to meet the employment requirement of the Part One Plan. It will review detailed town centre and local centre designations and policies to support continued economic growth of the Borough's centres. It will also provide a more detailed policy framework for new tourism development and all forms of visitor accommodation in the Borough.

13.9 The table below sets out key issues and problems, the areas affected and explains how they are relevant to the Local Plan (Part Two):

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
Unemployment Need to reduce the unemployment levels, and the number of people out of work for longer than a year.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester, although with greater consideration for those identified areas of deprivation.
Employment distribution by sector Need to maintain a balanced range of employment opportunities in different employment sectors.	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester, with specific geographical variations depending on the dominant sector, e.g financial and professional services sectors in Chester, manufacturing and chemical industries in Ellesmere Port.
Employment land supply There is a need to ensure suitable, available and deliverable employment land is available within the area, particularly of an appropriate size and	An issue for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester. Specific employment land supply issues are identified in Local Plan (Part One) for the following areas; • Chester: The Chester Business Quarter is a major regeneration initiative to deliver new employment growth

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
type to meet the forecast economic demand and needs of businesses. Local Plan (Part One) identifies at least 365ha employment land will be required for the period 2010-2030 Borough wide. (NB. Existing employment provision is comprised of undeveloped retained employment allocations in the former District Local Plans and planning commitments for employment use. These will be reviewed in Local Plan Part Two)	in the city. Chester Business Park, Chester West Employment Park and Sealand Industrial Estates are important existing business locations. • Ellesmere Port: there is considerable potential for future economic growth in New Bridge Road and Stanlow areas. The detailed nature and extent of employment land allocations in Ellesmere Port will be reviewed in Part Two. Sub regionally important sites are identified. • Northwich: Provision will be made for at least an additional 30ha new employment land allocations. Gadbrook Park will be protected and further expansion will be assessed through Part Two. • Winsford: Provision will be made for at least an additional 35ha new employment land allocations. Winsford Industrial Estate and Woodford part are identified as important employment locations. The Winsford Neighbourhood Plan allocates a site for the expansion of the Industrial Estate to meet this additional need. • Middlewich: consider the allocation of land if justified around Middlewich • Rural: Provision will be made for at least an additional 10ha new employment land allocations, to allow for the expansion of existing employment sites and new sites on the edge of key service centres outside of the green belt. • Green Belt and open countryside: There are some major developed sites in the green belt e.g. Urenco. In the open countryside support is provided for the expansion of existing buildings to facilitate business growth, proportionate to the nature, scale and setting. It allows for development with an operational need for a rural location i.e. Agriculture.
Vitality and viability of city, town and local centres The vitality and viability of existing centres should be maintained and enhanced.	Chester city centre and the urban areas of Ellesmere Port, Northwich and Winsford. Smaller market towns / key service centres, suburban and village centres which provide access to services for local communities are also affected. Local Plan (Part One) sets out the retail hierarchy in the Borough. The Local Plan (Part Two) will review primary shopping areas as well as District and Local Centres.

Key issues and problems	Communities/ areas most affected
	The Local Plan (Part Two) will need to consider the regeneration objectives of specific sites within the Borough's centres.
Visitor economy A high proportion of jobs are linked to the tourism sector and a key issue will be maintaining, and then increasing, the strength of the visitor economy and the cultural offer of the borough. Local plan (Part One) policy ECON3 supports the expansion and creation of tourism assets, where of a suitable scale and type.	Issue for whole of Cheshire West and Chester, with specific consideration for Chester city centre, and other existing tourism facilities. • Chester is identified as a sub-regionally important shopping leisure and international tourism destination. • Ellesmere Port; Part One supports the improvement of the historic canal port as a major tourism facility. • Northwich: support for the delivery of Northwich Riverside projects • Winsford: support for significant improvements to leisure facilities and improved access to the River Weaver • Rural: support for diversification schemes and the reuse of buildings particularly for economic use. • Green Belt: major developed sites in the green belt include Chester Zoo and Delamere Forest. Areas affected will be dependant on the nature, scale and type of visitor attraction or accommodation proposed in the Local Plan (Part Two).

Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators

13.10 The following objectives, criteria and indicators have been developed to assess the sustainability effects relating to the economy.

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
To support sustainable economic growth and competitiveness, and provide opportunities for ongoing private sector investment.	Will the plan provide a balanced portfolio of employment land for the area?	Employment land supply
	Will the plan provide employment land of a suitable type in a sustainable location?	Amount of employment land developed by type
	Does it provide opportunities for the creation of new businesses? Will it minimise the loss / displacement of existing businesses?	Enterprise births and deaths
	Will the Plan contribute to meeting the employment needs of the rural/urban area? Will the plan contribute to developing a more skilled workforce?	Qualifications NVQ level 2 and above, level 4 and above. % of working age population with no qualifications
	Does the plan support sustainable growth in the economy?	GVA
To develop and enhance the visitor economy/tourism.	Does the plan promote tourism and the visitor economy?	None identified
	Will the plan improve accessibility to jobs in the area?	None identified
To promote regeneration, particularly of deprived areas.	Will the plan deliver urban/rural regeneration?	None identified
	Will the plan improve economic conditions, particularly in deprived areas?	Indices of Deprivation
	Will the plan support rural diversification?	None identified
To maintain and improve the vitality and viability of City, town and local centres	Will the Plan safeguard shops and services in existing centres?	Vacancy rates within town centres.
	Will the Plan safeguard and improve the retail, leisure and service provision?	Amount of floorspace developed for town centre uses

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria/ sub-objective	Baseline indicator
	Will the Plan provide improved physical, social and environmental infrastructure in city, town and local centres?	None identified

14 Summary

14.1 The scoping study has identified a sustainability appraisal framework which will enable the social, economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies to be assessed. The scoping report identifies a series of sustainability objectives and sub-objectives that can be monitored over time. The complete set of sustainability objectives and sub-criteria that form the sustainability framework is listed in the table below.

	Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria / sub-objective
1	Address the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change.	Will it reduce the potential impacts of climate change? Will it help to minimise and reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, in particular CO ₂ ? Will it ensure that new development is in accessible locations in order to reduce the need for car borne travel and / or encourage sustainable forms of transport? Will it minimise the impacts of flooding? Will it promote and enhance current green infrastructure? Will it provide opportunities to create green infrastructure?
2	To reduce energy consumption, promote energy efficiency and increase the use of energy from renewable resources.	Will it reduce energy consumption? Will it promote energy efficiency? Will it result in an increase in the installed renewable energy capacity?
3	To protect and enhance the borough's biodiversity and wildlife habitats.	Will it protect and promote effective management of the borough's sites of ecological and nature conservation importance? Will it provide opportunities for the enhancement and creation of habitats and to foster species conservation, diversity and resilience to climate change? Will it maintain, enhance and increase (rural and urban) tree cover and woodlands?
4	To minimise the risk of flooding.	Will it reduce the risk of flooding e.g. encourage the integration of mitigation measures such as SUDs into new development? Is new development directed towards areas of least risk, dependant on the compatibility of the proposed use?

	Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria / sub-objective
5	To protect, maintain and improve the quality of water resources, minimise the risk of pollution and improve water efficiency.	Will the Plan protect, maintain and improve the quality of water resources? Will the Plan minimise the risk of pollution arising from new development? Will the plan encourage water efficiency and promote the use of grey-water recycling / rainwater harvesting?
6	To protect air quality where it is of a high standard and to improve it elsewhere.	Will it improve or have an insignificant effect on local air quality, ensuring minimum impact on people's health? Will it encourage the use of clean technologies and working practices and a shift to more sustainable modes of transport?
7	To reduce the consumption of natural resources.	Will it result in the prudent use of natural resources? Will it promote the use of secondary/recycled aggregates?
8	To protect land and soil quality.	Will it impact on the extent and quality of soils?
9	To optimise the re-use of previously developed land and buildings.	Will it promote development on brownfield land?
10	Achieve sustainable waste management by reducing the production of waste, increasing opportunities for recycling and reducing the amount of waste being sent for final disposal to landfill.	Will it encourage a reduction in the amount of waste produced? Will it encourage increased recycling and composting and achieve the diversion targets for waste away from landfill? Will it result in new or enhanced waste management facilities to meet the waste management needs of the area? Will it result in improvement in the management of fly tipping and reduction in the number of incidences of fly tipping?
11	To preserve and enhance sites, features, areas and settings of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance	Will it ensure the continued protection and enhancement of physical sites and areas of importance to cultural and historical heritage, including the setting and character of Chester? Will it protect and enhance the number and area of RIGS?
12	To protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	Will it protect and reinforce the borough's landscapes and the natural, cultural and historic elements which make them distinct? Will it increase the provision of open space?

	Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria / sub-objective
13	Improve health and social inclusion, whilst reducing inequality, and valuing diversity and equality.	Will it improve the health, or access to health facilities, particularly in those areas identified as in need? Will it improve the access to services especially in rural areas? Will it reduce the poverty gap? Will it improve social inclusion and access to services in both rural and urban areas?
14	To provide sufficient housing to meet identified needs including affordable housing, and specialist groups.	Will the housing meet relevant accessibility standards? Does the housing meet identified needs?
15	To create a safe environment to live in and reduce the fear of crime.	Will it reduce opportunities for crime and therefore, levels of crime? Will it affect the fear of crime and feelings of safety? Will it improve road safety and reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on the roads?
16	To support sustainable economic growth and competitiveness, and provide opportunities for ongoing private sector investment.	Will the plan provide a balanced portfolio of employment land for the area? Will the plan provide employment land of a suitable type in a sustainable location? Does it provide opportunities for the creation of new businesses? Will it minimise the loss / displacement of existing businesses? Will the Plan contribute to meeting the employment needs of the rural/urban area? Will the plan contribute to developing a more skilled workforce? Does the plan support sustainable growth in the economy?
17	To develop and enhance the visitor economy/tourism.	Does the plan promote tourism and the visitor economy? Will the plan improve accessibility to jobs in the area?
18	To promote regeneration, particularly of deprived areas.	Will the plan deliver urban/rural regeneration? Will the plan improve economic conditions, particularly in deprived areas? Will the plan support rural diversification?

	Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria / sub-objective
19	To maintain and improve the vitality and viability of City, town and local centres.	Will the Plan safeguard shops and services in the area? Will the Plan safeguard and improve the retail, leisure and service provision in the area? Will the Plan provide improved physical, social and environmental infrastructure in city, town and local centres?

14.2 The Local Plan objectives will be checked against the sustainability objectives to draw attention to any potential conflict between them and to identify areas where the implementation of the objective is fundamental to a sustainable Plan.

Testing compatibility of SA Objectives

14.3 In order to fully meet the SA objectives it is necessary to ensure that there will be no potential conflicts between the achievement of individual objectives. The matrix set out below details where any potential conflicts may occur.

[illegible]

14.4 The testing of potential conflicts displayed in the matrix above has shown that the majority of the SA objectives are either compatible or there is no link between them. For a number of objectives however there is uncertainty over whether conflicts or further positive compatibility will arise, with these only likely to be observed during the implementation of policies.

14.5 There is uncertainty in particular over the implications further housing, employment, tourism and regeneration could have on achieving objectives such as the prudent use of natural resources, minimising flooding, improving air quality and protecting landscapes. Depending on their implementation such schemes could have either a positive or negative impact towards meeting these objectives. Adequately developed policies however will offer the ability to control these impacts.

Monitoring

14.6 The SA process is an iterative process, so its success and effectiveness will be monitored by the collection of baseline data according to the identified indicators. A cost-effective and reasonable monitoring scheme will be developed and reported on in the Sustainability Appraisal Report. This will include addressing any data gaps in the baseline monitoring and to develop appropriate longer term monitoring indicators for monitoring the significant effects of the policies in the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. Data collected on the relevant indicators will be included in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).

A: List of plans

International

International plans and programmes

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (United Nations, 2002)	A general statement of commitment on sustainable development, particularly focusing on 'the worldwide conditions that pose severe threats to the sustainable development of our people, which include: chronic hunger; malnutrition; foreign occupation; armed conflict; illicit drug problems; organized crime; corruption; natural disasters; illicit arms trafficking; trafficking in persons; terrorism; intolerance and incitement to racial, ethnic, religious and other hatreds; xenophobia; and endemic, communicable and chronic diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis'.	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Rio Declaration on the environment and development (1992)	This consists of 27 principles intended to guide sustainable development. These include environmental protection in the development process, reduction of unsustainable	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	patterns of production and consumption, capacity building for sustainable development, and the precautionary principle.			of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
The Aarhus Convention (UNECE, 1998)	This is a multilateral environmental agreement covering the rights of the public. The three central pillars are: 1. Access to information 2. Public participation in decision making 3. Access to justice	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Convention on biological diversity (1992)	A multilateral treaty with three main goals: 1. Conservation of biodiversity 2. Sustainable use of its components 3. Fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
				Allocations and Detailed Policies.
UNESCO World Heritage Convention (16th November 1972)	This aims to promote cooperation among nations to protect heritage around the world that is of such outstanding universal value that its conservation is important for current and future generations.	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Kyoto Agreement (United Nations, 1997)	International Treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Emission levels of greenhouse gases to be 87.5% of 1990 emission levels by 2012.	Climate change and energy	Target date has passed, but new target has been set by the Climate Change Act 2008.
Bern Convention on Conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats (1979, came into force June 1982)	The convention has three main aims: 1. To conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna.	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	2. To promote cooperation between states 3. To give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species			of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)	The Directive predominantly merges most pre-existing legislation, however it also adds new air quality objectives for PM2.5, and gives greater flexibility in meeting existing objectives.	Reduce PM2.5 exposure to 25 µg/m3 over a year by 2015. Reduce SO2 exposure to 350 µg/m3 over an hour, or 125 µg/m3 over 24 hours by 2005. Reduce NO2 to 200 µg/m3 over an hour or 40 µg/m3 over a year by 2010.	Air	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		Reduce PM10 exposure to 50 µg/m3 over 24 hours or 40 µg/m3 over a year by 2005. Reduce lead exposure to 0.5 µg/m3 over a year by 2005. Reduce CO to 10 mg/m3 over a maximum daily 8 hour mean by 2005. Reduce Benzene to 5 µg/m3 over a year by 2010. Reduce Ozone exposure to 120 µg/m3 over a maximum daily 8 hour mean by 2010.		

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		Reduce Arsenic exposure to 6 ng/m3 over a year by 2012. Reduce Cadmium exposure to 5 ng/m3 over a year by 2012. Reduce Nickel exposure to 20 ng/m3 over a year by 2012. Reduce Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons to 1 ng/m3(expressed as concentration of Benzo(a)pyrene) over a year by 2012.		
Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)	This Directive lays down measures to protect the environment and human	None identified	Waste; Biodiversity,	This should taken into

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	health by preventing or reducing the adverse impacts of the generation and management of waste and by reducing overall impacts of resource use and improving the efficiency of such use.		flora and fauna; Population and human health	account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
EU 7th Environmental Action Plan (EU, 2001)	This Plan will guide European environment policy until 2020, using the following objectives: • To protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital • To turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green and competitive low-carbon economy • To safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and well-being • To maximise the benefits of Union environment legislation by improving implementation	None identified	All	This should account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	- To improve the knowledge and evidence base for Union environmental policy - To secure investment for environment and climate policy and address environmental externalities - To improve environmental integration and policy coherence - To enhance the sustainability of the Union's cities - To increase the Union's effectiveness in addressing international environmental and climate-related challenges			
EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (2009/147/EC)	This aims to protect all European wild birds and the habitats of listed species, in particular through the designation of Special Protection Areas.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	This should be taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Bureau 1971)	International treaty for the conservation and sustainable utilisation of wetlands, recognising the fundamental ecological functions of wetlands and their economic, cultural, scientific, and recreational value.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
EU, The Landfill Directive (99/31/EC, 1999)	The Directives overall aim is 'to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment, in particular the pollution of surface water, groundwater, soil and air, and on the global environment, including the greenhouse effect, as well as any resulting risk to human health, from the landfilling of waste, during the whole life-cycle of the landfill'.	None identified	Waste	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
EU Directive on the Conservation of Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC as amended by 97/62/EC)	This aims to identify and protect species and habitats which are	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	This should taken into account in their

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	considered to be of European interest. This Directive led to the setting up of a network of Special Areas of Conservation.			strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Nitrates Directive (1991)	This Directive aims to protect water quality across Europe by preventing nitrates from agricultural sources polluting ground and surface waters and by promoting the use of good farming practices.	None identified	Water	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Water Framework Directive (EU, 2000)	The Directive aims for 'good status' for all ground and surface waters (rivers, lakes, transitional waters, and coastal waters) in the EU.	Groundwater must achieve good quantitative status and good chemical status by 2015.	Water; Biodiversity, flora and fauna	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
				Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
European Spatial Development Perspective (EC 1999)	The aim of the ESDP is to work towards a balanced and sustainable development of the territories of the EU.	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
EU Biodiversity Strategy (2011)	This strategy includes six mutually supportive and inter-dependent targets that will help to halt biodiversity loss and the degradation of ecosystem services, with each seeking to address a specific issue: protecting and restoring biodiversity and associated ecosystem services, enhancing the positive contribution of	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	agriculture and forestry and reducing key pressures on EU biodiversity, and stepping up the EU's contribution to global biodiversity.			Detailed Policies.
EU Directive relating to the Assessment and Management of Environmental Noise (2002/49/EC)	The aim of this Directive shall be to define a common approach intended to avoid, prevent or reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise.	None identified	Population and human health	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
EU Directive on Environmental Liability (2004/35/EC)	The purpose of the ELD is to establish a framework of environmental liability, based on the "polluter-pays" principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
				Detailed Policies.
European Directive on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks (2007/60/EC)	This Directive sets the procedure for the assessment and management of flood risks.	None identified	Water	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
European Landscape Convention (2000)	The Convention is aimed at the protection, management and planning of all landscapes and raising awareness of the value of a living landscape.	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage	The aim of the Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
SEA Directive 2001/42/EC	This directive aims to introduce a systematic assessment of the environmental effects of strategic land use related plans and programs.	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Bonn Convention on the conservation of migratory	The fundamental principles of the Convention acknowledge the importance of migratory species being	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	This should taken into account in their

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
species of wilds animals (1979)	conserved and of Range States agreeing to take action to this end whenever possible and appropriate, whilst 'paying special attention to migratory species the conservation status of which is unfavourable and taking individually or in cooperation appropriate and necessary steps to conserve such species and their habitat'.			strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
European Regional Development Fund	The ERDF is targeted at those regions which are most in need of help to meet its identified objectives.	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
UN Convention on Climate Change	This is an international treaty with the objective to stabilise greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous	None identified	Climate change and energy	This should taken into account in their strategy and

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	anthropogenic interference with the climate system.			policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent (2000)	These principles set out a strategy for the integrated and regionally balanced development of out continent, while based on the principles of subsidiarity and reciprocity, strengthens competitiveness, cooperation and solidarity among local and regional authorities across borders.	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
European Sustainable Development Strategy - A Sustainable Europe for a Better World: A European Union strategy for Sustainable Development (2001)	The aim of this strategy is to identify and develop actions to enable the EU to achieve a continuous long-term improvement of quality of life through the creation of sustainable communities able to manage and use resources efficiently, able to tap the	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two)

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	ecological and social innovation potential of the economy and in the end able to ensure prosperity, environmental protection and social cohesion.			Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
EU Directive to Promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EC)	The purpose of this Directive is to promote an increase in the contribution of renewable energy sources to electricity production in the internal market for electricity and to create a basis for a Community framework.	None identified	Climate change and energy.	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
EU Noise Directive 2000/14/EC	This looks to ensure that the public has the relevant information regarding noise levels in their living environment, and to assess and manage environmental noise.	None identified	Population and human health	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
				Detailed Policies.
Environmental Impact Assessment Directive 2011/92/EU	This directive aims to introduce a systematic assessment of the predicted environmental consequences (positive or negative) of a plan, policy, program, or project prior to the decision to move forward with the proposed action.	None identified	All	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
European Directive Energy Performance of Buildings 2002/91/EC	Directive to promote the improvement of the energy performance of buildings, taking into account outdoor climatic and local conditions, as well as indoor climate requirements and cost-effectiveness.	None identified.	Climate change and energy	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Directive 1999/30/EC Limit Values for SO ₂ , Nox, PM ₁₀ and Lead	The objectives of this Directive is, for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead in ambient air, to establish limit values and, as appropriate, alert thresholds, assess concentrations, obtain adequate information, and maintain ambient-air quality.	None identified	Climate change and energy	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy July 2003 (UNEP)	This strategy recognises the uniqueness of landscapes, ecosystems and species, which include, inter alia, economic, cultural and inherent values, and calls for a Pan-European approach to the conservation and sustainable use of shared natural resources.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
The Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU)	This commits EU member states to control and reduce the impact of	None identified	Population and human health	This should taken into account in their

Key targets and indicators relevant to Plan and SA				
International plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	industrial emissions on the environment.			strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention)	The issues addressed in this convention are defined by the following objectives: 1. Support the idea of solidarity and cooperation among European Parties, in relation to heritage conservation 2. It includes principles of conservation policies within the framework of European cooperation 3. Strengthen and promote policies for the conservation and development of cultural heritage in Europe	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape	This should taken into account in their strategy and policy direction of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

National

National plans and programmes

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012)	The NPPF sets out the Government's economic, environmental and social planning policies for England, which together will articulate the Government's vision of sustainable development, to be interpreted and applied locally to meet local aspirations. It provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities. The policies set out in the NPPF will apply to the preparation of local and neighbourhood plans.	No specific targets or indicators. Provides a set of core land-use planning principles that should underpin plan making. Outlines that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. For the planning system delivering sustainable development means: • Planning for prosperity (an economic role) • Planning for people (a social role) • Planning for places (an	All	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the National Planning Policy Framework into account in their strategy and policy direction.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		environmental role)		
National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) (2014)	The NPPG sets out guidance as to how the policies set out in the NPPF should be met.	No specific targets or indicators.	All	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the National Planning Policy Framework into account in their strategy and policy direction
Securing the Future: UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)	The strategy sets out 5 principles. These principles will form the basis for policy in the UK. For a policy to be sustainable, it must respect all five of these principles. • Living within environmental limits • Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society • Achieving a sustainable economy • Promoting good governance • Using sound science responsibly	A range of national indicators. More relevant strategies exist at regional and local levels.	Economic development, population and human health, biodiversity, flora and fauna	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should support the aims of the strategy. They should provide a sustainable spatial vision and policies and incorporate relevant indicators into the monitoring framework where appropriate.
The Plan for Growth and supporting Ministerial	Sets out the Government's plan to put the UK on a path to sustainable, long term economic growth. This goal is underpinned by the policy objective of	Includes the following overarching ambitions to support the Government's overall	Economic development	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies must take a key role in

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Statement (2011)	achieving strong, sustainable and balanced growth that is more evenly shared across the country and between industries. This includes supporting job creation to introducing a powerful presumption in favour of sustainable development, while retaining existing controls on green belt land, and ensuring all planning applications and appeals are processed within 12 months. An adversarial planning regime has hampered the ability of UK firms to win business, invest for the future and create jobs and local planning authorities and other bodies involved in granting development consents should prioritise growth and jobs.	economic policy objective: - To make the UK one of the best places in Europe to start, finance and grow a business - To encourage investment and exports as a route to a more balanced economy - To create a more educated workforce that is the most flexible in Europe Also provides useful baseline information on manufacturing output, employment, tax rates and business investment		delivering economic growth.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism (2006)	This document is designed to: • ensure that planners understand the importance of tourism; • ensure that those involved in the tourism industry understand the principles of national planning policy as they apply to tourism; • ensure that planners and the tourism industry work together effectively to facilitate, promote and deliver new tourism developments in a sustainable way.	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified.	Economic development	Take tourism into account in preparing the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies and facilitate, promote and deliver new tourism developments in a sustainable way.
National Policy Statements EN-1 to EN-6 (2011)	Suite of energy National Policy Statements (NPS) for England. The NPSs set out national policy against which proposals for major energy projects will be assessed and decided on by the Infrastructure Planning Commission, and in the future the Major Infrastructure Planning Unit and Ministers. NPS EN-1 sets out the broad policy context and need for the development of nationally significant energy infrastructure, provides assessment principles in accordance with which applications will be decided, and sets	No specific targets, indicators or objectives. Reaffirm the need for new low carbon energy infrastructure, based around: • The county's wider greenhouse gas reduction and renewable energy production targets • Security of supply • Increasing electricity demand	Climatic change and energy	No direct implications for the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies in terms of a hierarchy of national policies. The NPSs can be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications by the Council. Having regard the to the wider need for renewable and low

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	out generic assessment impacts for all NPS technology types. The other NPS documents are: • EN-2 Fossil Fuel Electricity Generating Infrastructure • EN-3 Renewable Energy Infrastructure • EN-4 Gas Supply Infrastructure • EN-5 Electricity Networks Infrastructure • EN-6 Nuclear Power Generation – Volume 1 • EN-6 Nuclear Power Generation – Volume 2 The individual technology NPSs provide further detailed guidance for the specific type of development they cover, in addition to the generic guidance set out in EN-1.	• Increasing energy costs • Closure of existing generation capacity		carbon energy infrastructure however, the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should help to achieve carbon reductions, facilitate the delivery of low carbon energy sources, support energy efficiency and zero carbon development.
Localism Act (2011)	Government Act that sets out a series of proposals with the potential to achieve a substantial and lasting shift of power away from central government and towards local people,	No targets, indicators or objectives identified	All	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will need to accommodate

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	underpinning the Government's vision for a shift in power to individuals, communities and local government, from Whitehall. The proposals set out in the Localism Act include: • New freedoms and flexibility for local government; • New rights and powers for communities and individuals; • Reforms to make the planning system more democratic and more effective; • Reforms to ensure decisions about housing are taken locally The Act sets out a range of changes to the planning system. Most significant for plan making are the concept of neighbourhood planning, which includes neighbourhood development plans and neighbourhood development orders (supporting community right to build) and abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies.			neighbourhood planning.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
People, Places, Futures - The Wales Spatial Plan 2008 Update	The vision of the Plan is to aim for a dynamic, prosperous and inclusive Wales, where heritage and environment are valued and where the Welsh Assembly Government will work together with its neighbours to achieve sustainable development in Wales. The document places an emphasis strong cross boundary linkages, including with the Cheshire West and Chester authority area	Targets include: - Delivering 6,500 new affordable homes by 2011. The objectives of the Plan include; - Building Sustainable Communities - Promoting a Sustainable Economy - Valuing our Environment - Achieving Sustainable Accessibility - Respecting Distinctiveness	Economic development, cultural heritage and landscape, biodiversity, flora and fauna	Ensure the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies considers the principles of the Wales Spatial Plan during the preparation of policies and proposals.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Planning and Energy Act 2008	The Act allows local councils in England and Wales to include in their local development plan policies setting out reasonable requirements for: • a proportion of energy used in development in their area to be energy from renewable sources; • a proportion of energy used in development in their area to be low carbon energy from sources in the locality of the development; and • development in their area to comply with energy efficiency standards that exceed the energy requirements of building regulations.	No specific targets, indicators or objectives identified.	Climate change and energy	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should consider setting requirements for the proportion of energy used in new developments to come from renewable and low carbon energy sources and/or to exceed building regulations energy efficiency standards.
The Climate Change Act 2008	Sets out the legally binding target for emissions reductions.	UK emissions to fall by 34% by 2020, and at least 80% by 2050	Climate change and energy	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies must consider how it can contribute to meeting this target.
UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)	The UK's proposed share (of an EU-wide target of 20%) is to achieve 15% of the UK's energy from renewables. In 2006 only around 1.5% of final energy consumption came from renewable sources, and under current policies this will rise to 5% by 2020.	Provides useful baseline statistics on a range of topics, including energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and	Climate change and energy	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should support the actions necessary to increase the amount of

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	This document consults on a range of possible measures to deliver this and seeks views about the additional measures that could include: • encouraging up to 30-35% of our electricity to come from renewable sources by 2020; • encouraging a very large increase in renewable heat; • helping the planning system to deliver, by agreeing a clear deployment strategy at regional level similar to the approach established for housing; • exploiting the full potential of energy from waste, by discouraging the landfilling of biomass as far as is practical; • requiring all biofuels to meet strict sustainability criteria, to limit adverse impacts on food prices, or other social and environmental concerns; • promoting the development of new renewable technologies, through effective support particularly where the UK has the potential to be a market leader;	renewable energy capacity. Provides the following targets: • 15% UK energy from renewable sources by 2020 • All new homes in England will be zero-carbon from 2016, and all new buildings by 2019 • 30-35% of electricity may need to come from renewable sources • Biomass-fuelled technologies, including biogas, may need to provide around 30% of the UK's renewable electricity and heat generation		energy that comes from renewables.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
UK Renewable Energy Roadmap (2011)	The Government is committed to increasing the amount of renewable energy deployed in the UK. This will make the country more energy secure, will help protect consumers from fossil fuel price fluctuations, will help drive investment in new jobs and businesses in the renewable energy sector, as well as keeping the country track to meeting carbon reduction objectives for the coming decades. The Roadmap sets out how the non-financial barriers to renewable deployment will be met, allowing the country to meet its 2020 and future goals. The planning system plays a central role in delivering the infrastructure needed to reduce the country's carbon emissions, to ensure continued security of energy supply and help our economy to grow. It has a vital role in safeguarding the landscape and natural heritage and allowing individual communities the opportunity to shape their environment.	Outlines the country's established targets in relation to renewable energy: Supply 15% of our energy from renewable sources by 2020 in the most cost effective way, whilst there is scope for renewable energy to account for 30-45% of all energy consumed in the UK by 2030. Provides good baseline statistics, for example on current renewable energy capacity, costs for renewable energy technologies and energy consumption. No specific objectives or indicators.	Climate change and energy	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should facilitate the delivery of new renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure, having regard to any possible wider impacts on the natural and built environments and landscape character in particular. They should also recognise and support and recognise the role and powers of local communities to shape their environments, including the neighbourhood planning process.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Meeting the Energy Challenge: A White Paper on Energy (DBERR, May 2007)	Sets out the Government's international and domestic energy strategy to deliver four energy policy goals: • to cut CO2 emissions by some 60% by about 2050, with real progress by 2020; • to maintain the reliability of energy supplies; • to promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond; • to ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated.	Provides the following targets: • 60% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050, and a 26-32% reduction by 2020, against a 1990 baseline. • Increase renewables as a proportion of electricity supplies to 10% by 2010, with an aspiration for this level to double by 2020 • EU binding target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2020 • UK needs 30-35GW of new generating capacity over the next two decades with two thirds of this by 2020	Climate change and energy	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should support a switch to decentralised, low-carbon sources of energy; such as district CHPs, biomass and microgeneration, as well as proposals for new electricity generating capacity.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Planning our Electric Future: A White Paper for secure, affordable and low-carbon electricity (2011)	Electricity plays a part in almost every aspect of modern life and is vital to the country's economic and social wellbeing. The energy market has served the country well over the past 30 years and it is crucial that this continues for the UK's international competitiveness and economic development. However over the next decades the country will face a number of challenges to meet this goal: - Security of supply is threatened as existing plant closes. Over the next decade the UK will lose around a quarter (around 20 GW) of its existing generation capacity as old or more polluting plant close. - Decarbonising electricity generation to meet the country's renewable energy and carbon emission reduction targets - Demand for electricity is likely to rise, it may double by 2050 due to the electrification of the	Outlines the following objectives: - Ensure the future security of electricity supplies - Drive the decarbonisation of electricity generation Provides baseline information in the form of carbon prices, energy demand profiles and average annual domestic consumer electricity bills. No specific targets or indicators.	Climate change and energy	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should help to achieve carbon reductions, facilitate the delivery of low carbon energy sources, support energy efficiency and zero carbon development.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	transport, heat and other carbon intensive sectors Electricity prices are expected to rise			
The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan: National Strategy for Climate and Energy (2009)	Sets out how the government will meet the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2009	Provides useful baseline statistics on a range of climate change and energy related topics, including global temperature rises, energy prices, greenhouse gas emissions and energy generation. Provides the following targets: - Cut emissions from power and heavy industry by 22% on 2008 levels, by 2020 - Renewable energy to increase to 30% by 2020 - Cut emissions from homes by	Climate change and energy	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations and deliverables set out in this document.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		29% on 2008 levels, by 2020 - Cut emissions from workplaces by 13% on 2008 levels, by 2020 - Cut emissions from transport by 14% on 2008 levels, by 2020 - Cut emissions through farming and waste by 6% on 2008 levels by 2020		
Carbon Plan (2011)	Recognises that climate change is one of the greatest threats to both the UK and global economy, going on to set out the range of Government-wide actions to tackle climate change, across all government departments, and deadlines for the next five years. These include: - Encouraging local communities to host renewable energy projects - Improving the energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings;	Reinforces that the Government's approach to avoiding the risk of dangerous climate change is underpinned by the Climate Change Act 2008, which requires Government to reduce Green House Gas emissions by: Cutting emissions by at least 34% by 2020 and 80% by 2050	Climate change and energy	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should help to achieve carbon reductions, facilitate the delivery of low carbon energy sources, support energy efficiency and zero carbon development and promote sustainable transport.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	- Delivering zero carbon homes and zero carbon non-domestic development by 2016 and 2019 - Developing a new generation of low carbon electricity - Taking advantage of public transport - Developing low carbon vehicle technologies	2050 – below the 1990 baseline		
Climate Change: The UK Programme (March 2006)	The climate change programme sets out the governments commitments both at international and domestic levels to meet the challenges of climate change. - Water supply, drainage and flooding issues need to be tackled. - Local Authorities should set high standards for energy efficiency and encourage renewable energy supply. - Adaptation is required for anticipated climate shifts. These should be anticipatory rather than reactive.	Provides the following targets: To reduce domestic carbon emissions by 20% of 1990 levels by 2010 (and 60% by 2050). Provides useful baseline statistics on a range of climate change and energy related topics, including global temperature rises, energy prices, greenhouse gas	Climate change and energy, air	Tackling and adapting to climate change must form a key part of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		emissions and energy generation.		
Stern Review: The Economics of Climate Change (2006)	Need a strong commitment to reducing CO2 emissions and adapting to climate change to be achieved by: • Encouraging increased energy efficiency. • Avoiding deforestation. • Supporting a switch to lower-carbon technologies for power, heat and transport. • Exploiting the potential growth market in environmentally sound (low carbon) technologies, products and services.	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified. Provides useful baseline statistics on a range of climate change and energy related topics.	Climate change and energy	Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies must incorporate climate change considerations.
Waste Strategy (DEFRA May 2007)	• Despite major progress since 2000, England's performance on waste still lags behind many European countries. All parts of society will have to share responsibility: • Decouple waste growth (in all sectors) from economic growth and put more emphasis on waste prevention and re-use; • Stimulate investment in collection, recycling and recovery infrastructure, and markets for recovered materials	• Reduction of 50% per person (from 450 kg per person in 2000 to 225 kg in 2020) of household waste not re-used, recycled or composted. • Recycling and composting of household waste – at least 40% by 2010, 45% by 2015 and 50% by 2020.	Material assets	Ensure that the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies promotes the waste hierarchy as a key principle.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	that will maximise the value of materials and energy recovered; • Continue to follow the waste hierarchy. • Investment in infrastructure to deliver improved waste management.	• Recovery of municipal waste – 53% by 2010, 67% by 2015 and 75% by 2020. • Targets for other waste streams (e.g. commercial and industrial waste going to landfill) being finalised.		
Government Review of Waste Policy in England (2011)	This sets out the coalition government's commitment to reviewing current waste policy in England. The main areas set out for review are sustainable use of materials; waste prevention, re-use and recycling; regulation and enforcement; householders and local authorities working together; business waste collection; energy recovery	No specific indicators, targets or objectives. This is the coalition government's statement of actions on how waste policy will be developed in the next few years.	Waste	Ensure that the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies takes into the future national plans for waste management.
Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon: Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen. Transport White Paper (2011)	Local Transport White Paper setting out the Government's vision for a sustainable local transport system. The Government's overall priority for local transport is to <i>"Encourage sustainable local travel and economic growth by making public transport and cycling and walking more attractive</i>	Provides useful baseline information on carbon emissions, travel and transport	Climate change and energy, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should secure and facilitate sustainable transport networks and sustainable local travel, and help to deliver the

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	<i>and effective, promoting lower carbon transport and tackling local road congestion”</i>. It explains how the Government is placing localism at the heart of the transport agenda, taking measures to empower local authorities when it comes to tackling these issues in their areas. - Locally tailored transport solutions can meet the needs of local people can create growth and improve quality of life. - Transport planning and local land use planning need to work together to make active travel and public transport more attractive and to manage traffic to reduce carbon emissions and tackle congestion. - There is a need to make car travel greener, particularly through electric vehicles and infrastructure.			Council's Local Transport Plan.
Making the Connection: The plug-in	Strategy setting out the framework for the development of recharging infrastructure to support plug-in	Provides baseline statistics on greenhouse gas	Climatic Factors	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
vehicle infrastructure strategy (2011)	vehicles in the UK. The shift to ultra-low emission vehicles presents unique environmental and economic opportunities for the UK. It offers the potential to decarbonise road transport while still enabling mobility and stimulating the kind of green jobs and investment that are required to help rebalance the economy. Planning policies should facilitate and support the installation of recharging infrastructure at home, in public places and at work.	emissions, electricity demand and plug-in vehicle forecasts. No specific targets, indicators or objectives.		should explore the potential for delivering new plug-in vehicle charging infrastructure in the authority area.
Britain's Superfast Broadband Future (2010)	Superfast broadband is vital in supporting the Government's overall growth agenda. It's benefits will be felt across the whole economy – whether this is through greater scope for tele-working and home-working, which reduces the pressure in the transport network and lowers carbon emissions, or better delivery of public services – such as remote education services. A world class communications network will help the economy grow as it recovers from recession. The Government is	Provides baseline statistics in relation to broadband networks, for example percentage of households with broadband access, percentage of UK businesses with broadband access and average UK broadband speed.	Climatic change and energy, Economic Development, Rural Development	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should facilitate the development of both urban and rural broadband networks.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	committed to ensuring the rapid rollout across the country, including rural areas.			
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (DEFRA, 2007)	The strategy sets out air quality objectives and policy options to further improve air quality in the UK. As well as direct benefits to public health, these options are intended to provide important benefits to quality of life and help to protect the environment.	Contains a number of air quality targets and limit values for: • Particulate Matter (PM-PM10 and PM2.5) • Oxides of nitrogen (NOX) • Ozone (O3) • Sulphur dioxide (SO2) • Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) • Benzene • 1,3-butadiene • Carbon monoxide (CO) • Lead (Pb) • Ammonia	Air	To ensure the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is consistent with the National Air Quality Strategy and ensures that new development does not adversely affect the levels of air pollution or pose a risk to health or the environment.
Code for Sustainable Homes (2006)	The Code for Sustainable Homes has been developed to enable a step	The Code sets out measurement criteria for each of the following categories: • Energy/CO2 • Water • Materials	Housing	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	change in sustainable building practice for new homes. In the short-term, Code compliance is voluntary but home builders are encouraged to follow Code principles set out in this publication because the Government is considering making assessment under Code standards mandatory in the future.	• Surface water run-off • Waste • Pollution • Health and well-being • Management • Ecology		should ensure that homes are sustainably designed and may wish to consider including policies on 'Code for Sustainable Homes' early on in the process.
Building a Greener Future: policy statement (2007)	This policy statement confirms the Government's intention for all new homes to be zero carbon by 2016 with a major progressive tightening of the energy efficiency building regulations - by 25 per cent in 2010 and by 44 per cent in 2013 - up to the zero carbon target in 2016.	• 2010 - CfSH level 3 • 2013 - CfSH level 4 • 2016 - CfSH level 6	Climatic factors, air	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should ensure that homes are sustainably designed and may wish to consider including policies on achieving 'Code for Sustainable Homes' levels in advance/ excess of the targets/ indicators set out in the document.
World Class Places: the Government's Strategy for Improving	Lays out the government's approach to improving quality of space.	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified.	Population and Human Health, Cultural Heritage and Landscapes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Quality of Place (2009)				and deliverables set out in this document.
Guidance on Building a Local Sense of Belonging (2009)	Sets out the Government's approach to building community cohesion	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified	Community Safety, Population and Human Health, Cultural Heritage and Landscapes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations and deliverables set out in this document.
The Countryside In and Around Towns - A Vision for Connecting Town and Country in Pursuit of Sustainable Development (2005)	Strategy to help sustainably manage the rural urban fringe	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified	Cultural Heritage and Landscapes, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations and deliverables set out in this document.
Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) (1981)	Sets out legal measures for the protection of Wildlife and the Countryside	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified	Biodiversity , Flora and Fauna, Cultural Heritage and Landscapes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
				and deliverables set out in this document.
Countryside and Rights of Way Act (as amended) (2001)	The purpose of the Act is to create a new statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, to modernise the public rights of way system, to strengthen nature conservation legislation, and to facilitate better management of AONBs.	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified	Biodiversity , Flora and Fauna, Cultural Heritage and Landscapes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations and deliverables set out in this document.
Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations (2006)	The Regulations provide for the designation for protection of sites and species from a European level.	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified	Biodiversity , Flora and Fauna, Cultural Heritage and Landscapes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations and deliverables set out in this document.
Natural Environment	Section 40 of the Act requires all public bodies to have regard to biodiversity conservation when carrying out their functions. LDF checklist for Biodiversity: - Any sites of nature conservation importance? - Any BAP species or protected species present? - Any irreplaceable habitats?	No specific targets, indicators or criteria identified, although a variety of indicators are	Biodiversity, flora and fauna, rural development	Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies to take

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
and Rural Communities Act (March 2006) / Guidance for Local Authorities on implementing the Biodiversity Duty (2007)	- Any important habitat networks in the area? - Areas with potential for enhancement or restoration? - Where are green spaces located? - Any previously developed land with biodiversity value? - Trends in habitat extent and condition; and species distribution and abundance?	available to measure progress.		opportunities to enhance biodiversity as well as protect it, to develop policies that screen development proposals for potential effects on biodiversity to ensure biodiversity is fully considered in determining planning applications and to establish a good evidence base.
The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (1994)	- To conserve and enhance biological diversity within the UK and to contribute to the conservation of global biodiversity through all appropriate mechanisms. - To conserve and where practicable to enhance: (a) the overall populations and natural ranges of native species and the quality and range of wildlife habitats and ecosystems; (b) internationally important and threatened species, habitats and ecosystems;	A range of monitoring measures can be found in the individual plans.	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies must incorporate policies and proposals relating to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and have

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	(c) species, habitats and natural and managed ecosystems that are characteristic of local areas; (d) the biodiversity of natural and semi-natural habitats where this has been diminished over recent past decades. • To increase public awareness of, and involvement in, conserving biodiversity. • To contribute to the conservation of biodiversity on a European and global scale.			due regard for the Cheshire BAP as well as habitat and species action plans that are relevant to the area.
The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature, White Paper (2011)	A healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal wellbeing. Economic growth and the natural environment are mutually compatible. Sustainable economic growth relies on services provided by the natural environment, often referred to as 'ecosystem services'. Some of these are provided directly, such as food, timber and energy. Others are indirect, such as climate regulation, water purification and the productivity of soil.	No specific targets, indicators or objectives.	Biodiversity	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should protect and enhance the natural environment, recognising the wider social, economic and cultural benefits of green infrastructure.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	High-quality natural environments foster healthy neighbourhoods; green spaces encourage social activity and reduce crime. The natural environment can help children's learning. Nature in England is highly fragmented and unable to respond effectively to new pressures such as climate and demographic change. Past action has often taken place on too small a scale. The Government wants to promote an ambitious, integrated approach, creating a resilient ecological network across England, moving from a net biodiversity loss to a net gain.			
Natural England's Green Infrastructure (2009)	Sets out the importance of green infrastructure and the drivers for it, as well as the key environmental functions and the socio-economic benefits of the green infrastructure approach. It articulates the importance of early planning for green	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified	Biodiversity , Flora and Fauna, Cultural Heritage and Landscapes, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations and deliverables set out in this document.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	infrastructure and integrating green infrastructure strategies within spatial planning. It also focuses on how delivery can be achieved.			
Climate Change and Biodiversity Adaptation: the Role of the Spatial Planning System (2009)	Helps identify the role the planning system could play in assisting biodiversity adaptation to climate change.	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Cultural Heritage and Landscapes, Climate change and energy	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations and deliverables set out in this document.
By All Reasonable Means; Inclusive Access to the Outdoors by Disabled People (2005)	The guide is designed to help improve the accessibility of sites, routes and facilities.	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified	Cultural Heritage and Landscapes, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the national aspirations and deliverables set out in this document.
Rural Strategy (2004)	The Strategy sets the vision of a living, working, protected and vibrant countryside. The priorities for Rural Areas include;	The strategy makes provision for the development of a 'Rural Evidence Hub' which collects data	cultural heritage and landscape	Ensure that the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of the vision

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	1. Economic and Social Regeneration – supporting enterprise across rural England, but targeting greater resources at areas of greatest need. 2. Social Justice for All – tackling rural social exclusion wherever it occurs and providing fair access to services and opportunities for all rural people. 3. Enhancing the Value of our Countryside – protecting the natural environment for this and future generations.	from many contributors, then applies a rural classification to this data and maps it to standard geographies.		and priorities of the Rural Strategy
The Historic Environment: a Force for Our Future (DCMS, 2001)	The Government looks to a future in which: • public interest in the historic environment is matched by firm leadership, effective partnerships, and the development of a sound knowledge base from which to develop policies; • the full potential of the historic environment as a learning resource is realised; • the historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as something with which the whole of society can identify and engage;	No specific indicators, targets or objectives identified.	Cultural heritage and landscape	Ensure the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is consistent with the aims of this document.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	- the historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations; - the historic environment's importance as an economic asset is skilfully harnessed.			
Future Water (2008)	Sets out the Government's long term vision for water and the framework for water management in England. Provides a vision for water policy and management, where, by 2030 the Government has: - Improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology which it supports, and continued to provide high levels of drinking water quality from our taps - Sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water - Ensured a sustainable use of water resources, and implemented fair, affordable and cost reflective water charges	No specific targets, indicators or objectives	Water	Need to take an integrated approach to all aspects of the water cycle.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	- Cut greenhouse gas emissions - Embedded continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users			
Understanding the risks, empowering communities, building resilience: The national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England (2011)	The risk of flooding and coastal erosion in England is predicted to increase due to climate change and development in areas at risk. It is not possible to prevent all flooding or coastal erosion, but there are actions that can be taken to manage these risks and reduce the impacts on communities. The strategy sets out a national framework for managing the risk of flooding and coastal erosion. It will help risk management authorities and communities understand their different roles and responsibilities and will be particularly relevant to Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) which have new responsibilities under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010). It is essential that spatial planning ensures that new developments take flood and coastal erosion risk fully into	Provides useful baseline statistics on flooding (surface water, groundwater, from rivers and the sea, reservoirs and sewers), flood risk management systems in England, coastal erosion, climate change and sea level rise and population change. No specific targets, indicators or objectives.	Climate change and energy, Water	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies must take flood risk into account and propose policies to deal with flood risk to ensure that any development proposals are safe from, do not increase, and where possible reduce flood risk over their lifetimes.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	account, and are safe from, do not increase, and where possible reduce risk over their lifetimes.			
Healthy Lives, Healthy People. Health White Paper (2010)	Outlines the ambition for health and wellbeing through life, with power shifted to local communities for them to focus on the needs of the local population. Healthy places to grow up and grow older in will be created by giving local government control of public health resources, with new partnerships created in important areas, such as housing, planning, schools and transport. Sets out that there are community responses that can help address the long term challenge of climate change, which itself is currently one the biggest public health threats, whilst also having a positive impact in the short term. These include: • Active travel – delivering low-cost health improvements and reducing emissions • Green spaces – improving mental health and the quality of	Provides baseline information on health and well being, health inequalities, living well – such as smoking and obesity statistics – work-age ill health and ageing well – for example life expectancy, the activity and health of 65-year-olds and dementia.	Climate change and energy, Cultural Heritage and Landscapes, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should promote active travel, the creation of greenspaces, recognising their wider health and environmental benefits, and the development of community renewable energy schemes.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	community life, offering some protection from the expected increase in heatwaves and flooding - Spatial Planning – Promoting local ownership and occupation of public spaces - Behaviour change – Embedding new ways of sustainable living and working - Community projects to harness renewable energy – Mitigating the effects of climate change			
Opening Doors/Breaking Barriers – A Strategy for Social Mobility (2011)	Sets out that a well functioning housing market can promote social mobility and increase fairness in the distribution of wealth. Social mobility is defined as the degree to which the patterns of advantage and disadvantage in one generation are passed on to the next. The strategies priorities are focused around improving intergenerational social mobility – the extent to which peoples success in life is determined by who their parents are; and relative social mobility – the comparative chances of people with different backgrounds ending up in certain social or income groups	Provides useful baseline information on topics such as income, educational attainment, intergenerational social mobility and relative mobility and absolute social mobility. Also provides lead indicators that support the Government's action plan for improving social mobility, in each life	Housing, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should provide a mix of housing that reflects the needs of the local community, including affordable housing. They should also facilitate the work of other organisations and departments within the Council, for example education and health bodies, to deliver their

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	The Government intends to provide more housing and improve choice by increasing the supply of suitable housing, stabilising the housing market and over the long term building confidence for buyers, sellers, house builders and lenders, and increasing housing affordability.	stage (Foundation years, school years, transition years and adulthood). These are: • Low birth weight • Child development • School attainment • Employment and participation in education of 18-24 year olds • Further education • Higher education • Social mobility in adulthood		goals in relation to social mobility.
Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	Sets out legislation behind the process of heritage protection.	No specific targets or indicators.	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should ensure heritage is protected.
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	Sets out legislation behind the process of heritage protection.	No specific targets or indicators.	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should ensure heritage is protected.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England, 2009	Sets out a strategy to ensure that: • agricultural soils will be better managed and threats to them will be addressed; • soils will play a greater role in the fight against climate change and in helping us to manage its impacts; • soils in urban areas will be valued during development, and construction practices will ensure vital soil functions can be maintained; and • pollution of our soils is prevented, and our historic legacy of contaminated land is being dealt with.	No specific targets or indicators.	Land and Resources	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should promote soil conservation and management.
UK Marine Policy Statement, 2011	This Marine Policy Statement (MPS) is the framework for preparing Marine Plans and taking decisions affecting the marine environment.	No specific targets or indicators.	Climate Change and Energy, Biodiversity,	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should ensure it is integrated with the

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
National plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
			Flora and Fauna, Water	North West Marine Plan.

Regional

Regional plans and programmes

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
North East Wales / West Cheshire Sub Regional Spatial Strategy (non-statutory), (2007)	The strategy looks to increase and improve cross-border working. Its key principles are to create a clear identity for the sub-region; strengthen existing settlements and communities and help to combat social exclusion; reduce the need to travel through the careful location of housing, employment and retail; enhance the external competitiveness by building on existing successes and widening the economic base; further develop the labour skills base; protect and enhance environmental assets; and to promote and develop an integrated transport system.	Provides the following targets Advises that provision should be made for approximately 30,000 - 35,000 new homes in the sub area by 2021, with 6,500-7,500 advised in both the former Chester City and Ellesmere Port and Neston Districts.	Economic Development, Housing, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the principles and strategy outlined in the document into account.
Cheshire and Warrington Matters: A Strategic and Economic Plan for Cheshire and Warrington (Cheshire and Warrington Enterprise	10 year strategic economic plan to support growth and economic development. It sets out intervention priorities and investment proposals.	No specific targets or indicators, but sets out a series of objectives including: • Deliver the package of improvements forming the Chester Central package. • Support delivery of growth at major sites	Economic Development	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the overall ambition of this document into account when setting the planning strategy for the borough.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Partnership, 2014)		including Ellesmere Port.		
Unleashing the Potential of Cheshire and Warrington – Draft Sub-Regional Strategy (2010)	Draft sub-regional strategy for Cheshire and Warrington, setting out how the sub-region's economic performance is already significantly higher than that of other North West sub-regions, and how it is ready to significantly accelerate growth in population, jobs and productivity in order to boost its position in a changed post-recession economy.	No specific targets or indicators, but sets out the following objectives: • Increase GVA by 2030 to at least £30 billion per annum • Increase population by 100,000 or more • Increase employment by no less than 22,000 • Exploit appropriate housing and employment land in order to support the planned growth strategy • Promote sustainability by ensuring that all new development is high standards in terms of energy and materials consumption • Address deprivation issues in urban and rural areas	Economic Development	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should consider this document, where appropriate, when setting the planning strategy for the borough.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Cheshire and Warrington Local Economic Assessment (2011)	Local Economic Assessment (LEA) for the Cheshire & Warrington sub-region. The main purpose of this LEA is to provide a comprehensive and robust evidence base for informing socio-economic policy and strategy, and for improving the delivery of key public services. The LEA provides up-to-date intelligence on the Cheshire & Warrington economy and on issues that affect economic activity. It identifies the key strengths of the area, but also outlines a number of key opportunities and challenges.	The LEA provides baseline evidence on a wide range of topics, including population, the labour market, qualifications and skills, enterprise, housing, commercial land and property, social inclusion, quality of life, culture, tourism, transport and the environment.	Economic Development	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the findings of the LEA into account as necessary in their local planning strategy and policies, seeking to facilitate responses to the opportunities and challenges it identifies and to build on the economic strengths of the sub-region.
Cheshire and Warrington Business Needs Survey (2011)	Survey undertaken for the Cheshire and Warrington sub-region, to identify the challenges, needs and opportunities facing businesses in the area, so that the Council and its partners can more effectively target public sector investment, support private sector investment and deliver services that address businesses' needs and support their long term growth.	No specific targets, indicators or objectives, but the survey provides a broad set of employment and business related statistics, which together offer a good overview of business-related issues and needs in the authority area.	Economic Development	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the findings of the Business Needs Survey into account, as necessary, when proposing economic development

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Mersey Dee Alliance (MDA) Business Plan and Draft Delivery Plan 2008-2011	Business and Delivery Plan for the Mersey Dee Alliance, setting out how the partnership aims to build on the North-East Wales, West Cheshire and Wirral area's competitiveness to secure its long-term future.	No targets or indicators included within document Provides four main objectives for the period of the plan. These are: - To take action to ensure the area's long term competitiveness and sustain its economic, social and environmental future - To jointly agree and outline the sub-region's unique selling points to ensure its attractiveness as a place to invest, work, live and play - To facilitate the development of high value added	Economic Development	objectives, strategy and policies. The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of any relevant objectives and or tasks contained within the MDA business plan.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		sectors/business in the economy - To ensure sustainability underpins action Provides further objectives grouped under the four headings of: - MDA Key Sites - Labour Market - Productivity, Skills Availability and Creating a Competitive Location - Transport and Accessibility - Sustainability and Environment and Coherence of Place - Marketing Initiatives		
Liverpool City Region Housing and Economic Development Evidence Base Overview Study (2011)	Evidence base study that seeks to take a sub-regional approach to estimating housing and employment land needs in the Liverpool City region and surrounding areas (including Cheshire West and Chester), taking into account the	Provides baseline information on potential housing land supply, housing requirements, household migration, household composition, housing need, house	Economic Development, Housing	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the findings of the study into account as necessary when

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	different functional market areas, both economic/employment and housing based that cover the sub-region, and recognising that these don't always respect administrative boundaries.	prices, employment land requirements and land supply. No specific indicators, targets or objectives.		proposing the housing and employment strategies for the authority area.
Cheshire Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment (2014)	Local evidence study to assess the access to accommodation from Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople.	Provides the following target: Need for 46 permanent and 5-10 transitory pitches for Gypsies and Travellers, and 13 pitches for travelling showpeople.	Housing	Policies should support a the provision of sites for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople
Investment for Health: A plan for North West England (2003)	Provides policies to improve the health of older people, those of working age, children and young people. Provides the following visions for health in the North West: To achieve significant reductions in health inequalities between groups and areas in the North West, within a framework of sustainable	No specific targets, indicators or objectives. Provides useful baseline information on health and health inequalities.	Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the vision and policy aims of this document into account, as necessary.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	development which supports economic, social, and environmental regeneration To build upon the development of regional partnerships to ensure that the improvement of the health of the population, and the reduction in inequalities, are at the heart of regional strategies and local policies and programmes			
Water for Life and Livelihoods. River Basin Management Plan Dee River Basin District (2009)	To develop a more integrated approach to river basin management.	Provides useful baseline information on a number of topics, including water quality, protected sites and ecology status in the Dee basin. Provides status objectives for both surface water bodies and groundwater in the Dee basin.	Water	Policies in the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should aim to enhance water quality.
Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy - River	Sets out how the Environment Agency will manage water abstraction until 2012.	No specific targets, indicators or objectives.	Water	Water abstraction issues will need to be considered when creating strategic,

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Weaver and River Dane (2006)	There are generally no particular restrictions on water abstraction in the borough, with the exception of a small amount of the Upper Weaver catchment.			growth, development, and, environmental policies.
Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy - River Dee (2008)	Sets out how the Environment Agency will manage water abstraction until 2014. Much of the Chester area is over-licensed for abstraction.	No specific targets, indicators or objectives	Water	Water abstraction issues will need to be considered when creating strategic, growth, development, and, environmental policies.
Dee Valley Water Resources Management Plan (2009)	Outlines how water resources will be managed to maintain the balance between supply and demand for the next 25 years	No specific targets, indicators or objectives, but provides some useful baseline statistics on water supply and demand, population and household projections	Water	To ensure adequate water supply for new developments
United Utilities Water Resource Management Plan (2009)	Outlines how water resources will be managed to maintain the balance between supply and demand between 2010-2035.	No specific targets, indicators or objectives, but provides some useful baseline statistics on water supply and demand, population and household projections	Water	To ensure adequate water supply for new developments

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Tidal Dee Draft Flood Risk Management Strategy (2010)	Draft flood risk management strategy for the tidal Dee, providing a summary of the initial draft strategy findings. The strategy covers the areas at risk from tidal flooding from the Dee Estuary, including Chester and Neston. Its overarching recommendation is that all properties in the tidal Dee area should be protected to their current standard or better, through a combination of improvements to some existing flood defences, by realigning the defences in some areas, and by being prepared for and adapting to future flood risk. The strategy was produced in the context of the uncertainty of climate change and therefore the need for more flexible approaches towards managing tidal flood risk, with any solutions being sustainable for the long term, working with nature and not relying solely on traditional defences. Most term solutions affecting the CWAC area will involve improving existing defences, but in the	No targets, indicators or objectives.	Climatic Change and Energy, Water	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the forecast tidal flood risks around the River Dee and Dee Estuary into account, proposing suitable policies or measures to reduce these risks where necessary.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	medium term (20-50 years), adaptation measures will be required around Neston, and in the longer term (50-100 years) around Chester.			
Wild about the North West: A Biodiversity Audit of North West England (1999)	Lists species and habitats contained within the borough. The information is based on that available in 1998. The Audit brought together, for the first time, information on habitats and species of conservation importance in North West England. The data is presented to show the distribution of species and habitats so that those agencies, authorities, and managers, with responsibility for land management and planning can readily identify those species and habitats that they need to consider.	No specific targets, indicators or objectives	Biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Develop policies which support those species and habitats listed as important in the audit, as necessary.
Cheshire Regional Local Biodiversity Action Plan (Cheshire Region	Action plans have been identified for 64 individual habitats and species, setting out objectives for their management.	Targets are related to the management of individual species and habitats, with a number of targets set out for each.	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Where relevant, the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take into consideration BAP

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Biodiversity Partnership) (1997)				species and habitats when policies are formulated.
The North West Regional Forestry Framework (2005)	A framework to shape the woodland and forestry sector for the next 20 years. Provides six 'Action areas' to develop woodlands and forestry in the future, highlighting where planning can help to achieve an action. The action areas include: - Regional Image - including using woodlands as a tool in the regeneration and reclamation of derelict land and the integration of trees and woodlands into development schemes - Biodiversity and Landscape - Health, well-being and quality of life - Including developing accessible woodlands and linking woodlands and health - Climate change and energy - Including urban trees, uplands and flood plains	No specific targets, indicators or objectives	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should promote the development, maintenance and enhancement of green infrastructure, including woodlands, and the benefits they can generate.
The Mersey Forest Delivery Plan 2009-2014	Delivery Plan setting out the Mersey Forest's objectives for the period 2009-2014.	Provides a number of targets for the 2009-2014 period, covering woodland	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna,	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	Includes the following goals for the five year period: - Transforming landscapes - The transformation of The Mersey Forest area will be brought about through the continued creation of a natural, well wooded landscape involving a range of site-based activities and protecting and improving biodiversity - Delivering sustainable economic benefits - Sustainable economic benefits will be realised through the creation and management of The Mersey Forest resources to assist in the process of generating and safeguarding jobs, markets and assets - Engaging people - The creation and management of The Mersey Forest resources will generate sustainable social benefits through the facilitation of people's involvement in health, leisure and environmental activities	creation,, management of existing woodland, creating or re-opening good quality walking/cycling routes, community engagement, training and skills development and non-woodland habitats created of managed.	Climatic Change and Energy, Economic Development, Population and Human Health	should facilitate the creation of new woodland and the goals and targets of the Mersey Forest where possible.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
North West Green Infrastructure Guide (2008)	the guide aims to articulate and provide guidance regarding the implementation of Green Infrastructure policy in RSS.	No specific indicators or targets identified	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and Human Health, Water, Air, Climate Change and Energy, Cultural Heritage and Landscapes, Material Assets, Housing, Economic Development, Land and Resources	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should help to entrench green infrastructure in planning.
Green Infrastructure Framework for North East Wales, Cheshire and Wirral (2011)	Framework addressing the natural environments within both the urban and rural locations of Denbighshire, Flintshire, Wrexham, Cheshire West and Chester, Cheshire East and the Wirral and setting out a vision of how a healthy natural environment can help sustain economic growth and self-supporting communities.	No specific targets or indicators defined, but the Framework suggests a detailed range of actions to deliver green infrastructure objectives for the area that could be useful. For example: • Increase the functionality of	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the findings and actions of this evidence base document into account as necessary in strategy and policy development.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	Green infrastructure can help realise several opportunities: • The opportunity to help unlock economic potential of development sites and attract investment in green employment. • The opportunity to help address health inequalities and create a high quality of life for communities across the area. • The opportunity to underpin the economy with a healthy and biodiverse landscape fabric that provides the setting for living and working whilst enabling wildlife to thrive and adapt to environmental change. • The opportunity to help climate proof our settlements and our rural economy	• existing green spaces through creating wildlife areas, rainfall storage and tree planting, prioritising 'green desert' amenity green space • Protect watercourses from negative effects of development e.g. providing a buffer zone and creation of natural vegetated corridors; • Create washlands, wetlands and wet woodland along watercourses • Support development that supports rural and visitor economies, subject to environmental protection policy. • Maximise functionality and amenity of business landscapes through		

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		SuDS, shade planting and foot/cycle links to nearby GI assets		
Cheshire Regional Local Geodiversity Action Plan (2004)	Sets out an integrated, target led plan to contribute to the maintenance and improvement of the well being of the Cheshire region by safeguarding the geology, geomorphology, soils and landscapes of the area.	No targets or indicators set. Objectives include: Promote existing activities available in the region linked to geodiversity, e.g. Chester geodiversity trail and sandstone trail	Land and resources	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should reflect any relevant targets contained within this document
Cheshire Landscape Character Assessment (2009)	Study providing an overview of the different landscape types found within Cheshire. It includes the following objectives: - To encourage a greater awareness of local landscape character - To help to recognise contemporary pressures - To stimulate debate about the future	No targets or indicators identified. The study has the following objectives: To encourage a greater awareness of local landscape character	Cultural heritage and landscape.	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of this document and the guidance it contains where necessary

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	The document also includes the following aims: • To inform new planning policies on landscape • To guide and inform the development control process	• To help to recognise contemporary pressures • To stimulate debate about the future The document also includes the following aims: • To inform new planning policies on landscape • To guide and inform the development control process		
Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project (2007)	Provides guidance for the sustainable management of historic landscapes in Cheshire	No specific targets, indicators or objectives identified.	Cultural heritage and landscape	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of this document and the guidance it contains where necessary.
NWDA and English Heritage: Historic Towns and Cities in	Study commissioned to identify a small number of towns and cities in the North West as strategic priorities for long-term heritage related	No specific targets, indicators or objectives	Cultural Heritage and Landscape,	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
England's Northwest (2007)	tourism infrastructure and product development where these can stimulate economic growth and deliver wider regeneration benefits. The main aim of the study was to identify towns and cities with the heritage assets that could be used to create destinations of the highest quality, and to provide a vision as to how those heritage assets could be developed. The study identified Chester as being one these cities, providing a SWOT analysis for the city, highlighting a vision for how it could use its heritage assets to best effect and suggesting strategic development priorities - projects where investment in heritage is likely to deliver the greatest impact.		Economic Development	this document and the guidance it contains where necessary.
Cheshire Historic Towns Survey (2003)	Survey of 37 historic towns in Cheshire to produce a detailed synthesis of their historical and archaeological background.	No specific targets, indicators or objectives identified.	Cultural heritage and landscape	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take account of this document and the

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Regional plans and programmes	Overview	Target/indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	The survey assists in identifying the unique character of each town to ensure the sustainable management of each area's archaeological urban heritage. It proposes areas of archaeological potential and archaeological character zones, where possible, for each town.			guidance it contains where necessary

Local

Local plans and programmes

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies (2015)	Sets out the vision, objectives, and strategic policies for the development of the borough.	The document sets out the following key targets for development within the borough between 2010 and 2030: • 22,000 new dwellings • 300Ha of employment land to meet a range of types and sizes These figures are further subdivided by strategic areas (Chester, Ellesmere Port, Northwich, Winsford, Rural Area, and Key Service Centre).	All	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should add detail to those policies set out in the Submitted Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies document.
Altogether Better: Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council Corporate Plan 2011-2015	Sets out the Council's priorities for 2011 to 2015. The Corporate Plan informs decision making at all levels of the authority, shows how the Council will make a real difference to the borough and sets a framework for planning and delivering the Council's services.	The document provides a number of priorities and supporting actions/targets for the authority area, to tackle identified local issues. These include: • Housing which meets the needs of our residents	Climatic change and energy, Material Assets, Housing, Population and Human Health,	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should reflect the priorities and actions set out in the corporate plan for the Council.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		• A dynamic local economy offering real opportunities for all • An excellent transport system which is accessible, safe, well maintained and sustainable • Lower levels of crime and anti social behaviour • A narrower gap between our most and least disadvantaged communities • Healthier and more active lifestyles	Economic Development, Waste, Land and Resources	
Vision 2050: A Sustainable Future for Cheshire West and Chester (2009)	Document intended to guide Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council in taking decisions regarding the future of the local authority area, recognising that if a truly sustainable community is to be achieved by 2050 then the direction towards this achievement must be clear.	No specific targets or indicators identified The document sets out a number of individual visions, policies and actions focusing on ten different themes required to deliver a sustainable Cheshire West and Chester by 2050. These themes include: • Community energy and energy efficiency • Transport and accessibility	Economic development, Population, Climate Change and Energy	To ensure the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is in accordance with Vision 2050.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		• Resource management and waste • Low carbon economy • Resource Management and waste • Water and flooding • Engaged communities		
Cheshire West and Chester Local Transport Plan (2011)	Local Transport Plan for Cheshire West and Chester, 2011-2026, setting out local goals and objectives for transport in the borough to achieve priorities set out in the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan, plus meet national goals set by the Department for Transport. The plan provides a number of actions and proposals to meet the local transport goals. These are grouped under the headings of: • Supporting economic growth • Tackling climate change	Contains no specific targets or indicators and targets, but provides the following objectives: • Provide and develop reliable and efficient transport networks that support sustainable economic growth in West Cheshire and the surrounding area • Reduce carbon emissions from transport and take steps to adapt our transport networks to the effects of climate change • Manage a well maintained transport network • Contribute to safer and secure transport in West	Air, Climatic Factors, Community Safety, Economic Development, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should align with the proposals and actions of the Local Transport Plan where necessary, to deliver the policy objectives it sets out and address the issues it highlights.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	- Managing and maintaining assets - Safety, security and health - Promoting equality of opportunity - Improving quality of life	Cheshire and to promote types of transport that are beneficial to health - Improve accessibility to jobs and key services which help support greater equality and opportunity - Ensure that transport helps to improve quality of life and enhances the local environment in West Cheshire		
Cheshire West and Chester Integrated Transport Strategy: Baseline Report (2009)	Local evidence base report prepared to support both the Local Development Framework and the Local Transport Plan as the initial phase of an integrated transport strategy for the borough. The baseline report provides: An assessment of demographic and socio-economic information	Provides useful authority-wide baseline information related to the transport network in the borough. This includes statistics on demographics, air quality, accessibility, commuting patterns, travel to work modes, traffic growth and road safety.	Climatic Factors, Economic Development, Housing, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the evidence presented in this report into account.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	- A review of local travel to work and overall travel patterns; - An understanding of local transport networks on a mode by mode basis The report highlights potential issues with local transport networks in the borough that will need to be taken into account in the Local Development Framework and Core Strategy.			
Transport Strategy for the City of Chester (2014)	This document sets out the transport strategy for Chester, to support the delivery of the One City Plan, the Local Plan and wider regeneration and development aspirations for the City including the Northgate development and the new theatre.	This contains a series of recommendations which are set out under ten headings. These are: - City centre pedestrianisation and public realm improvements; - Bus strategy and infrastructure; - Congestion relief and access to employment; - Chester parking strategy; - Mobility impaired access, shopmobility and dial a ride;	Climatic Factors, Economic Development, Housing, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the evidence presented in this report into account.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		• Rail services and infrastructure; • City centre pedestrian and cycle enhancements; • Strategic pedestrian and cycle enhancements; • Smarter choices and behavioural change; and • Coach and taxi strategy.		
Ellesmere Port Strategic Regeneration Framework (2011)	Document providing a vision, strategic regeneration framework and implementation plan for Ellesmere Port. The purpose of the vision and framework is to stimulate, focus and support activities and developments which can advance ambitions for the economic development and physical improvement of the town and its surrounding areas. The overall aim is to establish a common purpose and direction of travel for the town, which all stakeholders can sign up to.	Contains no specific indicators or targets, but sets out a number of objectives to support the overall Vision, which states that <i>“Ellesmere Port will develop to become a place of choice; for businesses seeking profitable opportunities in Cheshire and the North West; and for families and individuals looking for great value homes and lifestyles”</i>. The objectives are: • To transform the perceptions of Ellesmere Port – strengthening civic pride and better promoting the town’s assets and success stories.	Climatic change and energy Economic Development, Housing, Population and Human Health	The Ellesmere Port Strategic Regeneration Framework should feed into the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. The local planning policy framework will be a key delivery mechanism to achieve the objectives of the regeneration framework.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		- To attract new investment – seek out investment from businesses, house builders, retailers and leisure providers to further enhance the offer of the town. - To ensure that benefits are maximised for existing residents and businesses – meeting their requirements and in the case of businesses, supporting their needs. - To enhance the quality of key gateways/corridors and open space/under-used land – so that the quality of the environment complements rather than detracts from opportunities. - To harness employment opportunities particularly in growth sectors – ensure that more opportunities emerge and build on		

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		strengths in the energy sector. To enhance education and skills of local residents—recognising that the area suffers from multiple deprivation.		
Cheshire West and Chester Rural Regeneration Strategy and Action Plan (2011)	The Rural Regeneration Strategy identifies an approach to sustaining rural communities, including the need for growth, and views on the contribution that the rural area can make to improve the quality of life for all the borough's residents. It identifies the opportunity to: maximise economic potential; create access to affordable living for rural communities; empower and connect rural communities; and capitalise on our environmental potential.	The Strategy proposes the key ambitions and approaches set out below: - attract and retain additional young people, families and people of working age within the rural area; meet the housing needs of the rural population through the provision of new homes which are well-designed, energy efficient, - affordable and suitable for young people, families and the elderly; safeguard local services, cultural and community facilities and maximised their contribution to the vitality of rural communities;	Climatic change and energy, Cultural Heritage and Landscape, Economic Development, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take this strategy into account, where appropriate.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		- support sustainable economic development across the rural area, securing an additional 3,800 jobs, improving the competitiveness of local businesses and providing the conditions where enterprise can flourish; - address market failure where it affects quality of life and economic success - the provision of public transport services and high speed broadband; - reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and the related CO² emissions by 37% by 2020 (relative to 1990 levels) - protect the natural and historic environment, cultural and heritage assets and ensure that they are preserved for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations.		

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Chester One City Plan (2012)	Document which will provide an endorsed, non-statutory framework and vision for the future of Chester over the next 15 years. The key principles of the document have been informed by, and will in turn inform the Council's Local Development Framework, in particular the Core Strategy. The plan sets out a vision for a distinctive city that makes it mark in the world <i>"By 2027 Chester will be a truly exceptional city using its unique and authentic qualities to provide for all its communities"</i> This vision is then supported by four overarching objectives: • Creating a regional economic driver • Providing for modern living	Contains no specific targets or indicators, but provides the following principles to support the plan's overall vision and objectives: • Generate opportunities for all communities in Chester to prosper • Develop Chester's demand driven, competitive and supportive business environment • Create a rich mix of culture, arts and creativity, during the day, twilight and evening hours • Place education at the heart of the city's values • Be safe, clean, vibrant, healthy and pleasurable as a place to live, work, study and visit • Be accessible, easy to travel around and welcoming	Climatic change and energy, Cultural Heritage and Landscape, Economic Development, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will be a key delivery mechanism to achieve the objectives of the regeneration framework.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	• Celebrating its long and varied history and heritage • Developing an inter-linking network of green spaces and waterways	• Promote environmental best practice • Respect, reveal and celebrate the city's rich historical heritage and architecture		
Chester at Night Strategy (2005)	Strategy seeking to better manage and promote Chester's evening economy, recognising its importance to the overall economy, culture, local distinctiveness and tourism. The strategy sets out the following overall aim: • Make Chester a vibrant, colourful and safe place for everyone to enjoy at night	The document contains no specific targets or indicators. The strategy includes the following objectives: • Improve the City Centre environment and provide more activities • Market the city centre as a safe, vibrant and colourful place • To build a safe foundation - to make chester a safe place to be and reduce the fear of crime at night • To grow the experience (a city for everyone) • To manage the spatial distribution of evening uses to minimise conflict	Community Safety.	Ensure the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies takes account of the Chester at Night Strategy.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Cheshire West and Chester Open Space Study (2011) This study is currently being updated and will be available shortly.	Local evidence base study providing an audit and assessment of open space, outdoor sport and recreation provision in Cheshire West and Chester. The aims and objectives of the study are to: • Provide an overview of existing open spaces across Cheshire West and Chester; • Recommend local standards of provision in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility; • Evaluate the adequacy of the existing provision (in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility) to meet both current and future demand; • Consider the implications of the issues arising for local policy and to provide information to support the collection of contributions towards open space, sports facilities and play facilities.	Provides the following recommended standards for open space provision: Provides useful baseline information on the quality, quantity and accessibility of open space, outdoor sport and recreation spaces in the borough.	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will draw on the findings of this study when formulating local open space requirements and policies.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	The study will be an important component of the evidence base for the emerging Core Strategy, and will also inform policies within future Development Plan Documents.			
Chester City Council Tree Policy (2006)	Document setting out a framework designed to effectively manage and enrich Chester's tree resource, in particular Chester's urban trees. It provides for the management of Chester's rural trees and woodlands in its control as well as the protection of important hedgerows through the hedgerow regulations. It's aims include: • To ensure that the management of our trees contributes to making Chester's environment attractive and healthy • To ensure that trees enhance the landscape and add to the biodiversity	Seek to enhance the value of parks and open spaces.	Biodiversity, flora and fauna, trees and woodland.	Ensure the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies takes account Chester City Council's Tree Policy where necessary

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	thereby helping to attract investment - To ensure efficient management and sustainability of trees - To ensure an increasing and varied tree population within the City of Chester, which is in harmony with other land uses - To promote awareness of the importance and value of trees			
Chester Historic Characterisation Study (2011)	Study commissioned by the Council to record, as objectively as possible, the character of the natural and built environment of Chester, as derived from its heritage and history. The study focuses predominantly on the centre of Chester, breaking the study area in to 16 smaller character areas. It will inform the Local Development Framework by enabling a greater understanding of the existing	No targets, indicators or objectives set, but the study provides design principles for new development and an overview of the capacity of each character area to accommodate change.	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the findings and recommendations of this local evidence base document into account as necessary.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	character of each area and the capacity to which it can accommodate development and future change. Recommendations are made as to how conservation policy can be improved, how character can be enhanced and the form of new development that would be most appropriate in each potential opportunity site.			
Cheshire West and Chester Water Cycle Strategy (2010)	Local evidence base study examining how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across the authority area. The location and severity of these constraints are presented together with recommendations that could resolve the constraints and an evaluation of the implications for growth.	Provides useful baseline information on issues such as flood risk, water quality, water supply and demand, climate change flood-related impacts and the potential water-related impacts of growth on designated Natura 2000 sites.	Biodiversity, Flore and Fauna, Climate change and energy, Economic Development, Housing, Water	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should be informed by the findings of the Water Cycle Strategy.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	The study provides strategic level advice on water infrastructure and environmental capacity to inform the development of the Core Strategy and a preferred spatial strategy. It outlines a number of recommended actions for taking policies and growth proposals forward.			
West Cheshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008)	Evidence base document that will inform the production of Council's Local Development Framework, in relation to the allocation of land with respect to all forms of flooding, including flooding from rivers and the sea, flooding from groundwater, land drainage, sewerage and other artificial forms of flooding (e.g. reservoirs and canals). The study provides a summary of flood risk in the borough, how development and allocations may be affected by flooding, and	The study provides a broad baseline picture for flood risk in the authority area using statistical information, but does not provide any specific indicators, targets or objectives.	Climate change and energy, Water	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will take the findings of the SFRA into account when providing local planning policies and requirements for flood risk management.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	suggests draft policy recommendations for flood risk.			
Cheshire West and Chester Air Quality Progress Report (2013)	Report prepared to meet the Council's obligations under the Environment Act 1995 Part IV to review and assess local air quality. It has been produced to maintain continuity in the local air management process in between the publication of the three-yearly Updating and Screening Assessment reports. The report reveals that the Council monitored concentrations of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) above the annual mean and 1 hour mean air quality objectives outside of the existing air quality management areas, at Parkgate Road (A540)/ Liverpool Road (A5116), Chester, and the M6, Allostock. The annual mean objective for NO₂ was also exceeded within and around the Chester	Includes objectives taken from the Air Quality Regulations 2000 which set out a number of individual limit values for different pollutants which must not be exceeded. These are in relation to: • Particulate Matter (PM-PM10 and PM2.5) • Oxides of nitrogen (NOX) • Ozone (O3) • Sulphur dioxide (SO2) • Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) • Benzene • 1,3-butadiene • Carbon monoxide (CO) • Lead (Pb) • Ammonia	Air	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should seek to minimise air quality impacts and improve air quality wherever possible.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	Boughton AQMA and within the Ellesmere Port AQMA. For all other pollutants (PM ₁₀ , SO ₂ or benzene) monitored at locations where there is relevant exposure, relevant air quality objectives were not exceeded.			
Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council Air Quality Management Order	Ellesmere Port Air Quality Management Area No.1 (Whitby Road/ Station Road)	No specific targets or indicators set	Air	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should help to ensure that new development does not contribute to air pollution and where appropriate facilitate measures for air quality improvements
Ellesmere Port and Neston Air Quality Strategy (2003)	Document setting out the local commitment to controlling air pollution in the former Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Area and the mechanisms by which this commitment can be met. It	The document contains no specific targets or indicators	Air	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should help to ensure that new

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	has the overall aim of ensuring that air quality within the area is of the highest standard possible and presents the least potential risk to health			development does not contribute to air pollution and where appropriate facilitate measures for air quality improvements
Cheshire West and Chester Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2013)	Evidence base document for the Council's Local Development Framework. The key functions of a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment are to: - Identify sites with the potential for housing development; - Assess sites for their housing potential; and - Assess when a site is likely to be developed.	Provides useful baseline information on housing supply and development, but contains no specific targets, indicators or objectives.	Housing	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should be informed by the findings of the SHLAA as necessary.
Cheshire West and Chester Strategic Housing Market	Local evidence base document that will inform the development of housing policies for the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.	Provides baseline information on housing needs, demand and supply.	Housing	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Assessment (SHMA) (2013)	- Thinking regionally and long-term about housing need and demand; - Providing robust evidence to inform policy debate, particularly around the provision of both market and affordable housing, including type, size and tenure mix; - Understanding the drivers and trajectories of housing markets.			Detailed Policies should draw on the findings of the SHMA in order to develop robust housing policies for the borough.
Gypsy and Traveller and Showperson Accommodation in Cheshire West and Chester (2011)	This report sets out proposals for how the Council can pro actively make provision in the borough for Gypsy and Traveller pitches and also additional plots for Travelling Showpeople. Following a review and sustainability assessment of 233 sites leading to a short listing of 5 permanent gypsy and traveller pitches and 1 travelling showperson site.	This is an evidence base document for the LDF and does not include any specific targets or indicators.	Housing	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should be informed by the findings of this study.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Cheshire West and Chester Employment Land Review (2013)	Local evidence base study that will inform the development of employment policies for the Council's forthcoming Core Strategy.	No specific targets, indicators or objectives, but the study provides a good set of statistics on employment land supply and demand in the authority area, plus statistics produced from the company survey offer further information.	Economic Development	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should be informed by the findings of this study.
Cheshire West and Chester Local Economic Assessment (LEA) (2011)	Provides an assessment of economic conditions in the borough area, outlining a summary of the current and future economic position of Cheshire West and Chester to act as an evidence base to inform local strategy and policy making. The document sets out an economic profile for the borough based around the following topics: Business and Enterprise – Structure of the local economy, enterprise and innovation, business wealth and GVA growth;	Supported by a detailed statistical Annex that provides comprehensive baseline indicators on the topics of demography, economic activity, employment, economic inactivity, commuting patterns, earnings, crime, education and skills, business and enterprise, land, buildings and enterprise, transport infrastructure, modes of travel and carbon emissions and waste.	Economic Development, Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the findings of the LEA into account as necessary in their local planning strategy and policies.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	• People and Communities – Demography, labour market, economic and social inclusion and skills • Sustainable economic growth – Land use and commercial and industrial floorspace, housing, transport infrastructure and the environment • Economic Geography – Labour market size, earnings and commuter patterns It then goes on to provide economic profiles for the economic areas of City of Chester; Ellesmere Port; Chester & Ellesmere Port Hinterland; Helsby & Frodsham; Neston & Parkgate; Rural corridor; Weaver Towns; and the Weaver Valley			
Chester Prosperity Study (2011)	Local evidence base study that considers the need for significant new housing growth	Contains useful baseline information and statistics on economic conditions and	Cultural Heritage and Landscape,	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	and development within the city of Chester and on the edge of the city, to support the economic development, tourism and cultural ambitions of the Council and partners.	forecasts, for example GVA growth, occupation requirements and expansion demands.	Economic Development, Housing	Detailed Policies should take the findings and recommendations of this study into account.
Economic Growth and its impact on the demand for housing in Chester (2011)	Local evidence base report looking at economic growth forecasts and aspirations for the City of Chester and assesses the implications of these aspirations for future housing requirements with a particular focus on whether these requirements might require changes to the City's Green Belt.	Provides useful authority-wide baseline information related to the transport network in the borough. This includes statistics on demographics, air quality, accessibility, commuting patterns, travel to work modes, traffic growth and road safety.	Cultural Heritage and Landscape, Economic Development, Housing	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should take the evidence presented in this report into account.
Cheshire Town Centre Study Update (2013)	Evidence base document for the Council's Local Development Framework. Builds on the previous Cheshire Town Centre Study (2007) and the Chester Retail Study (2008), and the Cheshire West and Chester Town Centre Study Update (2011) to provide an	The study and supporting appendices provides useful baseline information for a range of retail and leisure matters. No specific targets or objectives.	Economic Development	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will draw on the findings of this study to develop retail policies for the borough.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	up-to-date assessment of the future capacity for retail development in the borough in accordance with national planning policy. The update is particularly important given the downturn in the UK economy since the completion of the previous studies, which has had a notable impact on the retail sector.			
Cheshire West and Chester Councils Waste Need Assessment Report (2013)	Evidence base document to support the developing waste policies in the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. It sets out the current level of waste management provision and sets out a the anticipated need for new facilities for a number of scenarios.	Sets out that the Local Plan will need to ensure that there are enough waste management sites made available to deliver the waste management strategy to 2020.	Waste	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will draw on the findings of this study to develop waste policies for the borough.
Cheshire West and Chester Affordable Warmth Strategy 2010-2013	Strategy that aims to promote and achieve affordable warmth in Cheshire West and Chester by tackling fuel poverty,	Provides authority-wide baseline information and statistics on topics such as households in fuel poverty, energy efficiency	Climatic change and energy, Housing, Population	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should help to

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	wherever it occurs and however it is caused, increasing energy efficiency and positively contributing to the health effects of excess cold. The overall vision for the strategy is “<i>Working together with partners to eradicate fuel poverty and ensuring that every resident has the ability to maintain a warm home at an affordable cost</i>” The strategy outlines an action plan for tackling affordable warmth. This includes: Working with Spatial Planning to further develop policy to reduce energy need through the use of renewable energy sources and sustainable building techniques”	of housing stock and average fuel bills. Provides the following objectives for tackling fuel poverty: - Develop and implement a targeted approach to tackle the needs of households in fuel poverty and energy inefficient homes - Raise awareness of Affordable Warmth among key decision makers, communities and householders across the borough - Establish partnership working and an effective referral system between agencies in Cheshire West and Chester - Work with residents, landlords and owners to improve affordable warmth across all tenures - Maximise incomes of vulnerable households, through benefit take up	and Human Health	deliver renewable and low-carbon sources of energy, in particular decentralised opportunities, and facilitate the development of energy efficient and zero carbon homes.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		campaigns and improved access to fuel debt and tariff advice		
Assessing Demand for Student Accommodation, University of Chester (2014)	The objective of this report is to assess the future potential level of demand for purpose built student accommodation in the academic year 2014/15 and forecasting forward to 2016/17, both among Level 4 (first year) students (the primary market for purpose-built student accommodation) and also among the Level 5 (second year) and 6 (third year) for home and international students.	No specific targets, but highlights that there is need for additional student housing in Chester.	Housing	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should be informed by the findings of this study.
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment	This is a group of documents that present information about the current and future health and wellbeing needs if the local population, including the wider determinants of health such as employment, environment, housing and inequalities.	There are no specific targets.	Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should be informed by the findings of this study.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Public Health Annual Report 2014	Report setting out the Public Health priorities for the coming year.	There are no specific targets.	Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should be informed by the findings of this study.
Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015-2020	This sets out the strategic framework for improving health and reducing inequalities across Cheshire West and Chester. The emphasis is on prevention, improved coordination and integration of health and social care.	There are no specific targets, but relevant indicators include obesity, emotional wellbeing, physical activity, fuel poverty, air quality, road accidents, decent standard of properties, mental health, and providing for an ageing population.	Population and Human Health	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies should be informed by the findings of this study.
Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan (made 4 June 2014)	Neighbourhood Plan setting out planning policies for the Tattenhall area.	The objectives are: • Delivery of a housing growth strategy tailored to the needs and context of Tattenhall • Sensitive development which protects and enriches the landscape and built setting	All	Detailed policies and allocations relating to the Tattenhall area should fit in with the Neighbourhood Plan policies where possible.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		• Sustaining and improving excellent local facilities for existing and new residents • Strengthening and supporting economic activity • Seek on-going improvements to transport, to utility infrastructure and to digital connectivity • Prioritise local distinctiveness in every element of change and growth • Protect greenspace, the landscape and support nature conservation • Involve local people in an ongoing basis in the process of plan-making, monitoring and delivery of development.		

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
Winsford Neighbourhood Plan (made 19 November 2014)	Neighbourhood Plan setting out planning policies for the Winsford area. Also allocates sites for development.	The objectives are: - Improve the 'image of Winsford (external and internal) by positive interventions and marketing. - Improve the existing physical environment of Winsford. - Deliver high quality development. - Promote the River Weaver, Flashes and Salt Mines and develop them as visitor attractions. - Increase and diversify the uses around the Flashes and the river. Improve connectivity and access to the Flashes, the River and Whitegate Way. - Improve and / or redevelop the shopping centre and attract better and a greater variety of shops and other town centre uses, including restaurants and cafes.	All	Detailed policies and allocations relating to the Winsford area should fit in with the Neighbourhood Plan policies where possible.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		- Ensure new retail supports the role of the Town Centre. - Improve and enhance the old High Street and Delamere Street. - Improve the integration and quality of the market and provide it with a long term sustainable future. - Retain some free car parking in the Town Centre. - Provide new employment land for future growth. - Promote Winsford as a business location and build a sustainable and varied employment destination, by protecting and providing employment land for future business growth and improving quality, access and infrastructure.		

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		- Create a variety of employment opportunities, that are accessible to local people. - Ensure that new employment uses are well-designed. - Provide a wide variety of new housing that: supports the existing town and in particular the town centre; is sited in a sustainable location and well integrated with the existing town; and creates a sustainable and mixed community. - Create new, high quality buildings, streets and spaces. - Ensure that schools, the Winsford Academy and the college are supported and continue to improve and that Winsford is provided with high quality education facilities for all ages, including opportunities for apprenticeships. - Provide more leisure facilities for all sections of the population.		

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		- Provide leisure facilities that will help attract visitors to the town. - Provide a network of high quality open spaces across town. - Improve public transport. - Improve the pedestrian environment and ability to move around. - Improve road links to adjacent towns, in particular from the business areas and investigate ways of reducing traffic in Winsford.		
Malpas and Overton Neighbourhood Plan (made 8 July 2015)	Neighbourhood Plan setting out planning policies for the Malpas and Overton area.	1. Provide an excellent quality of life in our local area. 2. Ensure that new development is sustainably located, connected and integrates well with the village.	All	Detailed policies and allocations relating to the Malpas and Overton area should fit in with the Neighbourhood Plan policies where possible.

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		3. Support housing growth which meets identified housing need, including all sections of the community. 4. Ensure that the area is easy and safe to move around in for all modes of transport and that the infrastructure continues to adequately serve the village as it grows. 5. Protect and maintain the existing rural landscape character. 6. Protect and enhance the natural environment. 7. Ensure continued provision of a comprehensive range of local shops, services and community facilities that meets the needs of the local population. 8. Support a broad and sustainable local economy that provides job opportunities for		

Key targets, indicators and objectives relevant to Plan and SA				
Local plans and programmes	Overview	Target/ indicator/objective	SA topic	Implications for Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		residents of Malpas and Overton. 9. Protect and enhance our heritage assets and the distinctive local character of the built environment. 10. Promote sustainability and reduce carbon-dependent activities.		
Conservation Area Appraisals	There are 96 Conservation Areas within Chester. Approximately half of these have Conservation Area Appraisals. Each appraisal describes the character of the area and highlights key features.	There are no specific targets.	Cultural heritage and landscape.	The Conservation Area policies should refer to the Conservation Area Appraisals. Any allocation of sites within Conservation Areas should take the appraisals into account.

B: Quality assurance checklist

The Quality Assurance checklist below has been used to ensure that the requirements of the SEA Directive have been met and fully integrated into the sustainability appraisal process covered in this document. The Quality Assurance checklist covers both the technical and procedural steps of the sustainability appraisal process and will be updated as the different stages are reached.

Quality Assurance Checklist	Relevant section in Scoping Report
Objectives and context	
The plan's purpose and objectives are made clear	N/A
Sustainability issues, including international and EC objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets	Yes Individual topic chapters
SA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate	Yes Individual topic chapters
Links with other related plans, programmes and policies are identified and explained	Yes Individual topic chapters
Conflicts that exist between SA objectives, between SA and plan objectives, and between SA and other plan objectives are identified and described	Yes between SA objectives (Plan objectives N/A) Summary and Next Steps
Scoping	
The environmental consultation bodies are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the SA report	Yes
The appraisal focuses on significant issues	Yes Individual topic chapters
Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit	Yes
Reasons are given for eliminating issues from further consideration	Yes
Options / alternatives	
Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues, and the reasons for choosing- them are documented	N/A
Alternatives include 'do nothing' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant	N/A

Quality Assurance Checklist	Relevant section in Scoping Report
The sustainability effects (both adverse and beneficial) of each alternative are identified and compared	N/A
Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained	N/A
Reasons are given for selection and elimination of alternatives	N/A
Baseline information	
Relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and their likely evolution without the plan are described	Yes Individual topic chapters
Characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the plan area where it is likely to be affected by the plan where practicable	Yes Individual topic chapters
Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained	Yes Individual topic chapters
Prediction and evaluation of likely significant effects	
Likely significant social, environmental and economic effects are identified, including those listed in the SEA Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape) as relevant	N/A
Both positive and negative effects are considered, and where practicable, the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed	N/A
Likely secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects are identified where practicable	N/A
Inter-relationships between effects are considered where practicable	N/A
Where relevant, the prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of accepted standards, regulations and thresholds	N/A
Methods used to evaluate the effects are described	N/A
Mitigation measures	
Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the plan are indicated	N/A

Quality Assurance Checklist	Relevant section in Scoping Report
Issues to be taken into account in development consents are identified	N/A
The Sustainability Appraisal Report	
Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation	N/A
Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms	N/A
Uses maps and other illustrations where appropriate	N/A
Explains the methodology used	N/A
Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used	N/A
Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion	N/A
Contains a non-technical summary	N/A
Consultation	
The SA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process	To be undertaken in line with the development of the Local Plan
The consultation bodies, other consultees and the public are consulted in ways which give them an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions on the draft plan and SA report	Currently being undertaken
Decision-making and information on the decision	
The SA Report and the opinions of those consulted are taken into account in finalising and adopting the plan	N/A
An explanation has been given of how they have been taken into account	N/A
Reasons are given for choices in the adopted plan, in the light of other reasonable alternatives considered	N/A
Monitoring measures	
Measures are proposed for monitoring are clear, practicable and linked to the indicators and objectives used in the SA	N/A

Quality Assurance Checklist	Relevant section in Scoping Report
Monitoring is used, where appropriate, during the implementation of the plan to make good deficiencies in baseline information in the SA	N/A
Monitoring enables unforeseen adverse effects to be identified at an early stage. (These effects may include predictions which prove to be incorrect)	N/A
Proposals are made for action in response to significant adverse effects	N/A

C: SEA Screening determination

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal Determination for the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies

December 2015

Introduction

In accordance with European Directive 2001/42/EC and the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended), this document is the screening determination of the need for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

Under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, the responsible authority (i.e. the local planning authority) must carry out an environmental assessment for any plan or programme that is prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, which sets the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annex I or II to Council Directive 85/337/EEC. It is likely that Development Plan Documents (DPDs), such as the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will require SEA as they will contain planning policies that influence the above list of topics, and which will be used to determine planning applications.

The regulations advise that a screening process is used to determine whether or not a plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment. This process should use a specified set of criteria (set out in Schedule 1 of the regulations). The results of this process must be summarised in an SEA screening opinion, which is then sent to the statutory bodies for comment. Once comments have been taken into account a screening determination is prepared setting out whether SEA is required and reasons for the decision and this must be made publicly available.

This screening decision has been based on the information within the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies Issues document, which was consulted on in May 2014.

An initial draft screening opinion was produced in May 2014. The Council has a duty to consult four specified environmental organisations - Countryside Agency, English Nature, English Heritage (now known as Historic England) and the Environment Agency (English Nature and the Countryside Agency have now merged to form Natural England) - when determining the need for SEA ⁽ⁱ⁾.

Details of the bodies consulted, the responses received and the associated amendments to the initial draft screening report are set out in Table 1. The consultation period ran from 14 May to 19 June 2014.

i In addition, the Welsh SEA Statutory consultees were also consulted

1 Responses to the original SEA Screening Opinion

Consultee	Consultation point	Consultee comments	Council's response	Action taken
Private resident	Question 2 SEA Screening Report	The devil is all in the detail and at the present stage of the process the finer detail is not yet clearly visible. In principle the vision and SEA directives regarding the environmental considerations appear to tick all the boxes. What is not yet obvious is that once strategy 6 is adopted how it will be managed and affect the boundaries of the Flashes. How public access to previously undisturbed habitats and wildlife will change that area of Winsford forever. This is where the anxiety and general resistance to the plan is caused. The theory and vision of the expanded areas of access and merging of urban boundaries with countryside are wonderful for the public to perceive, when looking the location of new homes. However, it is the longer term management and affects of these changes that must be clearly communicated by the consultation process. More detailed information about the changes of access to the Flashes, what is likely to happen and timescale. So that that the consultation and plan receive full public endorsement in realisation of its impact and irreversible change.	Thank you for your response. The potential impact on the Flashes in Winsford was assessed through the Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan (Part One). Policy STRAT 6 of the Local Plan (Part One) requires the Station Quarter to be achieved through a comprehensively planned approach in line with an agreed development brief. This is the mechanism through which the detailed planning of the site will be considered and consulted upon.	No action required.
English Heritage (Miss Emily Hrycan)	Question 2 SEA Screening Report	English Heritage is satisfied with the conclusion that the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies for Cheshire West and Chester is likely to have significant environmental effects and will	Thank you for your response.	No action required.

Consultee	Consultation point	Consultee comments	Council's response	Action taken
		therefore require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).		

In addition, comments were received from Natural Resources Wales, Natural England, and English Heritage regarding alterations to the Scoping Report. These comments fed into the updated scoping report.

The updated Scoping Report and screening opinion were subject to consultation from 2 October 2015 to 6 November 2015. Details of the bodies consulted, the responses received and the associated amendments to the screening report are set out in Table 2.

Table 2 Responses to the updated SEA Screening Opinion

Consultee	Consultation point	Consultee comments	Council's response	Action taken
Historic England	Appendix C: Screening Opinion	Responded to say 'no further comments to make'	No change required	No change required
Natural England	N/A	No additional comments received	N/A	N/A
Environment Agency	N/A	No additional comments received	N/A	N/A

As such, no comments were made on the updated SEA screening opinion that required any amendments or disagreed with the conclusion that the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is likely to have significant environmental effects and accordingly will require a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Comments were received from Historic England, setting out general guidelines for scoping reports. The scoping report has been amended to take account of these guidelines, but referring to additional documents and issues within the Cultural Heritage section and list of plans. Comments were received from Tetlow King Planning on behalf of Rentplus in relation to affordable housing models, starter homes and technical standards relating to housing. In response to these comments, reference to starter homes has been added to the Housing section of the Scoping Report and the objective in the Housing section and summary has been amended to refer to relevant accessibility standards rather than Lifetime Homes standards. In addition, comments were received from a local resident on the Scoping Report. These comments related to stand-off distances between residential properties and renewable and other sources of energy including unconventional gas and oil extraction. An amendment to the Scoping Report was

not required, but the comments will be taken into account during preparation of relevant policies within the Local Plan (Part Two).

Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies

The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will set out the non-strategic land allocations and identify detailed policies, following on from the strategic framework set out in the Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies. It will help determine the location of new development, including new housing and employment land necessary to meet the requirements of the borough. Preparation of this document will involve stakeholders and the community in line with the requirements set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 and the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

The Council considers that the preparation of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies falls within the scope of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations on the basis that:

- The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is a plan and programme as defined in Regulation 2 of The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations;
- The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is prepared for town and country planning or land use and will set the framework for the future development consent of projects listed in Annex I or II of European Council Directive; and 85/337/EEC; and
- The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will apply to a wider area than a small area at local level and is not a minor modification to an existing plan or programme.

A determination under Regulation 9 is, therefore, required as to whether the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is likely to have significant environmental effects.

Characteristics of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies

The role of the screening exercise is to determine whether the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have a significant effect on the environment. The criteria for assessing whether a plan or programme is likely to have a significant environmental effect are set out in Annex II of the SEA Directive and Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

The assessment criteria used to determine whether a plan or programme will have significant environmental effects are separated into two categories:

- those relating to the characteristics of the plan; and
- those relating to the characteristics of the plan's effects and of the area likely to be affected.

The assessment of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies (Issues consultation version) is set out in Table 3.

Table 3 Assessment of the significant environmental effects of the Local Plan (Part Two)

Criteria (Schedule 1)	Significant environmental effect likely (yes/no)?	Assessment and justification
1 The characteristics of the plans and programmes, having regard in particular to;		
(a) The degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources.	Yes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will set a new policy framework. This will identify non-strategic land allocations and identify detailed policies, following on from the strategic framework set out in the Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies. This will set a framework for projects and activities in terms of the location of new development and the nature, size and operating conditions of such developments.
(b) The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy.	Yes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies set out the non-strategic allocations and detailed policies, following on from the strategic framework set out in the Local Plan (Part One). It, along with the Local Plan (Part One) also sets the context for Neighbourhood Plans and for Supplementary Planning Documents which may either be topic based or site specific in nature.
(c) The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.	Yes	Section 39 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act requires Cheshire West and Chester Council's Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies to have the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development.
(d) Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme.	Yes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will seek to address environmental problems that are relevant to the Council's statutory development plan.

Criteria (Schedule 1)	Significant environmental effect likely (yes/no)?	Assessment and justification
(e) The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	Yes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is relevant to the implementation EC legislation, such as that relating to waste management (as it will include waste management policies and potentially waste site allocations) and also to EC legislation relating to protection of important habitats (as it will include nature / open space protection policies).
2 Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular to;		
(a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of effects.	Yes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will set out the non-strategic allocations and detailed policies, following on from the strategic framework set out in the Local Plan (Part One), which covers the period from 2010-2030.
(b) The cumulative nature of the effects.	Yes	There are likely to be cumulative affects arising from and between the different policies within the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
(c) The transboundary nature of the effects.	No	There are unlikely to be transboundary effects on other Member States arising from the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
(d) The risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents).	No	There are unlikely to be risks to human health or the environment arising from the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
(e) The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected).	Yes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will apply to new development in Cheshire West and Chester geographical area. This has an area of nearly 1000 square kilometres and a population of over 329,000 people.
(f) The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to;	Yes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies covers the whole of Cheshire West and Chester which is valued in terms of its

Criteria (Schedule 1)	Significant environmental effect likely (yes/no)?	Assessment and justification
(i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values or (ii) intensive land use		built, natural and archaeological heritage. There may be the potential for the value and vulnerability of the area to be affected as a result of the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.
(g) The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.	Yes	The Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies will apply to all landscape types in Cheshire West and Chester, including those which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.

Conclusion

In accordance with Part 2(9) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations, the Council, as the responsible authority, consider that the intended Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies is likely to have significant environmental effects and accordingly will require a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Section 19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires local planning authorities to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal of all DPDs including the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. The requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment will be incorporated into the Sustainability Appraisal for the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies.

Date of determination: 10 December 2015.

Delegated decision made by Fiona Hore, Planning and Strategic Transport Manager.





SEA Screening determination

Further information

If you require any further information, please contact the Spatial Planning team on 01244 973887 or by email to: spatialplanning@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk.

Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille, Large Print or other formats. If you would like a copy in a different format, in another language or require a BSL interpreter, please email us at **equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk**

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Pokud byste požadovali informace v jiném jazyce nebo formátu, kontaktujte nás

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如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

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