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# **Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Kirklees Local Plan**

Prepared by LUC  
May 2015

**Project Title:** Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Kirklees Local Plan

**Client:** Kirklees Council

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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
	The Plan Area	1
	The Kirklees Local Plan	1
	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment	2
	Structure of the Scoping Report	5
<b>2</b>	<b>Relevant Plans and Policies</b>	<b>6</b>
	Relationship between the Kirklees Local Plan and other plans and programmes	6
	Environmental, social and economic objectives relevant to the Kirklees Local Plan	7
<b>3</b>	<b>Baseline Information</b>	<b>10</b>
	Baseline information	10
<b>4</b>	<b>Key Sustainability Issues and Likely Evolution without the Plan</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>	<b>26</b>
	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives	26
	Approach to the SA	28
	Proposed structure of the SA report	29
<b>6</b>	<b>SA of Vision and Objectives and Options for the Spatial Framework Approach</b>	<b>31</b>
	Local Plan Vision	31
	Local Plan Objectives	31
	Spatial framework options	34
<b>7</b>	<b>Conclusion and Next Steps</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Appendix 1</b>		<b>38</b>
	Consultation Comments on Draft SA Scoping Report	38
<b>Appendix 2</b>		<b>47</b>
	Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes	47
<b>Appendix 3</b>		<b>75</b>
	Proposed Health Impact Assessment Framework	75
<b>Appendix 4</b>		<b>82</b>
	SA Matrix for Spatial Framework Options	82
<b>Appendix 5</b>		<b>92</b>
	Vision and Objectives from the Shaping our Local Plan engagement document (2014)	92

# 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Kirklees Council commissioned LUC in August 2014 to carry out Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the emerging Kirklees Local Plan.
- 1.2 The purpose of this Scoping Report is to provide the context for, and determine the scope of, the SA/SEA of the Local Plan and to set out the framework for undertaking the later stages of the SA/SEA.
- 1.3 The scoping stage involves reviewing other relevant plans, policies and programmes, considering the current state of the environment in Kirklees, identifying any key environmental issues or problems which may be affected by the Local Plan and setting out the 'SA framework', which comprises specific sustainability objectives against which the likely effects of the Local Plan can be assessed.
- 1.4 A draft version of this Scoping Report was produced and subject to consultation with Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency for a five week period between March and April 2015. Comments received during that period have been reviewed and addressed as appropriate in this final version of the report. The comments received are listed in **Appendix 1** along with a commentary about how each one has been addressed.

## The Plan Area

- 1.5 Kirklees covers an area of 40,860 hectares within West Yorkshire. The district is diverse in character, comprising urban conurbations (which contain the majority of the population) in the north and west, most notably Huddersfield, and large areas of green belt in the south. The south west part of Kirklees falls within the Peak District National Park.
- 1.6 The road and rail network provides good links to the surrounding cities of Manchester, Leeds, Bradford and Sheffield, with wider reaching connections provided via the M62 and the M1.

## The Kirklees Local Plan

- 1.7 Between 2005 and 2012 Kirklees Council was working on the preparation of a Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy. It was intended that the Core Strategy would provide the framework for planning decisions in Kirklees up to 2028, setting out how much development should take place, and broadly where, and including policies to ensure that development would take place in a sustainable way.
- 1.8 Several iterations of the Core Strategy were produced, including a Preferred Options Consultation Report (2006), an Options Consultation Report (2009), a Draft Proposals Consultation (2010) and the Proposed Submission version (2011). At each stage the Core Strategy was subject to SA, with an SA report being published alongside the Core Strategy for consultation.
- 1.9 The Core Strategy was submitted to the Secretary of State in 2012; however in October 2013 the decision was made to withdraw the Core Strategy and move towards the production of a new-style Local Plan instead. The reasons for this decision<sup>1</sup> are explained in detail on the Council's website<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.10 The new Local Plan will set out how Kirklees will develop over the next 15-20 years. It will identify site allocations for specific types of land use and set out planning policies that will be used to assess planning applications.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Report 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2013, available at: <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/secure/meetings/pdfs/1013/COUNCIL23101349544D.pdf>

- 1.11 In carrying out the scoping stage of the SA for the emerging Kirklees Local Plan, the work that was carried out previously during the SA of the Core Strategy has been drawn from as appropriate.

### Work undertaken to date on the new Local Plan

- 1.12 An 'Early Engagement Report' relating to the new Local Plan was consulted on between April and May 2014. The report set out information about what would be included in the Local Plan and when and how it would be prepared. It also presented the vision and strategic objectives from the withdrawn Core Strategy and invited comments on how they might be amended for the new Local Plan.
- 1.13 A further engagement exercise was carried out between November and December 2014. The engagement document set out information on:
- The new local plan for Kirklees, and the process of how it will be developed.
  - The ambition for Kirklees' future and how a Local Plan can help achieve this ambition.
  - Key statistics, facts and information for the basis of the Kirklees Local Plan.
  - Options for how Kirklees decide where new development could go.
- 1.14 This engagement information can be viewed online at [www.kirklees.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/localplan).

## Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.15 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, SA is mandatory for Development Plan Documents. For these documents it is also necessary to conduct an environmental assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (European Directive 2001/42/EC). Therefore, it is a legal requirement for the Kirklees Local Plan to be subject to SA and SEA throughout its preparation.
- 1.16 The requirements to carry out SA and SEA are distinct, although it is possible to satisfy both using a single appraisal process (as advocated in the National Planning Practice Guidance), whereby users can comply with the requirements of the SEA Directive through a single integrated SA process – this is the process that is being undertaken in Kirklees. From here on, the term 'SA' should therefore be taken to mean 'SA incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive'.
- 1.17 The SA process comprises a number of stages, with scoping being Stage A as shown in **Figure 1.1** below:

### Figure 1.1: Main stages of Sustainability Appraisal

Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope
Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects
Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report
Stage D: Consulting on the preferred options for the Local Plan and the SA report
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan

- 1.18 **Figure 1.2** below sets out the tasks involved in the Scoping stage.

### Figure 1.2: Stages in SA scoping (Stage A)

A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives.
A2: Collecting baseline information.
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems.
A4: Developing the SA framework
A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA.

## Meeting the requirements of the SEA Directive

- 1.19 This Scoping Report includes some of the required elements of the final 'Environmental Report' (the output required by the SEA Directive). **Table 1.1** below signposts the relevant sections of the Scoping Report that are considered to meet the SEA Directive requirements (the remainder will be met during subsequent stages of the SA of the Kirklees Local Plan). This table will be included in the full SA Report at each stage of the SA to show how the SEA Directive requirements have been met through the SA process.

**Table 1.1: Meeting the Requirements of the SEA Directive**

SEA Directive Requirements	Covered in this Scoping Report?
<b>Preparation of an environmental report</b> in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is (Art. 5 and Annex I):	The full SA Report for the Kirklees Local Plan will constitute the 'environmental report' as well, and will be produced at a later stage in the SA process.
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	Chapters 1 and 2 and Appendix 2.
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	Chapters 3 and 4.
c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	Chapter 3.
d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.;	Chapter 3.
e) The environmental protection, objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental, considerations have been taken into account during its preparation;	Chapter 2 and Appendix 2.
f) The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. (Footnote: These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects);	Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.
g) The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme;	Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.
h) An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;	Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.
i) a description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Art. 10;	Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.
j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.
The report shall include the information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Art. 5.2)	This Scoping Report and the Environmental Reports will adhere to this requirement.
<b>Consultation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4)</li> </ul>	Consultation with the relevant statutory environmental bodies was undertaken in relation to this Scoping Report between March and April 2015. The comments have

SEA Directive Requirements	Covered in this Scoping Report?
	been addressed as set out in Appendix 1.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>authorities with environmental responsibility and the public, shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme (Art. 6.1, 6.2)</li> </ul>	Public consultation on the first iteration of the Kirklees Local Plan is currently proposed for Autumn 2015.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Art. 7).</li> </ul>	Not relevant as there will be no effects beyond the UK from the Kirklees Local Plan.
<b>Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8)</b>	
<p><b>Provision of information on the decision:</b> When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Art.7 must be informed and the following made available to those so informed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the plan or programme as adopted</li> <li>a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report of Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Art. 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Art. 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and</li> <li>the measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9)</li> </ul>	Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.
<p><b>Monitoring</b> of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10)</p>	Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.

### Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.20 Under Article 6 (3) and (4) of the Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) land-use plans, including Development Plan Documents, are also subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The purpose of HRA is to assess the impacts of a land-use plan against the conservation objectives of a European site and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of that site.
- 1.21 The HRA for the Kirklees Local Plan will be undertaken by LUC on behalf of the Council and, while the HRA will be reported on separately to the SA, the findings will be taken into account in the SA where relevant (for example to inform judgements about the likely effects of the Local Plan on biodiversity).

### Health Impact Assessment

- 1.22 Health Impact Assessment (HIA) aims to ensure that health-related issues are integrated into the plan-making process. HIA of the Kirklees Local Plan will be carried out and integrated into the SA. This will involve:
- Establishing the national and local policy context relating to health issues (see **Chapter 2**).
  - Gaining an understanding of the health issues facing Kirklees, including any particular communities that experience particular health deprivation characteristics, whether geographically or sectors of the population (see **Chapters 3 and 4**).
  - Considering which aspects of the Local Plan could influence the achievement of health objectives (as relevant to Kirklees), including for example the provision of employment sites (since being in a job is one of the primary determinants of health), access to leisure, recreation and sport facilities including open space, and capacity and access to health facilities.



- Assessing the likely effects of the Local Plan as a whole in terms of addressing health objectives, particularly those sectors of the community that demonstrate the most need for improvements in health, and how these might be better addressed through the Local Plan process (this will be described within the SA report).

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 1.23 The requirement to undertake formal Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) of plans was introduced in the Equality Act 2010, but was abolished in 2012 as part of a Government bid to reduce bureaucracy. Despite this, authorities are still required to have regard to the provisions of the Equality Act, namely the Public Sector Duty which requires public authorities to have due regard for equalities considerations when exercising their functions.
- 1.24 In fulfilling this duty, many authorities still find it useful to produce a written record of equalities issues having been specifically considered. Therefore, an EqIA note will be prepared at the Preferred Options consultation stage and updated at the Publication stage, setting out how the Local Plan is likely to be compatible or incompatible with the duties that Kirklees Council must perform under the Equalities Act 2010. This will be included as an appendix to the SA Report.

### Structure of the Scoping Report

- 1.25 This chapter has described the background to the production of the new Kirklees Local Plan and the requirement to undertake SA and other assessment processes. The remainder of this report is structured into the following sections:
- **Chapter 2** describes the review of plans, policies and programmes of relevance to the SA of the Local Plan (this is supported by more detailed information in **Appendix 2**).
  - **Chapter 3** presents the baseline information which will inform the assessment of the policies and sites in the emerging Local Plan.
  - **Chapter 4** identifies the key environmental issues and problems in Kirklees of relevance to the Local Plan and considers the likely evolution of those issues without its implementation.
  - **Chapter 5** presents the SA framework that will be used for the appraisal of the Local Plan and the proposed method for carrying out the SA, including the HIA.
  - **Chapter 6** presents an initial appraisal of the draft Vision and Objectives for the new Local Plan.
  - **Chapter 7** describes the next steps to be undertaken in the SA of the Local Plan.

## 2 Relevant Plans and Policies

2.1 Annex 1 of the SEA Directive requires:

(a) "an outline of the...relationship with other relevant plans or programmes"; and

(e) "the environmental protection objectives established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation"

2.2 In order to establish a clear scope for the SA it is necessary to review and develop an understanding of the environmental, social and economic objectives contained within international and national policies, plans and strategies that are of relevance to the emerging Kirklees Local Plan. Given the SEA Directive requirements above, it is also necessary to consider the relationship between the Kirklees Local Plan and other relevant plans, policies and programmes.

### Relationship between the Kirklees Local Plan and other plans and programmes

2.3 The Kirklees Local Plan must be in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the requirements of which are described in detail in the next section.

2.4 The Local Plan will identify the overall scale of development for Kirklees, including where development should take place. It will include detailed policies to ensure that development takes place in a sustainable way and will make specific allocations for sites to be developed.

2.5 At the sub-regional and local levels there are a wide range of plans and programmes that are specific to West Yorkshire and Kirklees, which provide context for the emerging Local Plan. These include plans and programmes relating to issues such as housing, health and well-being, transport, renewable energy and green infrastructure. The policies and site allocations in the Local Plan will therefore need to take account of those plans and programmes.

2.6 In particular, the council has adopted two strategies, that will both influence and be influenced by the development and implementation of the local plan:

- Kirklees Economic Strategy
- Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHAWS)

2.7 **Figure 2.1** overleaf summarises the interrelationship with the Local Plan.

2.8 The Kirklees Economic Strategy puts forward the vision for Kirklees to be recognised as the best place to do business in the north of England and one where people prosper and flourish in all of its communities. It will aim to grow in such a manner that there is:

- improved resilience, competitiveness and profitability for business;
- enhanced employment prospects, skills and incomes; and
- a great quality of life and environment where all people are connected to economic opportunity and live in strong and thriving communities.

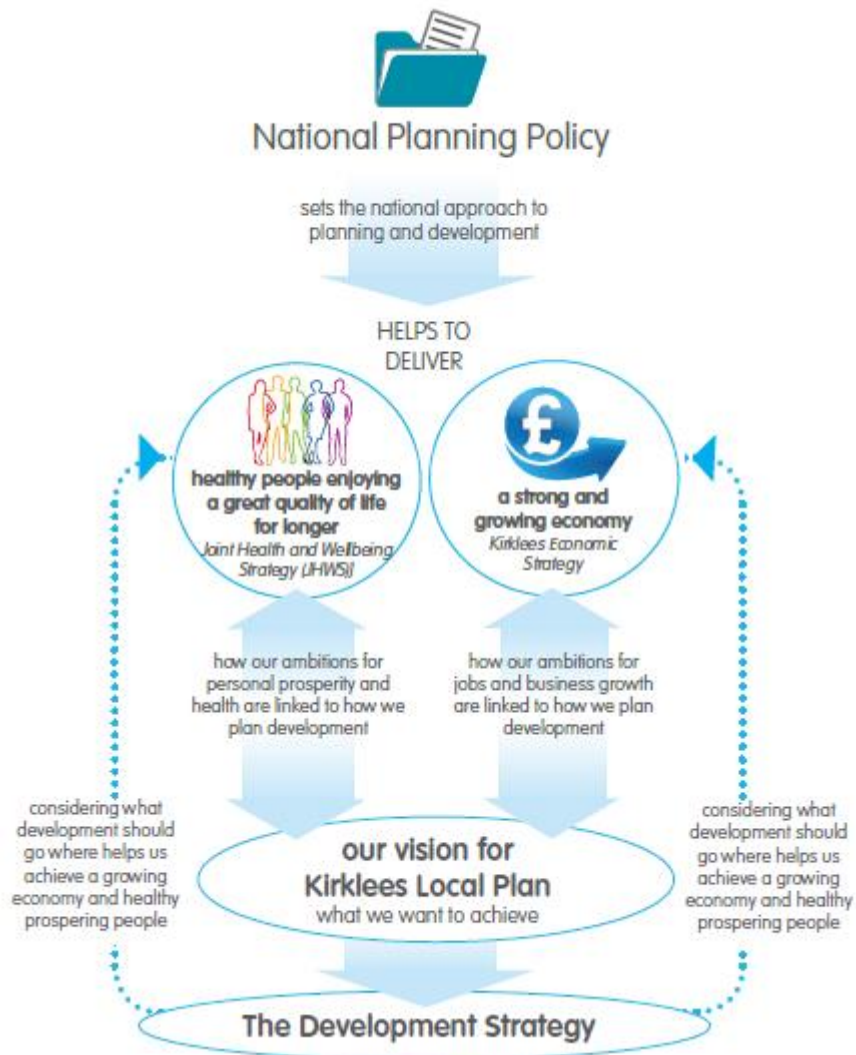
2.9 The Kirklees Health and Wellbeing Board (made up of Councillors, Directors of Children's Services, Adults Services and Public Health from Kirklees Council, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Healthwatch, plus representatives from NHS England, the local NHS Trusts and Local Community Partnerships) has prepared the Kirklees Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy<sup>2</sup>, which is a document that provides a context, vision and overall focus for improving the health and wellbeing

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/you-kmc/deliveringServices/jointHealthAndWellbeingStrategy.aspx>

of local people and reducing inequalities. Its purpose is also to support effective partnership working to deliver health improvements, and provide a framework for helping to develop plans within Kirklees (including the Local Plan) that meet the health and wellbeing needs of local people. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy will therefore be useful when carrying out the HIA of the Kirklees Local Plan.

**Figure 2.1: Relationship between national planning policy, the Local Plan and the Economic Strategy and Joint Health and Wellbeing Study**



2.10 Local communities may choose to produce a neighbourhood plan for their area in order to set out a vision and planning policies for the use and development of land in a neighbourhood. Any such plans will need to be in conformity with the strategic policies in the Kirklees Local Plan, and may also be required to be subject to SEA.

## Environmental, social and economic objectives relevant to the Kirklees Local Plan

2.11 There are a wide range of plans, policies and programmes at the international and national levels that are relevant to the emerging Kirklees Local Plan. The full review of relevant plans, policies and programmes can be seen in **Appendix 2** and the key components are summarised below.

### *Key international plans, policies and programmes*

- 2.12 At the international level, Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the 'SEA Directive') and Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the 'Habitats Directive') are particularly significant as they require Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to be undertaken in relation to the emerging Local Plan. These processes should be undertaken iteratively and integrated into the production of the Local Plan in order to ensure that any potential negative environmental effects (including on European-level nature conservation designations) are identified and can be mitigated.
- 2.13 There are a wide range of other EU Directives relating to issues such as water quality, waste and air quality, most of which have been transposed into UK law through national-level policy; however the international directives have been included in **Appendix 2** for completeness.

### *Key national plans, policies and programmes*

- 2.14 The most significant development in terms of the policy context for the emerging Local Plan has been the publication of the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which replaced the suite of Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and Planning Policy Guidance (PPGs). The purpose of the NPPF was to streamline national planning policy, having reduced over a thousand pages of policy down to around 60 pages. The Kirklees Local Plan must be consistent with the requirements of the NPPF, which sets out information about the purposes of local plan-making. It states that:
- "Local Plans must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. To this end, they should be consistent with the principles and policies set out in this Framework, including the presumption in favour of sustainable development."*
- 2.15 The NPPF also requires Local Plans to be 'aspirational but realistic'. This means that opportunities for appropriate development should be identified in order to achieve net gains in terms of sustainable social, environmental and economic development; however significant adverse impacts in any of those areas should not be allowed to occur.
- 2.16 One of the core planning principles set out in the NPPF is that planning should take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs. Other core planning principles are linked to health – such as design and transportation. Section 8 of the NPPF recognises that the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities.
- 2.17 The NPPF requires local planning authorities to set out the strategic priorities for the area in the Local Plan. This should include strategic policies to deliver:
- the homes and jobs needed in the area;
  - the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
  - the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
  - the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
  - climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.
- 2.18 In addition, Local Plans should:
- plan positively for the development and infrastructure required in the area to meet the objectives, principles and policies of this Framework;
  - be drawn up over an appropriate time scale, preferably a 15-year time horizon, take account of longer term requirements, and be kept up to date;
  - be based on co-operation with neighbouring authorities, public, voluntary and private sector organisations;

- indicate broad locations for strategic development on a key diagram and land-use designations on a proposals map;
- allocate sites to promote development and flexible use of land, bringing forward new land where necessary, and provide detail on form, scale, access and quantum of development where appropriate;
- identify areas where it may be necessary to limit freedom to change the uses of buildings, and support such restrictions with a clear explanation;
- identify land where development would be inappropriate, for instance because of its environmental or historic significance; and
- contain a clear strategy for enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, and supporting Nature Improvement Areas where they have been identified.

## 3 Baseline Information

- 3.1 Baseline information provides the basis for predicting and monitoring the likely sustainability effects of a plan and helps to identify key sustainability issues and means of dealing with them.
- 3.2 Annex 1 of the SEA Directive requires information to be provided on:
- (a) *the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan;*
  - (b) *the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;*
  - (c) *any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC [the 'Birds Directive'] and 92/43/EEC [the 'Habitats Directive'].*
- 3.3 Baseline information that was collated for the SA of the now-withdrawn Core Strategy (most recently presented in the September 2012 SA report for the Core Strategy) has been used as the starting point. However, it has been substantially revised and updated to make use of the most recent available information sources.
- 3.4 Data referred to have been chosen primarily for regularity and consistency of collection, in order to enable trends in the baseline situation to be established, and also subsequent monitoring of potential sustainability effects. There are a number of studies and evidence documents that are currently being prepared by or for the Council and these will be drawn from when the baseline information is updated during later stages of the SA, once they have become available.

### Baseline information

#### Administrative context

- 3.5 Kirklees Council covers an area of 40,860 hectares in West Yorkshire. The authority is diverse comprising urban conurbations in the north and west, which contain the majority of the population, and large areas of green belt within the south. The south west part of Kirklees falls within the Peak District National Park.
- 3.6 The road and rail network provides good links to the surrounding cities of Manchester, Leeds, Bradford and Sheffield, with wider reaching connections provided via the M62 and the M1.

#### Population

- 3.7 The resident population of Kirklees in 2013 was 428,279 people. Of those, 49% were male and 51% were female. By 2023 the population of Kirklees is predicted to reach 456,200<sup>3</sup>.
- 3.8 In 2011 the mean age of the Kirklees population was 38.4 years. This compared to an England and Wales average of 39.3 years<sup>4</sup>. In 2011, 15.8% of the resident population in Kirklees were of retirement age (65 and over for males or 60 and over for females) compared with 19.3% in England and Wales.
- 3.9 Kirklees has a population density of 10.3 persons per hectare<sup>5</sup>. This has increased from the 2001 Census when the density was 9.5 persons per hectare. Overall the population density of Kirklees is higher than the England and Wales average (3.7 persons per hectare) and below the West Yorkshire average (11 persons per hectare).

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<sup>3</sup> Kirklees Factsheet 2014: Population and Households.

<sup>4</sup> ONS (2011). Table KS102UK Age Structure.

<sup>5</sup> ONS (2011). Table KS101UK Usual Resident Population.

3.10 In the 2011 census results<sup>6</sup> 79.1% of the Kirklees population was classed as white, with black and minority ethnic communities accounting for approximately 20.9% of the population.

### Health

3.11 The health of people in Kirklees is varied compared with the England average. Deprivation is higher than average and about 20% (17,000) children live in poverty. Life expectancy for both men and women is lower than the England average<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup>.

3.12 Overall the health standards of people within Kirklees are lower than those nationally. There are a large number of health inequalities within Kirklees, some of which are influenced by social determinants of health, such as housing quality; access to green open spaces; access to leisure opportunities and services; good quality air; access to opportunities to enable safe, active travel; access to health services and employment opportunities. Health inequalities are worst in Dewsbury, Batley and Huddersfield South<sup>7</sup>.

3.13 Key indicators include:

- Men in Kirklees live 9.1 years less in the most deprived areas than those in the least deprived. Women live 5.9 years less
- 18.4% of year 6 children are classified as obese
- 21.8% of adults are classified as obese
- 55.8% of adults meet the recommended physical activity levels
- 149 people were killed or seriously injured on Kirklees roads per year between 2010-2012
- There were 177 excess winter deaths in Kirklees between 2009-2012
- 19% of adults in Kirklees eat fast food or takeaway meals at least once a week

3.14 Therefore, priority needs to be given to the following:

- Obesogenic environment
- Access to physical activity opportunities
- Good quality, warm, safe, housing
- Being/feeling safe
- Social connectedness
- Access to good quality food<sup>7</sup>

### Housing

3.15 In 2013/14, housing delivery numbers were 1,036, with 70.45% of these on previously developed land. In the previous year, there were 753 housing completions, 70.4% of which were on brownfield sites<sup>8</sup>.

3.16 There is an identified need for affordable housing provision within the District. This is because average earnings are lower than the national and regional average. The main identified needs are for households on low incomes requiring social rented housing and for provision within rural communities where house prices are highest. In the Strategic Housing Market Assessment for Kirklees in 2012, the affordable housing need in Kirklees is 1,457 houses per annum. In the private sector housing stock, 37,830 homes, or 25.6% were classified as non-decent and 16% were classified as having a Category 1 Hazard, which are regarded as potentially serious hazards to health and safety. There are also 3,585 homes across Kirklees recorded on council tax records as long term empty properties.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> ONS (2011). Table KS201UK Ethnic Group.

<sup>7</sup> PHE (2014) Kirklees Unitary Authority: Health Profile

<sup>8</sup> Kirklees Council (2013) Annual Monitoring Report 2013/14.

<sup>9</sup> Kirklees Council (May 2012) Kirklees Strategic Housing Market Assessment

- 3.17 An updated Strategic Housing Market Assessment is due to be published by Kirklees Council by the end of March 2015, the findings of which will be taken into account during future iterations of Local Plan and the SA.

### **Employment & Economic Activity**

- 3.18 The percentage of economically active people in Kirklees is currently 72.3%<sup>10</sup>. This is below the British average of 77.5%. The unemployment rate of 8.5% of the economically active population (Oct 2013-Sep 2014) was higher than the regional average of 8.1% and remained above the British average of 6.5%<sup>10</sup>. However, the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance as a percentage of the working age resident population has reduced from 4.6% in June 2012 to 3.1% in June 2014<sup>11</sup>. In January 2015, there were 7,283 Jobseeker's Allowance claimants in Kirklees which is a further reduction to 2.7% of the population<sup>10</sup>. Of Kirklees jobseekers, 25% are aged between 18 and 24<sup>10</sup>. The gross weekly earnings of full time employees in 2014 was £479.60 compared to £520.80 across the UK as a whole<sup>10</sup>.
- 3.19 The three main employment sectors in Kirklees in September 2014 were professional occupations (18.4%), elementary occupations (12.8%) and associate, professional and technical occupations (12.4%)<sup>10</sup>.
- 3.20 Of the 12,505 enterprises within Kirklees in 2014, 86.8% were considered as 'micro' size (0-9 employees), 1.9% were considered to be 'medium' size (50-249 employees) and 0.4% were considered to be 'large' size (250+ employees)<sup>10</sup>.

### **Education, Skills and Training**

- 3.21 In the academic year 2014/14, 56% of all 15 year old state-school pupils attained at least five GCSEs graded A\* to C, including English and Mathematics. This compares with a national figure of 56.6%<sup>12</sup>. This figure has decreased notably since the previous year, when 62.7% of state school pupils in Kirklees and 60.6% nationally achieved at least five GCSEs graded A\* to C, including English and Mathematics.
- 3.22 Statistics from December 2013 show that the proportion of adults in Kirklees who have attained qualification levels equivalent to NVQ level 4 and above (31%) is slightly above the regional average of 30% but lower than the national average of 35%<sup>13</sup>. Kirklees has a slightly lower percentage of people aged 16-74 with no qualifications (12.7%) than the Yorkshire & Humber region (10.4%) but is above the 9.3% recorded for England as a whole.
- 3.23 Within Kirklees there are 204 schools distributed across the district. These are broken down into; nursery/primary (170), secondary (47), and 16-18 (15)<sup>14</sup>. Huddersfield University provides main tertiary education provision within Kirklees, catering for over 24,000 students.

### **Crime and Security**

- 3.24 The Kirklees Safer Communities Partnership identifies that fear of crime has a significant impact on people's quality of life; however it must be noted that fear of crime is not necessarily linked to an individual's likelihood to become a victim of crime. Kirklees residents identify crime and disorder issues as one of the key factors impacting on their quality of life.
- 3.25 The Kirklees local residents' survey 2011<sup>15</sup> indicated that 76% of residents were satisfied with their local area; however this proportion is significantly lower in the Dewsbury area at 56%. People in the Dewsbury area also felt less safe than people in the rest of the District, with only 39% feeling safe after dark compared to 50% across Kirklees as a whole.
- 3.26 Following sustained reductions over the past few years, levels of recorded crime in Kirklees continue to decrease. National Statistics for the year 2012/13 illustrate that occurrences of

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<sup>10</sup> ONS: Labour Market Profile: Kirklees: Accessed in February 2015.

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/you-kmc/information/pdf/localEconomy.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> Department for Education. Secondary School Performance Tables 2013 Kirklees.

<sup>13</sup> Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics. Accessed February 2015.

<sup>14</sup> Department for Education. Secondary School Performance Tables 2013 Kirklees.

<sup>15</sup> Kirklees District Council. Kirklees local residents' survey 2011,



notable offences showed a decrease upon the previous year across all categories excluding sexual offences<sup>16</sup>.

### **Culture, Sport and Leisure**

- 3.27 Within Kirklees, there are 33 parks which include facilities such as children's play spaces, tennis courts, bowling greens and sports pitches<sup>17</sup> which have a wide range of benefits, including for public health. In addition, these types of facility also exist outside the formal park environment. Generally there is a reasonable distribution throughout Kirklees but there is the inevitable concentration in the larger towns where there are also examples of further specialist resources. In addition there are three purpose-built sports halls and further facilities within secondary schools that are available for public use.
- 3.28 The majority of purpose built commercial leisure and cultural facilities are contained within the main towns, particularly Huddersfield. To broaden the resource availability, Council-owned buildings (particularly town halls) do provide a range of concerts and events. A greater range of facilities are available in the neighbouring cities.
- 3.29 It is estimated that 11.5m visitors (of which 94% are day visitors) generate £320m of tourism expenditure in Kirklees annually<sup>18</sup>. The majority of the visitors are concentrated in parts of Kirklees that have television or literary association i.e. within the Pennine fringe (Holme and Colne Valleys), Oakwell and Gomersal.

### **Environment, Biodiversity and Natural Resources**

- 3.30 The landscape of the district is distinctive and ranges from the high wind swept moors of the South Pennines in the west, through the central plateau that dips down towards the east and which is incised by river valleys to produce characteristic steep gritstone edges, whilst to the north the land is described by a large number of individual settlements separated by tracts of agricultural pasture lands. Despite a population of approximately 400,000 people there is little coalescence of settlements, primarily due to the physical landscape.
- 3.31 The district falls within four National Character Areas (NCAs)<sup>19</sup>: NCA 36: Southern Pennines, NCA 37: Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe, NCA 38: Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield and NCA 51: Dark Peak. The landscape within NCA 36 in the western part of the district is characterised by large-scale sweeping moorlands, pastures enclosed by drystone walls, and settlements of gritstone buildings contained within narrow valleys. The area also contains internationally important mosaics of moorland habitats which support rare birds such as merlin, short-eared owl and twite. NCA 37 in the central part of the district is a transitional landscape from the upland areas of the Southern Pennines NCA in the west through to the low-lying land of the Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield NCA to the east. In this area the predominantly 'gritstone' industrial towns and villages mix with the strong valley forms and pastoral agriculture of the Pennine foothills. In NCA 38 in the eastern part of the district there has been significant landscape change over the past few centuries as a result of widespread industrialisation and development, which took place in the area because of geological deposits of coal and iron and the good water supply. This has influenced the visual and ecological landscape. NCA 51 in the south western part of the district is a landscape of large-scale sweeping moorlands, in-bye pastures enclosed by drystone walls, and gritstone settlements, within the Pennine chain. It falls almost entirely within, and forms a large part of, the Peak District National Park. Approximately 46% of the area has been designated as a Special Protection Area and Special Area of Conservation.
- 3.32 The south western parts of the district's upper moorland form 10% of the Peak District National Park with much of the remainder being within the much larger South Pennine Heritage Area. Furthermore these moorlands provide a range of habitats and contain a number of species that have ecological significance of European importance and form part of the South Pennines Special Area of Conservation and the Special Protection Area.

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<sup>16</sup> ONS Neighbourhood Statistics. Notifiable Offences Recorded by the Police. Accessed August 2014.

<sup>17</sup> Kirklees Council Open Space Study Strategy Recommendations. Revised 2010.

<sup>18</sup> Kirklees Council. Kirklees Local Economic Assessment 2010/11.

<sup>19</sup> Natural England, National Character Area profiles: data for local decision making, Accessed May 2015

- 3.33 In addition to the Special Area of Conservation and Special Protection Area, the district contains five further Sites of Special Scientific Interest (4872.5 ha), four of which are classed as being in 'favourable' condition and one as being in 'unfavourable' condition, and 22 Sites of Scientific Interest (577.3 ha) which are county-wide ecologically important sites. In addition there are 45 Sites of Wildlife Significance (410 ha) and 84 Biodiversity Action Plan sites (also known as priority habitats) (679.6 ha). The Council has itself designated nine Local Nature Reserves, the majority of which are within or very close to settlements within the District.
- 3.34 Compared to the national average of 12%, Kirklees has only around 6% of its land area devoted to tree cover. Most of these tend to be to the south of Huddersfield town centre stretching out through the Holme and Dearne Valleys.
- 3.35 Most agricultural activity within the district relates to cattle and sheep rearing with some milk production and intensive poultry rearing. There is no significant arable production. As a result the agricultural landscape is one of intensive grassland within fields that contain few natural field boundaries. It is a deteriorating landscape particularly around the edges of most of the settlements. Farm buildings are being converted into dwellings, horse grazing is increasing, and management is declining with some fields just being abandoned as agricultural incomes continue to decline.
- 3.36 The historic association with coal mining particularly in the eastern parts of the District has left few relics of association. The only mineral activities are four clay and shale quarries, two small sand and gravel quarries in the Calder Valley near to Mirfield and Dewsbury and two large and seven small or medium sized stone quarries. One of the larger stone quarries has a national reputation for dimension building stone and flags. The extent of stone extraction was historically much more extensive as is evident by the wide distribution of now abandoned quarries most of which are overgrown.

### Historic Environment

- 3.37 Kirklees has some 3,000 Listed Buildings - the highest number of any local planning authority in the region. Of these, 20 are on the Heritage at Risk register<sup>20</sup>. Huddersfield, which is home to a particularly fine set of Victorian public and commercial buildings, has the third highest number of listed buildings of any town or city in England. In addition, there are 59 Conservation Areas (the third highest number of Conservation Areas in Yorkshire - four of these are classed as being 'at risk'), five Historic Parks and Gardens (none of which are at risk), 19 Scheduled Monuments (four of which are at risk) and the District contains part a Registered Battlefield at Adwalton Moor. This site is also included on the Heritage at Risk Register.

### Waste

- 3.38 During the period 2013/14 a total of 204,003 tonnes of Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) was generated in Kirklees<sup>21</sup>. This increased from 195,046 the previous year. 32.3% of waste was recycled or composted, down from 34.2% in the year 2012/13. The majority of the non-recycled/composted household waste is converted to electricity in the Huddersfield Vine Street Waste to Energy from Waste (EfW) Plant). The council landfilled approximately 6.9% of its LACW in 2013/14 which was an increase from 5.4% the previous year<sup>21</sup>.
- 3.39 Approximately 97% of Kirklees households have access to the green bin scheme with mixed dry recyclables being collected from the kerbside, now mainly on a two-weekly basis. The Council currently provides a kerbside collection of glass to approximately 125,000 households on a monthly/four-weekly cycle. There is an ongoing publicity campaign to increase awareness of the need to reduce household waste and increase recycling which incorporates environmental education in schools<sup>22</sup>.

<sup>20</sup> Historic England. Heritage at Risk Register. Accessed February 2015.

<sup>21</sup> Annual Monitoring Report 2013/14. Kirklees Council

<sup>22</sup> Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2013).

## Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

- 3.40 The Council recognises that Climate Change will impact upon the citizens and businesses of Kirklees and is taking action to address this through implementing various measures. Government targets place requirements upon the Council to act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Energy White Paper set out a 60% reduction in emissions by 2050. The key objectives of the Council's 2025 Environment Vision are to reduce greenhouse gases, raise the environmental standards of buildings and develop a green network. This includes reducing carbon dioxide emissions by greater than 30% by 2020 from a 2005 baseline. The DECC figures<sup>23</sup> for district emissions are set out in **Table 3.2** below:

**Table 3.1: Source of CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions in Kirklees 2009-2012**

Year	Industry and Commercial (kt CO <sub>2</sub> )	Domestic (kt CO <sub>2</sub> )	Transport (kt CO <sub>2</sub> )	Total (kt CO <sub>2</sub> )
2009	882	899	673	2,594
2010	942	969	672	2,539
2011	855	857	669	2,434
2012	793	945	658	2,390

- 3.41 Over the last 17 years Kirklees Council has undertaken many actions to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases from its own buildings and those in the district, while also carrying out measures to tackle fuel poverty. There is considerable potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions through improvements in the energy efficiency of housing stock. During the 1990's Kirklees Council identified that affordable warmth was one of the primary objectives of its tenants, and with limited resources funded an Energy Unit to develop policies and target investment to reduce the effects of climate change and fuel poverty within the domestic sector.
- 3.42 To continue the work and embed the message of the need to provide thermal comfort and alleviate fuel poverty, Kirklees Council has embarked on a coordinated approach to address the problems of cold and damp homes. In partnership with the local Energy Efficiency Advice Centre, Kirklees Council has undertaken schemes such as Keep Warm and Warm Homes Kirklees to improve energy efficiency in homes. The Kirklees Warm Zone was a Kirklees Council initiative, which began in the autumn of 2005. Between 2007 and 2010 it was the largest local authority home insulation scheme in the UK and the first to offer free loft and cavity wall insulation to every suitable property in Kirklees. The Warm Zone aimed to improve the thermal comfort and energy efficiency of homes over a three year period. In terms of resident engagement and insulation measures delivered it exceeded expectations:
- 133,746 homes assessed
  - 51,155 homes insulated
  - 64,472 insulation measures installed
  - 45,875 Households requested support from other partner agencies
  - 105,913 MWh projected energy saving for households each year (assumes 50% potential savings taken in comfort rather than actual energy reduction)
  - £732,669 confirmed additional benefit claims secured for residents.
  - 126 direct FTE jobs created.
  - £249 million net economic benefit calculated.

<sup>23</sup> Local Authority carbon dioxide emissions 2005-2012. DECC.

- 3.43 All council buildings use renewable energy supplied via the national grid and since 1990 a 30% reduction on carbon dioxide emissions has been achieved. The council is currently working towards reducing emissions by a further 30% by 2020. All the energy used for powering street lights and signs is provided by 100% combined heat and power (CHP).
- 3.44 The increased use of renewable technologies for energy production is actively supported by Kirklees Council. However, it is recognised the use of such technologies can have an impact upon our landscape and biodiversity. Wind technology in particular is often subject to criticisms related to the siting of turbines. The majority of the renewable installations that have taken place within our district have been at the domestic or small scale. The Council has participated in two studies to increase the understanding of the opportunities and constraints to renewable and low carbon energy production in the district, namely the Landscape Capacity study for Wind Energy Developments in the South Pennines<sup>24</sup> and the Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Study<sup>25</sup>.

### **Air and Water**

- 3.45 The Environment Act 1995 introduced the National Air Quality Strategy and the requirement for local authorities to determine if statutory air quality objectives (AQOs) are likely to be exceeded. All local authorities now report to DEFRA on an annual basis, and have the obligation to declare Air Quality Management Areas and develop action plans for improvement of air quality if objectives are likely to be exceeded.
- 3.46 Air quality in Kirklees is generally good and the industrial contribution to air pollution has declined. The pollution derived from road traffic gives rise to areas where statutory limits may be exceeded if traffic increases. There is a balance between improved engine performance resulting in reduced exhaust emissions and an increase in vehicle numbers on the road.
- 3.47 Areas that are deemed to be at risk of exceeding AQOs have been identified in Kirklees' annual reports to DEFRA and in the West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan. These are the A62 corridor, the M62 corridor, the Huddersfield central area and the Dewsbury area (including Ravensthorpe and Mirfield). Kirklees' air pollution monitoring network focuses on these areas. One Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was declared at the Leeds Road A62/Bradley Road junction in October 2008<sup>26</sup>. A second AQMA at the A644 was scheduled in March 2009<sup>26</sup>. The Local Transport Plan will continue to monitor for further areas of concern.
- 3.48 The Water Framework Directive (WFD) objectives are to prevent deterioration of waterbodies and to improve them such that they meet the required status for that given waterbody (rivers, lakes, estuaries, coastal and groundwaters). The majority of waterbodies in Kirklees have been classed as moderate status and as such are failing to meet the WFD standards. The River Holme from Mag Brook to River Colne and Fenay Beck from source to River Colne are the worst failing waterbodies in Kirklees.
- 3.49 The risk of flooding within the district has been determined through the production of a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment which has identified areas of potential flood risk, particularly around the rivers Colne (north-east of Huddersfield) and Calder (east of Mirfield and south of Dewsbury) where there are large areas of flood zones 2 and 3. Across the district there are other smaller areas of flood zones 2 and 3, particularly around Fenay Beck (east of Almondbury), river Holme (south of Huddersfield), river Colne (south-west of Huddersfield) and the river Spen around Heckmondwike.

### **Traffic, Transport and Accessibility**

- 3.50 The 2011 census<sup>27</sup> indicates that 73.6% of households in Kirklees have access to one or more cars compared to 74.2% in England and Wales, which is an increase of 3.6% on the 2001 census figure. The number of households with two or more cars in Kirklees equates to 30.8% compared to 32% in England & Wales.

<sup>24</sup> JMA & LUC. 2014. Landscape Capacity Study for Wind Energy Developments in the South Pennines (updated).

<sup>25</sup> Malsen. 2010. Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Study

<sup>26</sup> Defra. Online database of AQMAs. Accessed February 2015

<sup>27</sup> ONS (2011). Table KS404EW Car or van availability.

- 3.51 The 2011 census highlights that in Kirklees, 71.9% of all people employed aged between 16 and 74 travel to and from work by car/van either as a driver or passenger<sup>28</sup>. People using public transport accounts for 10.9% of commuters.
- 3.52 Given the nature of the settlement pattern of Kirklees it is not surprising there are a number of small settlements in the west and south which have only very limited direct access to facilities such as post offices, food shops and doctors surgeries. However, nearly all such settlements have a primary school within them and most have an hourly daytime bus service to surrounding towns where such facilities exist.
- 3.53 In 2013 there were 13 fatalities on the roads of Kirklees, and 1,202 injuries. Fatality rates from traffic accidents are in line with the national average while injury rates are slightly lower<sup>29</sup>.

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<sup>28</sup> Nomis official labour market statistics. Table QS701EW – Method of travel to work. Accessed August 2014.

<sup>29</sup> Kirklees Fact Sheet 2014: Environment

## 4 Key Sustainability Issues and Likely Evolution without the Plan

- 4.1 Analysis of the baseline information has enabled a number of key sustainability issues facing Kirklees to be identified. Identification of the key sustainability issues and consideration of how these issues might develop over time if the Local Plan is not prepared help to meet the requirements of Annex 1 of the SEA Directive to provide information on:
- "the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan; and*
- any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan."*
- 4.2 A set of key sustainability issues for Kirklees were previously identified and set out in the September 2012 SA report for the now-withdrawn Core Strategy. That list of key issues has been reviewed to reflect the updated baseline information, and the revised set of key sustainability issues is presented in **Table 4.1** overleaf.
- 4.3 It is also a requirement of the SEA Directive that consideration is given to the likely evolution of the environment in the plan area (in this case Kirklees) if the Local Plan was not to be implemented. This analysis is also presented in **Table 4.1**, in relation to each of the key sustainability issues.
- 4.4 The information in **Table 4.1** shows that, in general, the current trends in relation to the various social, economic and environmental issues affecting Kirklees would be more likely to continue without the implementation of the Local Plan. In most cases, the emerging Local Plan offers opportunities to directly and strongly affect existing trends in a positive way, through an up-to-date plan which reflects the requirements of the NPPF.

**Table 4.1: Likely evolution of key sustainability issues in Kirklees without implementation of the Local Plan**

Key sustainability issues	Likely evolution without implementation of the Local Plan
<p><b>Business Growth and Employment</b> - Employment in Kirklees is below the national average and the unemployment rate significantly increased between 2008 and 2010. The proportion of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance for more than six months is above the national average.</p>	<p>The saved Business and Industry Policy B1 in the adopted Kirklees Unitary Development Plan (UDP) states that the employment needs of the district will be met by the implementation of measures such as the provision of land for new business/expansion of existing business, encouraging the development of land within town centres for office use and the promotion of tourism. In addition, the NPPF states that “the Government is committed to securing economic growth in order to create jobs and prosperity, building on the country’s inherent strengths, and to meeting the twin challenges of global competition and of a low carbon future” (paragraph 18). Therefore, even without the new Local Plan this issue is being addressed to some extent by other policy.</p> <p>Unemployment levels in Kirklees are currently slightly higher than the national average, however, the number of people claiming Jobseeker’s Allowance as a percentage of the working age resident population has reduced. Given that Policy B1 has been in place since 1999 there is uncertainty about how influential it has been on this trend in relation to other factors such as the wider economic recovery. The implementation of up to date policies in the new Local Plan would help address unemployment and help to bring about reduced unemployment rates.</p>
<p><b>Diversification in Rural Areas</b> - Agriculture is in decline across the district and there is little evidence of diversification.</p>	<p>The saved Business and Industry Policy B1 in the adopted Kirklees UDP recognises that one measure to address unemployment across the district would be to accommodate agricultural development and diversify the rural economy. Therefore, even without the new Local Plan this issue is being addressed to some extent by other policy.</p> <p>However, the UDP was adopted in 1999 and since then agriculture remains in decline across the district and rural diversification is limited. Although paragraph 28 of the NPPF supports the rural economy by encouraging the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas and promoting the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses, the implementation of up-to-date Local Plan policies specifically relating to agriculture and rural diversification in Kirklees would give more certainty in relation to how this issue will be addressed.</p>
<p><b>Housing Provision (Supply)</b> - There is a need to ensure</p>	<p>The saved UDP Policy H1 states that one way in which the housing needs of the</p>

Key sustainability issues	Likely evolution without implementation of the Local Plan
<p>sufficient land is available to meet future housing requirements within Kirklees.</p>	<p>district will be met is by “providing land to meet the requirement for a range of house types by allocating sites of various sizes and in different types of locations having regard to local patterns of demand”. Although the UDP contains proposal maps which provide sites for new housing requirements, it is recognised that these locations are based on the outdated <i>Strategic Guidance</i> and that updated policies/site allocations are required to reflect the latest projected housing requirements. Without the implementation of the new Local Plan it is therefore uncertain whether there will be sufficient land allocations to develop new housing.</p>
<p><b>Housing Provision (Affordable Housing)</b> - There is a need for affordable housing across Kirklees due to the fact average earnings are below regional and national averages.</p>	<p>The saved UDP Policy H1 makes provision for affordable housing; therefore even without the new Local Plan this issue is being addressed to some extent by other policy. However, since the adoption of the Unitary Development Plan there has been a new assessment of the affordable housing required across the district. In the 2012 Strategic Housing Market Assessment for Kirklees the level of affordable housing need in the district was estimated to be 1,457 houses per annum. This is greater than the figure set out in the Council's Housing Strategy and the Housing Association Development Strategy i.e. 3,800 additional units of affordable accommodation within the first five years of the UDP and 6,900 over ten years. It is therefore unlikely that affordable housing needs will be adequately addressed without the implementation of up-to-date policies within the Local Plan that reflect the most recent evidence.</p> <p>Without the Local Plan, an ongoing lack of affordable housing is likely to lead to many people being priced out of the market and the population profile of the district may become distorted. This may have secondary effects on the economy, reducing the district’s ability to attract key workers in particular. Therefore, although policies are already in place, the implementation of updated policies in the new Local Plan would provide more certainty in relation to how affordable housing provision will be addressed locally.</p>
<p><b>Housing Provision (Regeneration)</b> - There are a large proportion of properties which are either unfit or in a poor state of repair across the district.</p>	<p>Saved UDP Policy H1 states that the housing needs of the district will be met by “improving existing housing particularly through the designation of renewal areas and areas for housing improvement [Policy H3]”. In addition, saved UDP policy H2 also refers to the fact that Regeneration Areas have been identified in the proposal maps. Therefore, even without the new Local Plan this issue is being addressed to some extent by other policy. However, UDP policy H3 which is referred to in policy H1, and which identified areas for housing improvement, was not saved beyond 2007. In addition, the UDP policies have been in place since 1999, over which time the trend has not been reversed.</p>



Key sustainability issues	Likely evolution without implementation of the Local Plan
	<p>Without the implementation of updated policies within the Local Plan to identify opportunities for housing regeneration, and bring local policy in line with the NPPF, it is therefore unlikely that the issue of housing stock repair will be addressed fully across the district.</p>
<p><b>Housing Provision (Mix)</b> - There is the need for a mix of housing types including social rented housing and provision in rural communities.</p>	<p>UDP Policy H7 concerning the provision of a mix of housing types was not saved beyond 2007 and was replaced by guidance in the form of PPS 3: Housing, which has now itself been replaced by the NPPF. Therefore, there is limited existing local policy for Kirklees concerning the provision of an appropriate mix of housing. The NPPF identifies that local planning authorities should, “plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community (such as, but not limited to, families with children, older people, people with disabilities, service families and people wishing to build their own homes)” (paragraph 50).</p> <p>Although the NPPF encourages a mix of housing development, it is anticipated that this requirement would be implemented at the local level through an up-to-date policy in the new Local Plan. This would provide more certainty regarding the issue being addressed.</p>
<p><b>Service Accessibility</b> - Promote vibrant inclusive communities with good accessibility to services, education and employment.</p>	<p>There are no policies in the UDP that relate directly to the accessibility of services; however the NPPF encourages the development of vibrant communities and states that “supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community’s needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being” (paragraph 7) is key to the realisation of sustainability.</p> <p>The NPPF may therefore have a positive influence on promoting more vibrant and inclusive communities in Kirklees District in the absence of the Local Plan; however the issue would be better addressed by implementing specific and up-to-date policies in the new Local Plan.</p> <p>In the absence of the new Local Plan, ongoing poor provision and use of public transport may cause the more rural parts of the district to become increasingly isolated in terms of access to employment opportunities and community services and facilities, whilst high levels of car use will increase levels of air pollution and noise disturbance.</p>

Key sustainability issues	Likely evolution without implementation of the Local Plan
<p><b>Rural Accessibility</b> - Many rural areas suffer from a lack of facilities creating problems of accessibility.</p>	<p>There are no policies in the UDP that relate directly to service accessibility in rural areas. However, the NPPF states that “planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development” (paragraph 28). Therefore, even without the new Local Plan this issue is being addressed to some extent by other policy; however this is unlikely to be as effective as if specific and up-to-date policies were included in the new Local Plan to address the issue.</p>
<p><b>Sport and Recreation</b> - The opportunities for sport and recreation within the district are low when compared to the population.</p>	<p>The saved UDP policy R6 states, “when development is proposed which gives rise to a need for public open space, measures should be included to ensure that this need can be satisfied by establishing new areas of public open space, either on site or in a readily accessible location, or by upgrading existing public open space.” The NPPF also recognises the need to provide enough recreational facilities to meet the needs of communities and states that “access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision” (paragraph 73). Therefore, even without the new Local Plan this issue is being addressed to some extent by other policy; however this is unlikely to be as effective as if specific and up-to-date policies were included in the new Local Plan to address the issue.</p>
<p><b>Health</b> - There is a need to promote healthy lifestyles and reduce health inequalities within Kirklees.</p>	<p>There are no policies in the adopted UDP that relate directly to promoting healthy lifestyles in Kirklees. However, the NPPF states that, “local planning authorities should work with public health leads and health organisations to understand and take account of the health status and needs of the local population (such as for sports, recreation and places of worship), including expected future changes, and any information about relevant barriers to improving health and well-being” (paragraph 171).</p> <p>Although the NPPF seeks to improve health and wellbeing, the implementation of Local Plan policies specifically relating to health and wellbeing in Kirklees would provide more certainty in relation to how health issues will be addressed.</p>
<p><b>Fear of Crime</b> - The fear of crime often fuelled by anti-social behaviour is seen as a problem across Kirklees as a whole.</p>	<p>Saved UDP policy BE23 states that new developments should incorporate crime prevention measures. In addition, the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should aim to promote “safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion” (paragraph 69). Therefore, even without the new Local Plan this issue</p>

Key sustainability issues	Likely evolution without implementation of the Local Plan
	<p>is being addressed to some extent by other policy and the baseline information on crime shows that sustained reductions over the past few years have been achieved and levels of recorded crime in Kirklees continue to decrease. However, it is not clear to what extent this can be attributed to policy and how much other factors will have driven the changes. Nevertheless, in the absence of the new Local Plan, the trend is likely to continue as at present.</p>
<p><b>Biodiversity</b> - Kirklees has sites of European, national, regional and local ecological significance. The national and international concerns over declining biodiversity are reflected locally. Tree cover within the district is low particularly south of Huddersfield and North Kirklees.</p>	<p>Saved UDP policy NE3 states that “development proposals which would affect a site of wildlife significance will not normally be permitted unless provision can be made to maintain the site’s role for nature conservation”. In addition, the NPPF (paragraph 7) states that the planning system has a key environmental role including, “contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity...” Therefore, even without the new Local Plan this issue is being addressed to some extent by other policy. However, given the current pressures for growth and development within the district, an up-to-date local policy reflecting the latest national guidance would be beneficial to help to avoid adverse impacts resulting from ongoing pressure on ecological sites.</p> <p>There are no policies in the UDP or NPPF that specifically address the lack of tree cover.</p>
<p><b>Heritage</b> - Kirklees has a large number of designated conservation areas and the greatest number of listed buildings of any authority in the north of England. The local character of Kirklees is also a distinctive local feature.</p>	<p>Saved UDP policy BE5 addresses the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas. The UDP policy relating to Listed Buildings specifically (BE4) was replaced by PPG 15: Planning and the Historic Environment, which was itself subsequently replaced by the NPPF. Paragraph 17 of NPPF states that the planning system should “conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations”.</p> <p>Therefore, whilst these policies make provision for the protection of listed buildings and conservation areas, it is considered that the implementation of more specific policies for Kirklees through the new Local Plan would provide greater protection for heritage assets at the local level.</p>
<p><b>Transport</b> - A high proportion of people travel to and from work by car which partially reflects limited public transport provision within rural parts of the district. Employment uses also rely on the transport network. The consequences of transport</p>	<p>Saved UDP policy T1 states that priority will be given to “satisfying the needs of all sections of the community through an effectively integrated transport system with emphasis on improving public transport and encouraging a modal shift away from travel by private car”. In addition, paragraph 17 of the NPPF states that one of the core planning principles that should underpin plan making and decision</p>

Key sustainability issues	Likely evolution without implementation of the Local Plan
<p>are also a significant issue, with air quality management areas being declared within Kirklees.</p>	<p>making includes action to “actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling, and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable”.</p> <p>Although Policy T1 and the NPPF therefore address this issue to some extent, the implementation of up-to-date Local Plan policies specifically relating to public transport in Kirklees, would provide more certainty in relation to how public transport issues will be addressed locally.</p>
<p><b>Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation</b> - There is the need to address issues related to climate change and low carbon development. Also, to reduce pollution and emissions including those from transport methods.</p> <p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (November 2008) carried out within Kirklees and the more recent Environment Agency flood map updates have highlighted many areas which are liable to flooding. The effects of climate change may increase the incidence of flooding within the district.</p>	<p>There are no saved policies within the UDP that specifically address the effects of climate change and mitigation. However, paragraph 94 of NPPF states that “local planning authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change, taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations”.</p> <p>There is a need for revised policies relating to flooding across the district to reflect the findings of The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (November 2008) and latest Environment Agency flood maps. Without the implementation of updated Local Plan policies, existing and new developments may be at greater risk of flooding.</p>
<p><b>Resource Efficiency</b> - There is a need to respond to the international and national pressures for increased recycling and re-use of waste, reduction in waste to landfill, reduced energy demand, improved energy efficiency and the use of low carbon and renewable resources.</p> <p>Mineral extraction needs to be managed taking into account existing permitted reserves and the need for additional supply.</p>	<p>The current waste policy in Kirklees is contained National Planning Policy for Waste, which would continue to apply in the absence of the Local Plan. It states that ‘all local planning authorities should have regard to its policies when discharging their responsibilities to the extent that they are appropriate to waste management’.</p> <p>The NPPF also places a duty on the planning system to “use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution” (paragraph 7). As can be seen from the baseline information, the amount of Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) arising across Kirklees has risen over the last year, after falling previously, although recycling schemes are in place. Therefore, while National Planning Policy for Waste and the NPPF would continue to apply, in the absence of the new Local Plan it is possible that waste arisings would continue to increase.</p>
<p><b>Efficient use of Land</b> - Development pressures across Kirklees need to be managed to ensure previously developed land (brownfield) is utilised where possible.</p>	<p>Saved UDP policy DL1 states that “derelict and neglected land will be brought into beneficial use to assist in the regeneration of the district” and current trends show that a large amount of new housing developments are on redeveloped or brownfield land. Whilst this issue is therefore being addressed to some extent, it is important to ensure that there is brownfield land allocated for further development e.g. through site allocations within the new Local Plan, in order to address increasing development pressures.</p>

Key sustainability issues	Likely evolution without implementation of the Local Plan
<p><b>Water Quality</b> - The majority of Kirklees waterbodies (rivers, lakes, estuaries, coastal and groundwaters) are classed as moderate and are failing to meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.</p>	<p>The UDP states that the current policy relating to water quality in Kirklees is contained in PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control; however this has now been cancelled. New local policy guidance is therefore required to ensure that water quality across the district is improved.</p>

## 5 Sustainability Appraisal Framework

### Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

- 5.1 The development of a set of SA objectives (known as the SA framework) is a recognised way in which the likely environmental and sustainability effects of a plan can be described, analysed and compared. A set of SA objectives for the Kirklees Core Strategy was originally presented in the 2008 SA Scoping Report for the now-withdrawn Core Strategy and were subject to consultation with the statutory consultees at that time. The SA objectives were developed from the review of plans, policies and programmes, the collection of baseline information and the identification of the key sustainability issues at that time and were used throughout the SA of the Core Strategy.
- 5.2 The SA framework that was used for the Core Strategy has been used as the starting point for the SA framework for the new Local Plan. It has been reviewed in light of the revised and updated review of plans, policies and programmes, baseline information and key sustainability issues for Kirklees (as presented in **Chapters 2, 3 and 4**) and amendments have been made to a number of the objectives to ensure that they are appropriate for the SA of the new Local Plan.
- 5.3 The SA framework for the new Local Plan is presented in **Table 5.1** below. The second column in the table demonstrates which SA objective addresses each of the topics that are required by the SEA Directive to be covered (set out in Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations).

**Table 1: SA framework for Kirklees**

SA Objectives	SEA Directive Topic(s)
1: Increase the number and range of employment opportunities available for local people, and ensure that they are accessible.	Population
2. Achieve an economy better capable of growth through increasing investment, innovation and Entrepreneurship.	Population
3. Ensure education facilities are available to all.	Population
4. Improve the health of local people and ensure that they can access the health and social care they need.	Population Human health
5. Protect local amenity including avoiding noise and light pollution.	Population Human health
6. Retain and enhance access to local services and facilities.	Population
7. Make our communities safer by reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime.	Population
8. Protect and enhance existing and support the provision of new recreation facilities and areas of open space and encourage their usage.	Population
9. Ensure all people are able to live in a decent home which meets their needs.	Population
10. Secure an effective and safe transport network which encourages people to make use of sustainable and active modes of transport.	Air
11. Secure the efficient and prudent use of land.	Soil
12. Protect and enhance the character of Kirklees and the quality of the landscape and townscape.	Landscape
13. Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage Material assets
14. Maximise opportunities to protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.	Biodiversity Flora Fauna

SA Objectives	SEA Directive Topic(s)
15. Reduce air, water and soil pollution.	Soil Water Air
16. Prevent inappropriate new development in flood risk areas and ensure development does not contribute to increased flood risk for existing property and people.	Material assets
17. Increase prevention, re-use, recovery and recycling of waste close to source.	Material assets
18. Increase efficiency in water, energy and raw material use.	Water Material assets
19. Reduce the contribution that the district makes to climate change.	Climatic factors

### Health Impact Assessment framework

- 5.4 The previous SA work for the Kirklees Core Strategy included a separate Health Impact Assessment (HIA) framework for assessing the potential health impacts of the Core Strategy in more detail. It is proposed to use the same HIA Framework during the SA of the Kirklees Local Plan. The HIA Framework was based on social determinants of health identified in the Marmot review of health inequalities in England, which found that social inequalities in health arise because of inequalities that exist in the conditions of daily life and the fundamental drivers that give rise to these. Many of these social determinants of health have direct links with planning, others have more indirect links, and they were used to form the basis of the HIA Framework, as listed below:
- Housing
  - Access to public services
  - Opportunities for physical activity
  - Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity
  - Accessibility and transport
  - Crime reduction and community safety
  - Access to healthy food
  - Access to work and impact of unemployment and low incomes
  - Social cohesion and social capital
  - Resource minimisation
  - Climate change
  - Fuel poverty
- 5.5 The HIA Framework is presented in **Appendix 3**. It sets out how the above social determinants of health are linked to planning and includes additional criteria under each topic to enable assessment of the impact of the Local Plan on health.
- 5.6 The HIA Framework will be used to assess the Local Plan as a whole, once policies have been drafted, rather than assessing all of the policy and site options. As identified in the previous HIA work for the Core Strategy, there are a number of links between the HIA Framework and the SA objectives. Therefore, potential health impacts of site and policy options will be considered at the early stage of Plan preparation through the use of the SA framework and matrices (in particular through SA objectives 1, 3-10).

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 5.7 There are three main duties set out in the Equality Act 2010, which public authorities including Kirklees Council must meet in exercising their functions:

- To eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited under the Act.
- To advance equality of opportunity between persons who share relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share it.
- To foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

5.8 The Equality Act 2010 identifies nine 'protected characteristics' and seeks to protect people from discrimination on the basis of these characteristics. They are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

5.9 The Kirklees Local Plan will be assessed to consider the likely impacts of the draft policies on each of the nine protected characteristics from the Equality Act 2010 listed above. For each protected characteristic, consideration will be given to whether the Local Plan is compatible or incompatible with the three main duties set out in the Equality Act 2010. A colour coded scoring system (positive/negative/neutral) will be used to show the effects that the Local Plan is likely to have on each protected characteristics.

## Approach to the SA

- 5.10 Kirklees Council has identified a large number of site options that are being considered for the Local Plan through its site assessment process – initial estimates suggest that there will be over 1,000 site and designation options to be subject to SA for various land uses. Therefore, it is necessary to take an approach to the SA that is manageable, while meeting all requirements of the SEA Directive and ensuring that site options are appraised in a consistent manner. In order to ensure consistency in the appraisal of the site options, detailed assumptions will be developed in relation to each of the SA objectives and will be applied during the appraisal of the site options. These assumptions will comprise specific circumstances under which different significance judgements will be given and will enable a large number of site options to be appraised consistently.
- 5.11 The findings of the SA of the site and policy options for the Local Plan will be presented in SA matrices, which will include a colour coded symbol showing the score for the site/policy against each of the 19 SA objectives along with a concise justification for the score given. The detailed SA matrices will be presented as an appendix to the full SA report.
- 5.12 The use of colour coding in the matrices will allow for likely significant effects (both positive and negative) to be easily identified, as shown in the key overleaf.



### Key to SA scores

++	Significant positive effect likely
+	Minor positive effect likely
0	Negligible effect likely
-	Minor negative effect likely
--	Significant negative effect likely
?	Likely effect uncertain
+/-	Mixed effect likely

### Proposed structure of the SA report

- 5.13 A Sustainability Appraisal Report for each consultation stage of the Kirklees Local Plan will be produced as a key output of the appraisal process. The SA Report will contain information on the effects of the proposed plan options, policies or site allocations (depending on the stage) and will be published for formal public consultation. It will include the updated table 'signposting' where each of the requirements of the SEA Directive has been met (as shown in **Table 1.1** of this Scoping Report).
- 5.14 The SA report will be written in a user-friendly way in order to ensure that it will be understood by as wide an audience as possible. It will include a non-technical summary and is likely to be structured as set out below:

#### Summary

- Non-technical summary.
- A statement of the likely significant effects of the plan.
- Statement on the difference the process has made.
- How to comment on the SA Report.

#### Background

- Purpose of the SA and the SA Report.
- Local Plan objectives and an outline of its contents.
- Compliance with the SEA Directive.

#### Appraisal methodology

- Approach to the SA.
- When the SA was carried out.
- Who carried out the SA.
- Who was consulted, when and how.
- Difficulties encountered in compiling information or carrying out the assessment.

#### Sustainability objectives, baseline and context

- Links to other strategies, plans and policies and sustainability objectives and how these have been taken into account.

- Description of the social, environmental and economic baseline characteristics and the predicted future baseline.
- Difficulties in data collection and its limitations.
- The SA framework, including objectives, targets and indicators.
- Main social, environmental and economic issues and problems identified and the likely evolution of those issues without implementation of the Local Plan.

### **Local Plan Options**

- Main policy and site options considered and how they were identified.
- Comparison of their social, environmental and economic effects.
- How social, environmental and economic were considered in choosing the preferred options.
- Other options considered and why these were rejected.
- Any proposed mitigation measures.

### **Local Plan policies/site allocations**

- Significant social, environmental and economic effects of the policies and site allocations. Reference will also be made to the HRA, HIA and EqIA findings.
- How social, environmental and economic problems were considered in developing the policies and proposals.
- Proposed mitigation measures.
- Uncertainties and risks.

### **Conclusions and monitoring**

- Conclusions regarding the SA findings, including summary of the potential significant effects.
- Proposals for monitoring.

5.15 As described above, the SA matrices presenting the detailed assessment of each option, policy or site allocation against each of the SA objectives will be presented as appendices to the main SA report. Information about how any consultation responses received in response to earlier stages of the SA have been addressed will also be presented in an appendix. The results of the HIA and EqIA will also be included in an appendix.

5.16 Once the appraisal work is undertaken, it may be necessary to make refinements to the proposed report structure described above, in order to present the findings of the SA in the most easily understandable way. However, the content of the report will reflect the above list of issues, and will be fully compliant with the reporting requirements of the SEA Directive and Regulations.

## 6 SA of Vision and Objectives and Options for the Spatial Framework Approach

- 6.1 The Council has produced an overall vision and 10 objectives for the new Local Plan, drawing from the vision and objectives that were included in the now-withdrawn Core Strategy. The vision and objectives for the new Local Plan were presented in the engagement that took place in late 2014, entitled 'Shaping our Local Plan' and can be found in **Appendix 5** for reference. The engagement document also explained the need for a spatial framework to be included in the new Local Plan in order to guide development to the most appropriate locations. Three options for the Local Plan spatial framework were then identified.
- 6.2 This chapter presents an appraisal of the vision and objectives for the Local Plan as well as the three options for the spatial framework.

### Local Plan Vision

- 6.3 The overall vision for Kirklees sets a general aspiration for development in the district to take place in a sustainable way, supported by social, economic and environmental aspirations, which will enable Kirklees to be a great place to live, work and invest. As it is aspirational, the Local Plan Vision is likely to have a positive effect on all of the SA objectives as shown in **Table 6.1** below.
- 6.4 Social aspirations set out in the vision include the provision of affordable homes and jobs, improvements to people's health and safety and the development of community facilities including public transport and green infrastructure. Therefore, the vision is likely to have positive effects on SA objectives relating to employment (1), health (4), amenity (5), access to services (6), crime (7), recreation (8), housing (9) and transport (10).
- 6.5 Economic aspirations within the vision include the promotion of inward investment, stimulation of economic growth and town centre regeneration, and the vision is therefore likely to have positive effects on the SA objectives relating to economic growth (2) and education (3).
- 6.6 A wide range of environmental aspirations are also set out in the vision; therefore it is likely to have positive effects on SA objectives relating to the efficient use of land (11), enhancement of local character (12), protection and enhancement of environmental assets including the historic and natural environment (13 and 14), pollution (15), flooding (16), waste (17), the use of natural resources (18) and climate change (19).
- 6.7 The vision is unlikely to have any significant effects on the SA objectives as it sets out high level aspirations and the success of the vision in helping to achieve the SA objectives will depend on the more detailed policies to be drafted as the Local Plan progresses. Those policies will be appraised separately for their likely effects on the SA objectives, and will be presented in the next SA Report for the Local Plan.

### Local Plan Objectives

- 6.8 The Local Plan objectives are generally unlikely to have an effect on, or are compatible with, the SA objectives (as shown in **Table 6.1**). They are likely to have a number of minor positive effects on the SA objectives including in relation to employment (1), economic growth (2), education (3), health (4), amenity (5) access to services (6), transport (10), the historic environment (13), the natural environment (14), waste (17), natural resources (18) and climate change (19).
- 6.9 Some of the Local Plan objectives are likely to lead to significant positive effects, where they directly address SA objectives. This is the case for:

- Local Plan objective 1 in relation to economic growth (SA objective 2).
  - Local Plan objective 3 in relation to transport (SA objective 10).
  - Local Plan objective 4 in relation to housing (SA objective 9).
  - Local Plan objective 5 in relation to crime (SA objective 7).
  - Local Plan objective 6 in relation to recreation (SA objective 8) and the natural environment (SA objective 14).
  - Local Plan objective 7 in relation to pollution (SA objective 15) and climate change (SA objective 19).
  - Local Plan objective 8 in relation to local character (SA objective 12), the historic environment (SA objective 13) and the natural environment (SA objective 14).
  - Local Plan objective 9 in relation to the efficient use of land (SA objective 11).
  - Local Plan objective 10 in relation to waste (SA objective 17) and natural resources (SA objective 18).
- 6.10 In addition, some of the Local Plan objectives are likely to lead to uncertain effects depending on how these objectives are implemented. This is the case for Local Plan objectives 1, 3 and 4 in relation to local character (SA objective 12) and the historic environment (SA objective 13).
- 6.11 As with the vision, the success of the Local Plan objectives in helping to achieve the SA objectives will depend on the implementation of more detailed policies within the Local Plan. Those policies will be subject to SA during their development, and the findings reported in the next SA Report.

**Table 6.1: Summary of SA Scores for Local Plan Draft Vision and Objectives**

	SA Objectives																		
	1: Employment	2: Economic Growth	3: Education	4: Health	5: Amenity	6: Access to Services	7: Crime	8: Recreation	9: Housing	10: Transport	11: Use of Land	12: Local Character	13: Historic Environment	14: Biodiversity	15: Pollution	16: Flooding	17: Waste	18: Natural Resources	19: Climate Change
Local Plan Vision	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Local Plan Objective 1: Economic growth and diversification	+	++	+	+	0	+	+?	+	+	+	0	?	?	0	0	0	0	0	0
Local Plan Objective 2: Vitality and viability of town centres	+	+	+?	+?	0	+?	+?	+?	+?	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
Local Plan Objective 3: Transport links	0	+?	+?	+	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	?	?	0	+	0	0	0	+?
Local Plan Objective 4: Housing	0	+?	+	+	0	+	0	0	++	0	0	?	?	0	0	0	0	0	0
Local Plan Objective 5: Social inequalities	+	0	+	+	+	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Local Plan Objective 6: Green infrastructure	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	++	0	0	+	+?	+	++	+	0	0	0	+?
Local Plan Objective 7: Climate Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	++	+	+	+	++
Local Plan Objective 8: Built, natural and historical environment	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	++	++	++	0	0	0	0	0
Local Plan Objective 9: Use of brownfield land	+?	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
Local Plan Objective 10: Sustainable use of minerals and waste	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	+

## Spatial framework options

- 6.12 As described earlier in this section, the early engagement on Shaping our Local Plan in late 2014 set out three options for the Local Plan spatial framework. These options were:
- **Approach 1:** Allocating development based on the size of settlements.
  - **Approach 2:** Allocating development based on an area's character, its constraints and opportunities.
  - **Approach 3:** Allocating development based on an area's character and the size of its settlements.
- 6.13 In relation to these three alternative options, the engagement document identified four principles of the spatial approach which are to:
- Deliver the objectives of the council's Economic Strategy and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
  - Ensure sufficient land is found for new homes, jobs, shopping, facilities for sport and leisure, minerals and waste management, and that this land is in locations where we can expect development to be delivered.
  - Minimise the adverse impact of development on the natural and historic environment, and on local character – we can do this by encouraging the use of brownfield land first, before greenfield land.
  - Recognise that development in some areas and circumstances is challenging, and that if we pursue this there should be a reasonable prospect of improving critical infrastructure.
- 6.14 As the above principles would be achieved through the inclusion of a spatial framework within the Local Plan, regardless of what that spatial framework is (i.e. which of the above three approaches is taken), the four principles have not themselves been subject to appraisal in the same way as the alternative options for the spatial framework. However, they have been taken into account in the SA of the three options as appropriate.
- 6.15 The SA scores for the three alternative approaches to the spatial framework are presented in **Table 6.2** overleaf and the findings are summarised below. The full SA matrix can be found in **Appendix 4**.
- 6.16 Many of the effects associated with the three options are uncertain as they will be determined by the specific location of development sites rather than the overall distribution of development within Kirklees.
- 6.17 **Approach 1**, which would involve focussing most development in the larger towns, would have generally positive effects on most of the SA objectives as new residents and employees would be well-connected to existing jobs, services and facilities (including healthcare and schools) and would have good access to public transport. This would in turn help to meet the objectives of the Council's Economic Strategy and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. A significant positive effect is therefore likely for Approach 1 in relation to SA objective 2 (economy) and minor positive effects are identified for SA objectives 1 (employment), 3 (education), 4 (health), 6 (access to services), 8 (recreation), 10 (transport) and 19 (climate change). A potential minor positive effect is also identified for SA objective 11 (efficient land use) and a minor positive effect on SA objective 16 (flooding) under approach 1 as focussing most development in the larger towns could mean that there are more opportunities to use brownfield land (depending on the availability of brownfield sites) and avoid increasing the area of impermeable surfaces.
- 6.18 The effects of **Approach 2** are very uncertain and would depend largely on where development ends up being located once consideration has been given to character and constraints, in particular how much would be in the larger towns and how much would be in the smaller towns and villages. Taking into consideration character and constraints when allocating development is likely to mean that there would be minor positive effects on SA objectives 13 (biodiversity), 14 (historic environment), 16 (flooding) and a significant positive effect on SA objective 12 (local character). However, if that approach were to result in development being more widely

distributed within the district there could be minor negative effects on SA objectives 6 (access to services), 10 (transport) and 19 (climate change) as levels of car use may be higher. However, mixed effects on SA objectives 10 and 19 are likely overall, depending on whether one of the constraints taken into account when deciding on spatial distribution is the availability of public transport links, there may also be a minor positive effect on SA objectives 6, 10 and 19.

- 6.19 The likely effects of **Approach 3** are a hybrid of those identified for Approaches 1 and 2, as settlement size as well as local character and constraints would be taken into account when allocating development. Therefore, while development may be mainly focussed in the larger towns, allowing for positive effects on accessibility, it should be easier to avoid negative effects on the environmental objectives than under Approach 1, as there would be more flexibility to take into account particular local constraints.
- 6.20 Therefore, **Approach 1** has the potential for more positive effects overall (including some significant positive effects) in comparison to the other two Approaches, but also more potential for minor negative effects which would need to be addressed when specific sites are identified for development and through safeguarding policies. However, **Approach 3** also has a number of associated potential minor positive effects and no negative effects, so this approach could also be improved through careful selection of sites for development in the Local Plan and related policies to reduce some of the uncertain effects identified. **Approach 2** has the most uncertain sustainability effects. Once the overall spatial framework has been developed into a draft policy/policies, the SA will appraise the potential effects of the draft spatial framework and the findings will be presented in the next SA Report for the Local Plan.

**Table 6.2: Summary of SA Scores for Local Plan Spatial Framework Approach Options**

	SA Objectives																		
	1: Employment	2: Economic Growth	3: Education	4: Health	5: Amenity	6: Access to Services	7: Crime	8: Recreation	9: Housing	10: Transport	11: Use of Land	12: Local Character	13: Historic Environment	14: Biodiversity	15: Pollution	16: Flooding	17: Waste	18: Natural Resources	19: Climate Change
Approach 1: Allocating development based on the size of settlements	+	++	+?	+?	-?	+	0	+	0	+	+?	-?	+/- ?	+/- ?	0	+?	0	0	+
Approach 2: Allocating development based on an area's character, its constraints and opportunities	?	0	?	?	?	-?	0	?	0	+/- ?	?	+++	+?	+?	0	+?	0	0	+/- ?
Approach 3: Allocating development based on an area's character and the size of its settlements	+?	+	?	?	?	?	0	?	0	+?	+?	+?	+?	+?	0	+?	0	0	+?



## 7 Conclusion and Next Steps

- 7.1 As described in **Chapter 1**, a draft version of this Scoping Report was subject to consultation with the three statutory consultees (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency) in order to obtain their views in relation to the scope and level of detail to be included in the SA report.
- 7.2 In particular, the consultees were requested to consider:
- Whether there were any additional plans, policies or programmes of relevance to the SA that should be included.
  - Whether the baseline information was robust and comprehensive, and provided a suitable baseline for the SA of the emerging Local Plan.
  - Whether there were any additional key sustainability issues that should be included.
  - Whether the SA framework was appropriate and included a suitable range of objectives.
- 7.3 **Appendix 1** sets out the consultation comments received and describes how each has been addressed in this final version of the Scoping Report.
- 7.4 As the Local Plan is drafted, it will be subject to the later stages of the SA using the SA framework presented in **Chapter 5**. A full SA report (incorporating the later stages of the SA process) will then be produced and made available to other stakeholders and the general public for wider consultation alongside the emerging Local Plan.

LUC  
May 2015

**Appendix 1**

Consultation Comments on Draft SA Scoping Report  
(March 2015)

**Table A1.1: Draft SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses and Comments (consultation occurred between March and April 2015)**

Consultee Comment	Response/comment
<b>Environment Agency</b>	
<p><b>Plans, Policies or Programmes</b></p> <p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <p>The Water Framework Directive (WFD) is mentioned in this section, however the Humber River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) should also be referenced as it provides a delivery mechanism to achieve the aims of the WFD and identifies specific areas where action is required to improve the status of waterbodies.</p> <p>Reference should be made to the relevant local Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS) for the Aire and Calder (2013), which is available by following the link:</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/water-abstraction-licensing-strategies-cams-process#yorkshire-map-area-3">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/water-abstraction-licensing-strategies-cams-process#yorkshire-map-area-3</a> .</p> <p><b>Flood Risk</b></p> <p>The Calder Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) is in the process of being updated and will need to be reflected in this section.</p> <p>The Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment and the local Flood Risk Management Strategy is relevant to flood risk in Kirklees, and is a key consideration for the SA and the Kirklees Local Plan.</p>	<p>Noted. The Humber River Basin Management Plan, the Aire and Calder Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy, the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment and Local Flood Risk Management Strategy have been added to the updated review of plans, policies and programmes which can be found in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.</p> <p>The updated Calder Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) will be added to the policy review once it has been updated.</p>
<p><b>Baseline for the SA</b></p> <p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <p>We welcome the reference to WFD and to the status of the district's watercourses in paragraph 3.47. The Humber RBMP will have been referenced in order to understand the baseline position for the district, this being the document that that sets out waterbody status.</p> <p>The WFD is now the key piece of EU legislation governing protection of the water environment, with key requirements of bringing surface water bodies and groundwater bodies to "Good" status, and ensuring no</p>	<p>Noted. As described above, the Humber RBMP has been added to the updated review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report. SA objective 15 seeks to reduce levels of water pollution in and around Kirklees. As also noted above, the updated Calder SFRA will be taken into account in the SA when it becomes available. Baseline information about levels of flood risk in Kirklees (as set out in <b>Chapter 3</b>) has been expanded in this updated Scoping Report.</p>

Consultee Comment	Response/comment
<p>deterioration of current quality and ecological status. Kirklees as a Local Authority has an important role to play in ensuring that development does not compromise the aims and objectives of the WFD.</p> <p>The Humber RBMP requires the restoration and enhancement of water bodies to prevent deterioration and promote recovery of water bodies. Enhancements measures should be encouraged in the Local Plan and the Humber RBMP should be used to inform the SA objectives.</p> <p><b>Flood Risk</b></p> <p>With regard to paragraph 3.48, we are aware that the Calder SFRA is currently under review. Until the updated SFRA is finalised it will be important to ensure that your assessment of flood risk within the district is informed by the most up to date available information.</p> <p>The SFRA will need to be read in conjunction with our flood maps. We update our flood maps on a quarterly basis.</p>	
<p><b>Key Sustainability Issues</b></p> <p><b>Biodiversity</b></p> <p>We welcome the recognition, under the issue of Biodiversity, that an up-to-date local policy to reflect the NPPF statement that the planning system has a key environmental role including 'contributing to protecting and protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and as part of this helping to improve biodiversity...' would be beneficial. Our expectation is that a local policy of this nature will be drawn up in due course.</p> <p><b>Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation</b></p> <p>We also welcome the recognition, under Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, of paragraph 94 of the NPPF that local authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change.</p> <p>We note under this issue also that reference is made to the need for revised policies relating to flooding to reflect the findings of the SFRA (Nov 2008). We welcome that a review of flooding policies will be undertaken but this review will need to consider the SFRA update which is currently being progressed. This should be read along with the latest</p>	<p>Noted. The relevant part of <b>Table 4.1</b> has been amended to refer to Environment Agency flood maps and not 'research'.</p>

Consultee Comment	Response/comment
<p>Environment Agency flood maps and not 'research'.</p> <p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <p>We welcome the recognition that new local policy guidance is required to ensure that water quality across the district is improved, as set out in table 4.1.</p>	
<p><b>SA Framework</b></p> <p><b>Objectives</b></p> <p>We welcome that objective 14 uses the terms both 'protect' and 'enhance'.</p> <p>In respect of objective 16, our expectation is that an objective that refers to flood risk would include reduction of flood risk. The objective should seek to prevent inappropriate development in areas at flood risk not just 'high flood risk area' although it is not clear what is meant by 'high flood risk areas' as this is not a term defined in the SA or within the NPPF/NPPG. Our concern is that a reference to a 'high flood risk area' might be taken to mean Flood Zone 3b or 3 only, when there is clearly a need to avoid areas at risk of flooding generally.</p> <p>We note that objective 19 relates to climate change, addressing the need to reduce the contribution that the district makes to climate change. As the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change is recognised as a sustainability issue, we consider that this should be reflected in the SA objectives. An additional objective such as 'Avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change' should be considered. Alternatively this could be incorporated into an existing objective.</p> <p><b>Health Impact Assessment Framework</b></p> <p>Please note that there is an erroneous reference to PPS25 in table A2.1 (Health Impact Assessment Framework). We would like to highlight the benefits that a quality natural environment can contribute to 'well being' in the same way as green spaces and amenity spaces can have.<b>SA Framework for Spatial Framework Options</b></p> <p>We have the following observation in relation to the text under the</p>	<p>Noted. SA objective 16 has been amended to remove the word 'high' in reference to flood risk.</p> <p>With regards to SA objective 19, climate change mitigation and adaptation is a cross cutting theme throughout the SA framework and is already addressed within other objectives in the SA framework including SA objectives 10: sustainable transport and 16: flood risk management. Therefore, no changes have been made to SA objective 19.</p> <p>The reference to PPS25 has been removed from Table A2.1 (in this final version of the Scoping Report the table is renumbered as <b>Table A3.1</b>).</p> <p>With regards to the SA of the spatial framework, careful consideration of land use constraints will be a feature of the plan preparation process whichever option is chosen. The appraisal of option 2 has been amended slightly to reflect the fact that more weight could be given to such constraints under that approach.</p> <p>Noted, reference to the quality of the natural environment and a new decision-making criterion has been added to the fourth 'influence' of the HIA (4. Air quality, Noise, Neighbourhood Amenity and Natural</p>

Consultee Comment	Response/comment
<p>justification column for SA objective 16. The text states that 'Under approach 2, there would be careful consideration of land use constraints when allocating development, which is assumed to include areas of high flood risk.....'. Our assumption is that there will be careful consideration of land use constraints when allocating development under all approaches.</p>	<p>Environment) in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this final Scoping Report.</p>
<p><b>Historic England</b></p>	
<p><b>Page 22, Table 4.1: Heritage</b></p> <p>The need to meet the assessed housing and employment needs of the plan area is likely to put pressure upon the heritage assets of Kirklees. Therefore not only is there a need for the Plan to include specific Policies for the protection of these assets but there is also a need for the Plan to set out a framework for accommodating the assessed development needs of the plan area without harming its considerable number of heritage assets.</p> <p>This Table should be amended to reflect this issue.</p>	<p>Noted. Reasonable options for site allocations for residential, employment and other types of development are being subject to SA during the plan preparation process. This includes an assessment of the likely effects of each site option on cultural heritage.</p>
<p><b>Page 32, Table 6.1, SA Objective 12 (Local Character)</b></p> <p>It is not clear how some of the evaluations of the Plan's Objectives against SA Objective 12 have been reached.</p> <p>For those Local Plan Objectives which are likely to involve significant new development (such as Objective 1 (Economic growth) and 4 (Housing)) these could have a significant effect upon local character. However, the effects will depend upon how that Objective is implemented. Therefore, it would be more accurate to record the relationship of these two Local Plan Objectives against SA Objective 12 as "uncertain".</p> <p>Similarly, the Transport Objective (Objective 3) could impact upon the local character, particularly if it would entail significant new infrastructure. Again, the effects will depend upon how that Objective is implemented. Therefore, it would be more accurate to record the relationship against SA Objective 12 as "uncertain".</p> <p>Conversely, improving the vitality and viability of town centres (Objective 2) could have a positive impact upon the historic</p>	<p>Noted. These points have been addressed in an updated version of the appraisal in <b>Chapter 6</b> of this final Scoping Report.</p>

Consultee Comment	Response/comment
<p>environment (given that most are Conservation Areas and contain many Listed Buildings) as could the objective for Green Infrastructure (which contributes the significance of many heritage assets).</p> <p>It is suggested that the assessment of the Local Plan's Objective's against this SA Objective is reviewed.</p>	
<p><b>Page 32: Table 6.1, SA Objective 13 (historic environment)</b></p> <p>It is not clear how some of the evaluations of the Plan's Objectives against SA Objective 13 have been reached. This Table considers that there is unlikely to be any incompatibility between the Local Plan Objectives and the SA Objective for the historic environment. However, most of the Plan's Objectives look likely to have some impact upon SA Objective 13.</p> <p>For those Local Plan Objectives which are likely to involve significant new development (such as Objective 1 (Economic growth) and 4 (Housing)) these could have a significant effect upon the historic assets of Kirklees (particularly given the number of assets in the District). However, the effects will depend upon how that Objective is implemented. Therefore, it would be more accurate to record the relationship against SA Objective 13 as "uncertain".</p> <p>Similarly, the Transport Objective (Objective 3) could impact upon the historic environment, particularly if it would entail significant new infrastructure. Again, the effects will depend upon how that Objective is implemented. Therefore, it would be more accurate to record the relationship against SA Objective 13 as "uncertain".</p> <p>Conversely, improving the vitality and viability of town centres (Objective 2) could have a positive impact upon the historic environment (given that most are Conservation Areas and contain many Listed Buildings) as could the Objective for Green Infrastructure (which contributes the significance of many heritage assets).</p> <p>It is suggested that the assessment of the Local Plan's Objective's against this SA Objective is reviewed.</p>	<p>Noted. These points have been addressed in an updated version of the appraisal in <b>Chapter 6</b> of this final Scoping Report.</p>
<p>English Heritage strongly advises that the Council's Conservation Section and the West Yorkshire Archaeology Service are closely involved throughout the preparation of the SA of the plan. They are best placed to</p>	<p>Noted. The Council's own assessment of site options for the Local Plan has drawn on information provided by West Yorkshire Archaeology Service. The sustainability appraisal of the site options in relation to the</p>

Consultee Comment	Response/comment
<p>advise on; local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the HER (formerly SMR); how the policy or proposal can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of historic assets.</p>	<p>historic environment has been based on information provided by Historic England to Kirklees Council about the potential for significant effects to arise from each site. The SA team will continue to draw on information from these sources as appropriate throughout the plan preparation process.</p>
<p><b>Natural England</b></p>	
<p><b>Relevant Plans and Programmes</b></p> <p><b>Biodiversity 2020</b></p> <p>In addition to the Environment White Paper The Natural Choice (included in Annex 1), the SA should ensure that the Biodiversity 2020 targets are delivered within the plan. These targets include no further declines in protected species, no net loss of priority habitats and 90% of these habitats in favourable condition. The achievement of these targets should be incorporated into the SA.</p> <p><b>National Character Area Profiles</b></p> <p>The SA should utilise the relevant National Character Area Profiles for Kirklees as they contain useful baseline data and environmental objectives. If amalgamated into the assessment of the plan’s likely environmental effects they would provide detailed criteria that is more appropriate to Kirklees.</p> <p>For example the second Strategic Environmental Objective for NCA 36 (Southern Pennines) seeks to “manage and enhance the pastoral character of the moorland fringes, lower hills and valleys, with their mosaics of pastures and meadows and their strong field patterns defined by drystone walls, to improve ecological networks and strengthen landscape character.” This will be achieved in part through the restoration of moorland fringe habitats and retaining and restoring the field patterns and drystone walls. These issues should be considered when determining the compliance of policies and allocations against the SA’s biodiversity and landscape objectives.</p> <p>The following NCAs pertinent to Kirklees are:</p>	<p>Noted. The Biodiversity 2020 targets have been referenced in the updated policy review in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report. The SA includes an assessment of policy and site options on biodiversity (SA objective 14) which includes the potential for effects relating to declines in protected species, loss of habitat and declines in habitat condition.</p> <p>Information about the NCAs in Kirklees has been added to the updated baseline information in <b>Chapter 3</b> of this report. The SA will also be drawing from information about landscape character that will be provided in the Kirklees Landscape Character Assessment that is currently being produced. This will be referenced in the SA report when it becomes available.</p> <p>The Kirklees Biodiversity Strategy, Biodiversity Action Plan, Leeds City Region Green Infrastructure Strategy and Health and Wellbeing Strategy have been added to the updated policy review in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.</p>



Consultee Comment	Response/comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NCA 36 – South Pennines</li> <li>• NCA 37 – Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe</li> <li>• NCA 38 – Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield</li> <li>• NCA 51 – Dark Peak</li> </ul> <p>The NCA profiles can be found at:  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles#ncas-in-yorkshire-and-the-humber">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles#ncas-in-yorkshire-and-the-humber</a></p> <p><b>Kirklees Biodiversity Strategy and Biodiversity Action Plan</b></p> <p>The SA should ensure the objectives of the biodiversity strategy and action plan are considered when assessing the plan’s performance against SA objective 14 (Biodiversity).</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure Strategies</b></p> <p>The SA should ensure the objectives of relevant GI strategies (including the Leeds City Region Strategy) are considered when assessing the plan’s performance against SA health, access, climate change and biodiversity objectives.</p> <p><b>Health and Wellbeing Strategy</b></p> <p>The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is identified as a critical document that underpins both the plan and SA objectives. In addition to the benefits of formal recreational space, such as playing fields, both the plan and SA should also recognise the benefits of access to nature for both mental and physical health.</p> <p>Green Infrastructure (GI) provides a variety of benefits in addition to recreational enjoyment and health, for example; improved health; non-car based transport routes; air quality improvements; landscape; climate change mitigation and adaptation; and improved ecological networks and net-gains in biodiversity. This is recognised in the NPPF where LPAs should set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. A strategic approach within the local plan would be achieved if it were underpinned by up-to-</p>	

Consultee Comment	Response/comment
date GI and Ecological strategies.	
<p><b>Baseline Information</b></p> <p>Paragraph 3.32 identifies key ecological baseline information including the number of Sites of Special Scientific Interests (SSSI) and BAP sites (these should be renamed priority habitats in line with the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006). The baseline data should include the condition of the SSSI to ensure Biodiversity 2020 targets are met.</p>	<p>Noted. Text relating to the condition of the five SSSIs in Kirklees has been added to paragraph 3.32.</p>
<p><b>Key Sustainability Issues</b></p> <p>Sport and Recreation, and Health are both identified as key sustainability issues. As stated above the importance of GI should be recognised. The absence of this recognition within the SA and Plan may jeopardise opportunities to deliver improvements to health alongside other GI benefits. Natural England welcome the suggested policy on health as this should provide an additional policy hook for the enhancement and creation of GI and improved access to nature.</p> <p>Natural England also welcome the SA scoping report's support for an up-to-date biodiversity policy which reflects the NPPF, international and national legislation and local ecological issues (see NE advice on the NCA profiles above). The SA should assess whether the plan will deliver net-gains in biodiversity and enhancements to the wider ecological network, not just the protection of sites in isolation.</p> <p>The SA should consider the benefits of GI when assessing the local plans ability to deliver adaptation to climate change. GI provides cooling environments during extreme temperatures and flood attenuation areas at times of high rainfall, they also provide wildlife corridors that enable species to move when faced with deteriorating environmental conditions.</p>	<p>The updated baseline information in <b>Chapter 3</b> of this report makes reference to the health-related benefits of green infrastructure. The wide ranging benefits of green infrastructure in relation to health, climate change etc. are recognised and will be taken into account in the appraisal of site and policy options.</p> <p>The cumulative effects of the Local Plan on biodiversity will be considered in the SA, as well as the effects of individual development site options and impacts on particular designated sites.</p>
<p><b>SA of Vision and Objectives and Options</b></p> <p>Table 6.1 should score local plan objective 6 (Green Infrastructure) positive against SA objectives 2 (Economic Growth), 4 (Health), 5 (Amenity) and 6 (Access to Services). See advice above regarding the wide benefits of multi-functional GI.</p>	<p>Noted. This point has been addressed in an updated version of the appraisal in <b>Chapter 6</b> of this final Scoping Report.</p>

# Appendix 2

## Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes

**Table A2.1: Review of plans, policies and programmes relevant to the preparation of the Kirklees Local Plan and the SA**

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>				
<b>EU Directives</b>				
<p><i>SEA Directive 2001</i> Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment</p>	<p>Provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.</p>	<p>The Directive must be applied to plans or programmes whose formal preparation begins after 21 July 2004 and to those already in preparation by that date.</p>	<p>Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive at the national level.</p>	<p><b>Requirements of the Directive must be met in Sustainability Appraisals.</b></p>
<p><i>The Industrial Emissions Directive 2010</i> Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control)</p>	<p>This Directive lays down rules on integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole.</p>	<p>The Directive sets emission limit values for substances that are harmful to air or water.</p>	<p>Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objective for reducing pollution.</p>
<p><i>Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010 on the energy performance of buildings 2010/31/EU</i></p>	<p>The Directive aims to promote the energy performance of buildings and building units.  It requests that member states adopt either national or regional methodology for calculating energy performance and minimum requirements for energy performance.</p>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Policies and site allocations should take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>Include SA objective relating to the energy performance/efficiency of existing and proposed buildings.</p>

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p><i>The Birds Directive 2009</i></p> <p>Directive 2009/147/EC is a codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended</p>	<p>The preservation, maintenance, and re-establishment of biotopes and habitats shall include the following measures:</p> <p>Creation of protected areas.</p> <p>Upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones.</p> <p>Re-establishment of destroyed biotopes.</p> <p>Creation of biotopes.</p>	No targets or indicators.	<p>Allocated sites and develop policies should make sure that the upkeep of recognised habitats is maintained and not damaged from development.</p> <p>Avoid pollution or deterioration of habitats or any other disturbances effecting birds.</p>	Include sustainability objectives for the protection of birds.
<p><i>The Waste Framework Directive 2008</i></p> <p>Directive 2008/98/EC on waste</p>	<p>Prevention or reduction of waste production and its harmfulness. The recovery of waste by means of recycling, re-use or reclamation. Recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without using processes that could harm the environment.</p>	Development of clean technology to process waste and promote recycling.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives that minimise waste production as well as promote recycling.
<p><i>The Air Quality Directive 2008</i></p> <p>Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe</p>	<p>Avoid, prevent and reduce harmful effects of ambient noise pollution on human health and the environment.</p>	No targets or indicators.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to maintain and enhance air quality.
<p><i>The Floods Directive</i></p>	<p>Establish a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks, aiming at the</p>	Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments to be completed	Allocate sites and develop policies that	Include sustainability objectives that relate to

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p><i>2007</i></p> <p>Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks</p>	<p>reduction of the adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods.</p>	<p>by December 2011. Flood Hazard Maps and Flood Risk Maps to be completed by December 2013. Flood Risk Management Plans to be completed by December 2015.</p>	<p>take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>flood management and reduction of risk.</p>
<p><i>The Water Framework Directive 2000</i></p> <p>Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for community action in the field of water policy</p>	<p>Protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwaters.</p>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objectives to protect and minimise the impact on water quality.</p>
<p><i>The Landfill Directive 1999</i></p> <p>Directive 99/31/EC on the landfill of waste</p>	<p>Prevent or reduce negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.</p>	<p>Reduce the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill to 75% of the 1995 level by 2010. Reduce this to 50% in 2013 and 35% by 2020.</p>	<p>Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objectives to increase recycling and reduce the amount of waste.</p>
<p><i>The Drinking Water Directive 1998</i></p> <p>Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption</p>	<p>Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.</p>	<p>Member States must set values for water intended for human consumption.</p>	<p>Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objectives to protect and enhance water quality.</p>

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p><i>The Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive 1994</i></p> <p>Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste</p>	Harmonise the packaging waste system of Member States. Reduce the environmental impact of packaging waste.	By June 2001 at least 50% by weight of packaging waste should have been recovered, at least 25% by weight of the totality of packaging materials contained in packaging waste to be recycled with a minimum of 15% by weight for each packaging material.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to minimise the environmental impact of waste and promote recycling.
<p><i>The Habitats Directive 1992</i></p> <p>Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora</p>	Promote the maintenance of biodiversity taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. Conservation of natural habitats and maintain landscape features of importance to wildlife and fauna.	No targets or indicators.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.  The Plan must be subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment in line with the Directive.	Include sustainability objectives to protect and maintain the natural environment and important landscape features.
<p><i>The Nitrates Directive 1991</i></p> <p>Directive 91/676/EEC on nitrates from agricultural sources.</p>	Reduce water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and prevent further such pollution.	Identification of vulnerable areas.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to reduce water pollution.
<i>The Urban Waste Water</i>	Protect the environment from the adverse	No targets or indicators.	Allocate sites and	Include sustainability

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p><i>Directive 1991</i></p> <p>Directive 91/271/EEC concerning urban waste water treatment</p>	<p>effects of urban waste water collection, treatment and discharge, and discharge from certain industrial sectors.</p>		<p>develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>objectives to reduce water pollution.</p>
<b>European</b>				
<p>European Spatial Development Perspective (1999)</p>	<p>Economic and social cohesion across the community. Conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage. Balanced competitiveness between different tiers of government.</p>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objectives to conserve natural resources and cultural heritage.</p>
<p>EU Seventh Environmental Action Plan (2002-2012)</p>	<p>The EU's objectives in implementing the programme are:</p> <p>(a) to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital;</p> <p>(b) to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green and competitive low-carbon economy;</p> <p>(c) to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing;</p> <p>(d) to maximise the benefits of the Union's environment legislation;</p> <p>(e) to improve the evidence base for environment policy;</p>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objectives to protect and enhance the natural environment and promote energy efficiency.</p>



Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>(f) to secure investment for environment and climate policy and get the prices right;</p> <p>(g) to improve environmental integration and policy coherence;</p> <p>(h) to enhance the sustainability of the Union's cities;</p> <p>(i) to increase the Union's effectiveness in confronting regional and global environmental challenges.</p>			
European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2002)	The convention promotes landscape protection, management and planning.	No indicators or targets.	Ensure that site allocations and policies take account of the Convention.	Include sustainability objectives to protect the archaeological heritage.
<p>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992)</p> <p><i>Revision of the 1985 Granada Convention</i></p>	<p>Protection of the archaeological heritage, including any physical evidence of the human past that can be investigated archaeologically both on land and underwater.</p> <p>Creation of archaeological reserves and conservation of excavated sites.</p>	No indicators or targets.	Ensure that site allocations and policies take account of the Convention.	Include sustainability objectives to protect the archaeological heritage.
<b>International</b>				
Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002)	<p>Commitment to building a humane, equitable and caring global society aware of the need for human dignity for all.</p> <p>Renewable energy and energy efficiency. Accelerate shift towards sustainable consumption and production.</p>	<p>Greater resource efficiency.</p> <p>New technology for renewable energy.</p> <p>Increase energy efficiency.</p>	Ensure that site allocations and policies take account of the Declaration.	Include sustainability objectives to enhance the natural environment and promote renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
Aarhus Convention (1998)	<p>Established a number of rights of the public with regard to the environment. Local authorities should provide for:</p> <p>The right of everyone to receive environmental information</p> <p>The right to participate from an early stage in environmental decision making</p> <p>The right to challenge in a court of law public decisions that have been made without respecting the two rights above or environmental law in general.</p>	No targets or indicators.	Ensure that site allocations and policies take account of the Convention.	Ensure that public are involved and consulted at all relevant stages of SA production.
<b>NATIONAL</b>				
National Planning Policy Framework	<p>Presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>Delivering sustainable development by:</p>	No targets or indicators.	Development plan has a statutory status as the starting point for decision making.	Sustainability appraisal should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors.
	Building a strong, competitive economy.	No targets or indicators.	Set out clear economic visions for that particular area.	Include a sustainability objective relating to strengthening the economy.
	Ensuring vitality of town centres.	No targets or indicators.	Recognise town centres as the heart of their communities.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the vitality of town centres.
	Promoting sustainable transport	No targets or indicators.	To implement	Include a sustainability

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
			sustainable transport modes depending on nature/location of the site, to reduce the need for major transport infrastructure.	objective relating to sustainable transport.
	Supporting high quality communications infrastructure.	No targets or indicators.	Enhance the provision of local community facilities and services by supporting the expansion of electronic communications networks.	Include a sustainability objective relating to improving communication.
	Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes.	No targets or indicators.	Identify size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations.	Include a sustainability objective relating to housing availability and quality.
	Requiring good design.	No targets or indicators.	Establish a strong sense of place to live, work and visit.	Include a sustainability objective relating to good design.
	Promoting healthy communities.	No targets or indicators.	Promote safe and accessible environments with a high quality of life and community cohesion.	Include a sustainability objective relating to health and well-being.
	Protecting Green Belt Land.	No targets or indicators.	To prevent the coalescence of neighbouring towns.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the coalescence of towns.
	Meeting the challenge of climate change,	No targets or indicators.	Use opportunities	Include a sustainability

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	flooding, and coastal change.		offered by new development to reduce causes/impacts of flooding.	objective relating to climate change mitigation and adaption.
	Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.	No targets or indicators.	Recognise the wider benefits of biodiversity.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment.
	Conserving and enhancing the historic environment	No targets or indicators.	Sustain and enhance heritage assets and put them to viable uses consistent with their conservation.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the conservation of historic features.
	Facilitating the use of sustainable materials.	No targets or indicators.	Encourage prior extraction of minerals where practicable and environmentally feasible.	Include a sustainability objective relating to sustainable mineral extraction.
National Planning Policy for Waste	Sets out the Government's ambition to work towards a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and management. Replaces Planning Policy Statement 10.	Delivery of sustainable development and resource efficiency, including provision of modern infrastructure, local employment opportunities and wider climate change benefits, by driving waste management up the waste hierarchy.  Ensuring that waste management is considered alongside other spatial	The Local Plan should be in conformity with national waste planning policy.	Include a sustainability objective relating to waste generation and management.

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
		<p>planning concerns, such as housing and transport, recognising the positive contribution that waste management can make to the development of sustainable communities.</p> <p>Providing a framework in which communities and businesses are engaged with and take more responsibility for their own waste, including by enabling waste to be disposed of or, in the case of mixed municipal waste from households, recovered, in line with the proximity principle.</p> <p>Helping to secure the re-use, recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment.</p> <p>Ensuring the design and layout of new residential and commercial development and other infrastructure (such as safe and reliable transport links) complements sustainable waste management, including the provision of appropriate storage and segregation facilities to facilitate high</p>		

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
		quality collections of waste.□		
<b>White Papers</b>				
Natural Environment White Paper, 2011 <i>The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature</i>	Protecting and improving our natural environment;  Growing a green economy; and  Reconnecting people and nature.	No targets or indicators.	Ensure that site allocations and policies will protect the intrinsic value of nature and recognise the multiple benefits it could have for communities.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the enhancement of the natural environment.
Electricity Market Reform White Paper 2011, <i>Planning our Electric Future: A White Paper for Secure, Affordable and Low-Carbon Electricity</i>	This White Paper sets out the Government's commitment to transform the UK's electricity system to ensure that our future electricity supply is secure, low-carbon and affordable.	15 per cent renewable energy target by 2020 and 80 per cent carbon reduction target by 2050.	Ensure that site allocations and policies will support renewable energy generation and encourage greater energy efficiency.	Include sustainability objectives to reduce carbon emissions and increase proportion of energy generated from renewable sources.
Water White Paper, 2011 <i>Water for Life</i>	Objectives of the White Paper are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paint a clear vision of the future and create the conditions which enable the water sector and water users to prepare for it;</li> <li>• Deliver benefits across society through an ambitious agenda for improving water quality, working with local communities to make early improvements in the health of our rivers by reducing pollution and tackling unsustainable abstraction;</li> <li>• Keep short and longer term affordability for customers at the centre of decision making in the water sector;</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators.	Ensure that site allocations and policies will support the wise use of water, and improvement of water quality.	Include sustainability objectives that relate to water quality and quantity.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect the interests of taxpayers in the policy decisions that we take;</li> <li>• Ensure a stable framework for the water sector which remains attractive to investors;</li> <li>• Stimulate cultural change in the water sector by removing barriers to competition, fostering innovation and efficiency, and encouraging new entrants to the market to help improve the range and quality of services offered to customers and cut business costs;</li> <li>• Work with water companies, regulators and other stakeholders to build understanding of the impact personal choices have on the water environment, water resources and costs; and</li> <li>• Set out roles and responsibilities – including where Government will take a stronger role in strategic direction setting and assessing resilience to future challenges, as well as clear expectations on the regulators.</li> </ul>			
<p>The Future of Transport White Paper 2004: A network for 2030</p>	<p>Ensure we can benefit from mobility and access while minimising the impact on other people and the environment, now and in the future.</p> <p>Get the best out of our transport system without damaging our overall quality of life.</p> <p>Develop strategies that recognise that demand for travel will increase in the future.</p> <p>Work towards a transport network that can meet the challenges of a growing economy and</p>	<p>20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2010 and 60% reduction by 2050. Transport is currently responsible for about a quarter of total emissions.</p>	<p>Allocate sites that facilitate public transport use rather than increasing reliance on the car, and ensure that policies promote the use of non-car based modes of transport.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objectives to reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of sustainable transport modes.</p>

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	the increasing demand for travel but can also achieve the government's environmental objectives.			
Urban White Paper 2000, <i>Our Towns and Cities: The Future – delivering an urban renaissance</i>	New Sustainable homes that are attractive, safe and practical. Retaining people in urban areas and making them more desirable places to live. Improving quality of life, opportunity and economic success through tailored solutions in towns and cities.	3.8 million more homes needed by 2021. Local strategies needed to meet the needs of local people developed through partnerships. 60% of new homes on brownfield sites or through conversions of existing buildings.	Allocate sites that will effectively deliver better towns and cities taking into account the key aims of the White Paper.	Include sustainability objectives to ensure that the majority of new development will be built on brownfield sites and aim to improve the quality of life of residents.
Rural White Paper 2000, <i>Our Countryside: The Future – a fair deal for rural England</i>	Facilitate the development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside.  Maintain and stimulate communities and secure access to services for those who live and work in the countryside.  Conserve and enhance rural landscapes.  Increase opportunities for people to get enjoyment from the countryside.	No targets or indicators.	Allocate sites that will increase employment and services in the rural parts of the District whilst conserving the landscape.	Include sustainability objectives that aim to improve the economies of rural areas with minimal impact to the environment.
<b>Policies and Strategies</b>				
DCLG (2012) Planning Policy for Traveller Sites	Government's aims in respect of traveller sites are:  • That local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning.	No targets or indicators.	Ensure that the relevant considerations are taken into account when allocating sites.	Include relevant sustainability objectives relating to social inclusion and environmental protection.



Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites.</li> <li>• To encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale.</li> <li>• That plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development.</li> <li>• To promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites.</li> <li>• That plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies.</li> <li>• To increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply.</li> <li>• To reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions.</li> <li>• To enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure.</li> <li>• For local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and</li> </ul>			

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	local environment.			
DCLG (2011) <i>Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England</i>	Aims to provide support to deliver new homes and improve social mobility.	No targets or indicators	Make appropriate site allocations for the provision of an appropriate supply of new homes.	Include sustainability objective that assesses whether housing need is being met.
DEFRA (2011) <i>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy</i>	Enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life for future generations. There are 4 shared priorities:  sustainable consumption and production;  climate change and energy;  natural resource protection and environmental enhancement; and  sustainable communities.	Sets out indicators to give an overview of sustainable development and priority areas in the UK. They include 20 of the UK Framework indicators and a further 48 indicators related to the priority areas.	Ensure that site allocations and policies meet the aims of the Sustainable Development Strategy.	Include sustainability objectives to cover the shared priorities.
Department of Health (2010) <i>Healthy Lives, Healthy People: our Strategy for public health in England</i>	Protect the population from serious health threats; helping people live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives; and improving the health of the poorest, fastest. Prioritise public health funding from within the overall NHS budget.	No targets or indicators.	Ensure that site allocations and policies reflect the objectives of the strategy.	Include a sustainability objective relating to health and well-being.
Kirklees Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2014-2020 (Kirklees Health and Wellbeing Board, 2014)	This strategy provides a context, vision and overall focus for improving the health and wellbeing of local people and reduce inequalities at every stage of people's lives by 2020, identifies shared priorities and clear outcomes for improving local wellbeing and health inequalities, supports effective	No targets or indicators.	Ensure that site allocations and policies reflect the vision of the strategy.	Include sustainability objectives relating to health and well-being.

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>partnership working that delivers health improvements and provides a framework to support the innovative approaches required to enable change, given the changing needs of local people and the current economic climate.</p> <p>The vision is that, <i>“No matter where they live, people in Kirklees live their lives confidently, in better health, for longer and experience less inequality”</i>.</p>			
<p>Leeds City Region Green Infrastructure Strategy (Leeds City Region Partnership, 2010)</p>	<p>This strategy sets out the vision for green infrastructure in the city region and to determine how future investment in green infrastructure will be secured and where investment should be targeted.</p> <p>The vision is that <i>“Green infrastructure will shape the future economic, social and environmental success of the Leeds City Region by harnessing the potential of existing environmental resources to promote sustainable economic growth and to tackle climate change”</i>.</p> <p>Four strategic objectives have been selected to directly address the key drivers of green infrastructure including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote sustainable growth and economic development;</li> <li>• adapt to and mitigate climate change;</li> <li>• encourage health and wellbeing; and</li> <li>• improve biodiversity.</li> </ul>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Ensure that site allocations and policies reflect the vision and objectives of the strategy.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objectives relating to health and wellbeing, enhancement of open space, provision of sustainable transport, biodiversity and climate change.</p>
<p>Building a Greener</p>	<p>This Statement confirms the government’s</p>	<p>25% more energy efficient</p>	<p>Policies should seek to</p>	<p>Include SA objectives</p>

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
Future: Policy Statement (DCLG, 2007)	intention to achieve 25% more energy efficient homes by 2010, 44% more efficient homes by 2013 and zero carbon (net carbon emissions should be zero per annum) homes by 2016.	homes by 2010, 44% more efficient homes by 2013 and zero carbon (net carbon emissions should be zero per annum) homes by 2016.	promote zero carbon residential development.	which seek to improve the energy efficiency of proposed developments and encourage uptake of renewable energy.
DECC (2009) <i>The UK Renewable Energy Strategy</i>	Increase our use of renewable electricity, heat and transport, and help tackle climate change.  Build the UK low-carbon economy, promote energy security and take action against climate change.	15% of energy from renewable sources by 2020.  Reducing UK CO2 emissions by 750 million tonnes by 2030.	Ensure that site allocations and policies will support renewable energy provision including electricity, heat and transport.	Include a sustainability objective relating to increasing energy provided from decentralised community renewable sources.
Community Energy Strategy (DECC, 2014)	Sets out plans to promote and facilitate the planning and development of decentralised community energy initiatives in four main types of energy activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generating energy (electricity or heat)</li> <li>• Reducing energy use (saving energy through energy efficiency and behaviour change)</li> <li>• Managing energy (balancing supply and demand)</li> <li>• Purchasing energy (collective purchasing or switching to save money on energy)</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators.	Ensure that site allocations and policies will support community low carbon and renewable energy provision including electricity, heat and transport.	Include a sustainability objective relating to increasing energy provided from decentralised low carbon and renewable sources.
The Energy Efficiency Opportunity in the UK (DECC, 2012)	This is an Energy Efficiency Strategy aiming to realise the wider energy efficiency potential that is available in the UK economy. The Strategy identifies four barriers to energy efficiency which need to be overcome which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embryonic markets.</li> <li>• Information.</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators.	Policies should seek to address the barriers identified within the Strategy and improve the existing building stock through appropriate adaptation	Include SA objectives relating to energy efficiency and adaptation of the existing building stock.

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Misaligned financial incentives.</li> <li>• Undervaluing energy efficiency.</li> </ul> <p>The Strategy draws attention to maximising the potential of existing dwellings by implementing 21<sup>st</sup> century energy management initiatives on 19<sup>th</sup> century homes.</p>		measures.	
<p>The National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate (Defra, 2013)</p>	<p>The report sets out visions for the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Built Environment – “buildings and places and the people who live and work in them are resilient to a changing climate and extreme weather and organisations in the built environment sector have an increased capacity to address the risks and take the opportunities from climate change”.</li> <li>• Infrastructure – “an infrastructure network that is resilient to today’s natural hazards and prepared for the future changing climate”.</li> <li>• Healthy and resilient communities – “a health service, a public health and social care system which are resilient and adapted to a changing climate. Communities and individuals, including the most vulnerable, are better prepared to cope with severe weather events and other impacts of climate change. Emergency services and local resilience capability take account of and are resilient to, a changing climate”.</li> <li>• Agriculture and Forestry – “profitable and productive agriculture and forestry sectors that take the opportunities from climate change, are resilient to its threats and contribute to the resilience of the natural</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators.	Policies should take account of the aims of the Programme.	Include SA objectives which seek to promote the implementation of adaptation measures to make the area more resilient to a changing climate.

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>environment by helping maintain ecosystem services and protect and enhance biodiversity”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural Environment – “the natural environment, with diverse and healthy ecosystems, is resilient to climate change, able to accommodate change and valued for the adaptation services it provides”.</li> <li>• Business – “UK businesses are resilient to extreme weather and prepared for future risks and opportunities from climate change”.</li> <li>• Local Government – “Local government plays a central in leading and supporting local places to become more resilient to a range of future risk and to be prepared for the opportunities from a changing climate”.</li> </ul>			
<p>The National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (Environment Agency, 2011)</p>	<p>This Strategy sets out the national framework for managing the risk of flooding and coastal erosion. It sets out the roles for risk management authorities and communities to help them understand their responsibilities.</p> <p>The strategic aims and objectives of the Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “manage the risk to people and their property;</li> <li>• Facilitate decision-making and action at the appropriate level – individual, community or local authority, river catchment, coastal cell or national;</li> <li>• Achieve environmental, social and economic benefits, consistent with the principles of sustainable development”.</li> </ul>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Policies should seek to reduce and manage the risk of all types of flooding.</p>	<p>The SA framework should include objectives which seek to reduce the risk and manage flooding sustainably.</p>

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
DEFRA (2007) <i>The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland</i>	<p>Make sure that everyone can enjoy a level of ambient air quality in public spaces, which poses no significant risk to health or quality of life.</p> <p>Render polluting emissions harmless.</p>	Sets air quality standards for 13 air pollutants.	Ensure that site allocations and policies will contribute to maintaining and improving air quality.	Include sustainability objectives to protect and improve air quality.
Waste prevention programme for England: Prevention is better than cure – The role of waste prevention in moving to a more resource efficient economy (HM Government, 2013)	<p>The aim of the Programme is to improve the environment and protect human health by supporting a resource efficient economy, reducing the quantity and impact of waste produced whilst promoting sustainable economic growth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• encourage businesses to contribute to a more sustainable economy by building waste reduction into design, offering alternative business models and delivering new and improved products and services;</li> <li>• encourage a culture of valuing resources by making it easier for people and businesses to find out how to reduce their waste, to use products for longer, repair broken items, and enable reuse of items by others;</li> <li>• help businesses recognise and act upon potential savings through better resource efficiency and preventing waste, to realise opportunities for growth; and</li> <li>• support action by central and local government, businesses and civil society to capitalise on these opportunities.</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators.	Policies should take account of the strategic measures in the Programme.	Include SA objectives which seek to promote waste prevention.
Future Water: The	Sets out how the Government want the water sector to look by 2030 and an outline of the	No targets or indicators.	Policies should aim to	Include SA objectives

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Government's Water Strategy for England (DEFRA, 2008)	<p>steps which need to be taken to get there.</p> <p>The vision for 2030 is one where we, as a country have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology it supports, and continue to maintain high standards of drinking water quality from taps;</li> <li>• Sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water;</li> <li>• Ensure a sustainable use of water resources, and implement fair, affordable and cost-reflective water charges;</li> <li>• Cut greenhouse gas emissions; and</li> <li>• Embed continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users".</li> </ul>		contribute to the vision set out in this Strategy.	which seek to protect, manage and enhance the water environment.
Water for People and the Environment: Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales (Environment Agency, 2009)	<p>The Strategy vision for water resource "is for there to be enough water for people and the environment, meeting legitimate needs".</p> <p>Its aims include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To manage water resource and protect the water environment from climate change.</li> <li>• Restore, protect, improve and value species and habitats that depend on water.</li> <li>• To contribute to sustainable development through good water management.</li> </ul> <p>People to understand how water and the water environment contribute to their quality of life.</p>	No targets or indicators.	Policies should reflect the aims of the strategy where relevant.	Include SA objective which seeks to promote water management and efficiency.
Humber District River Basin Management Plan (Environment Agency,	The plan describes the river basin district, and the pressures that the water environment faces. It explains what this means for the	By 2015, 14% of surface waters (rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters)	Policies should seek to manage and improve water quality in the	Include SA objective which seeks to protect and



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2009)	current state of the water environment, and what actions will be taken to address the pressures. It sets out what improvements are possible by 2015, the end of the first Water Framework Directive Cycle, and how the actions will make a difference to the local environment – the catchments, the estuaries and coasts, and the groundwater.	<p>in the river basin district are going to improve for at least one biological, chemical or physical element.</p> <p>19% of surface waters will be at good or better ecological status/potential and 32% of groundwater bodies will be at good status by 2015.</p> <p>At least 29% of assessed surface waters will be at good or better biological status by 2015.</p>	District.	enhance water quality..
Aire and Calder Abstraction Licensing Strategy (Environment Agency, 2013)	<p>This strategy sets out how the Environment Agency will manage water resources in the Aire and Calder catchment and provides information on how existing abstraction licences and water availability for further abstraction will be managed.</p> <p>The objectives of the strategy are to contribute to the Water Framework Direct by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing a water resource assessment of rivers, lakes, reservoirs, estuaries and groundwater referred to as water bodies under the WFD;</li> <li>• identifying water bodies that fail flow conditions expected to support good ecological status;</li> <li>• preventing deterioration of water body status due to new abstractions; and</li> <li>• providing results which inform River Basin</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators	Policies should reflect the objectives of the strategy where relevant and support the protection and enhancement of water quality and its efficient use.	Include SA objective which seeks to protect and enhance water quality and ensure the efficient use of water.

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	Management Plans (RBMPs).			
Kirklees Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (Kirklees District Council, 2009)	The Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment provides a high-level overview of flood risk from local sources, such as surface water, ordinary watercourses and groundwater, but excludes flooding from main rivers, the sea and reservoirs, which is the responsibility of the Environment Agency. The evidence provided in the report has fed into the Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.	No targets or indicators	Policies should seek to manage and improve flood risk across the district, and prevent development from being exposed to high levels of flood risk.	Include SA objective which seeks to prevent inappropriate new development in high flood risk areas and ensure that new development does not cause flooding.
Kirklees Flood Risk Management Strategy	<p>The Flood and Water Management Act (FWMA) 2010 requires the Environment Agency to publish a National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management and Lead Local Flood Authorities a Local Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management. The Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy provides the framework to ensure that the type and scale of local flooding is understood and explained, appropriate objectives have been set, measures to achieve the objectives have been determined and funding arrangements, including value for money for the measures, has been considered.</p> <p>The objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving the level of understanding of local flood risk</li> <li>• Ensuring that local communities understand their responsibilities</li> <li>• Actively managing flood risk from new</li> </ul>	32 measures have been developed to address the objectives identified in the strategy. The measures are varied in nature, ranging from simple data recording to complex flood modelling, community information to changing community behaviour/perceptions.	Policies should seek to manage and improve flood risk across the district, and prevent development from being exposed to high levels of flood risk.	Include SA objective which seeks to prevent inappropriate new development in high flood risk areas and ensure that new development does not cause flooding.

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>developments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balancing economic, environmental and social benefits in managing local flood risk</li> <li>• Improving the capacity of existing drainage systems through targeted maintenance</li> <li>• Encouraging responsible maintenance of privately-owned drainage assets</li> <li>• Identifying affordable improvement programmes, maximising external funding contributions</li> <li>• Aligning local flood risk management knowledge with the Councils emergency planning procedures□</li> </ul>			
<p>Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England (DEFRA, 2009)</p>	<p>The vision is “by 2030, all England’s soils will be managed sustainability and degradation threats tackled successfully. This will improve the quality of England’s soils and safeguard their ability to provide essential services for future generations”.</p> <p>The Strategy highlights the areas for priority including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better protection for agricultural soils.</li> <li>• Protecting and enhancing stores of soil carbon.</li> <li>• Building the resilience of soils to a changing climate.</li> <li>• Preventing soil pollution.</li> <li>• Effective soil protection during construction and development.</li> <li>• Dealing with our legacy of contaminated land.</li> </ul>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Ensure that site allocations and policies will help protect and enhance the quality of soils and seek to sustainably manage their quality for future generations.</p>	<p>Include SA objective which seeks to safeguard and enhance the quality of soil.</p>

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>The Code for Sustainable Homes: Setting the standard in sustainability for new homes (DCLG, 2008)</p>	<p>The Code is a standard designed to improve the sustainability of new homes. This sets out the assessment process and performance standards required for the Code for Sustainable Homes.</p> <p>In January 2014 the Government responded to the Environmental Audit Committee's report on the Housing Standards Review consultation, stating that necessary standards would, as far as possible, be consolidated into Building Regulations.</p>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Develop policies that promote the implementation of the Code (or corresponding sustainability requirements in the Building Regulations) for all residential development.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives which promote sustainable development and seek to achieve higher levels of efficiency (e.g. in energy, water etc.) where appropriate.</p>
<p>DEFRA (2011) <i>Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services</i></p>	<p>The strategy aims to guide conservation efforts in England up to 2020, and move from a net biodiversity loss to gain. The strategy includes 22 priorities which include actions for the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture;</li> <li>• Forestry;</li> <li>• Planning and Development;</li> <li>• Water Management;</li> <li>• Marine Management;</li> <li>• Fisheries;</li> <li>• Air Pollution; and</li> </ul> <p>Invasive Non-Native Species.</p>	<p>The strategy develops ambitious yet achievable goals for 2020 and 2050, based on Aichi Targets set at the Nagoya UN Biodiversity Summit in October 2010.</p>	<p>Develop policies that promote conservation and enhancements of biodiversity and ensure that site allocations take account of the aims of the strategy.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objective that relates to biodiversity.</p>
<p>Kirklees Biodiversity Strategy (Kirklees)</p>	<p>The aim of the Strategy is to "halt and reverse the decline in biodiversity".</p>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Develop policies that promote conservation</p>	<p>Include sustainability objective that relates to</p>

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
Council, undated)	<p>The key objectives identified by the Strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To inform key partners, landowners and the private sector of the importance of land management for biodiversity and, its role in addressing and mitigating the effects of climate change.</li> <li>To ensure that biodiversity is addressed and taken into account in the delivery of all relevant council services and the council is compliant with National Performance</li> <li>Indicator 197 (the positive conservation management of Local Sites). To support biodiversity work in the wider district.</li> </ul> <p>The strategy outlines the approach to meeting the targets for Habitats and Species of Principal Importance as set out in the Kirklees Biodiversity Action Plan.</p>		and enhancement of biodiversity and ensure that site allocations take account of the objectives of the strategy.	biodiversity.
Kirklees Biodiversity Action Plan (Kirklees Council, undated)	<p>The Kirklees BAP identifies the local habitats and species of principal importance (also known as priority habitats and species). These are the species and habitats taken from the UK National Biodiversity Action Plan that occur in Kirklees or those that are of sub-regional importance. These habitats and species have individual action plans to enable biodiversity work to be prioritised in the district.</p>	<p>Specific objectives and targets have been set for the priority habitats and species in the individual habitat and species action plans.</p>	<p>Develop policies that promote conservation and enhancement of biodiversity, and ensure that site allocations take account of these species and habitats and the objectives and targets set out in the habitat and species action plans.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objective that relates to biodiversity.</p>
DfT (2013) <i>Door to Door: A strategy for</i>	<p>The strategy's vision is for an inclusive, integrated and innovative transport system</p>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Ensure that site allocations and policies</p>	<p>Include a relevant sustainability objective</p>

Strategy, Plan or Programme	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<i>improving sustainable transport integration</i>	<p>that works for everyone, and where making door-to-door journeys by sustainable means is an attractive and convenient option. Four key areas to address are highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improving availability of information;</li> <li>• simplifying ticketing;</li> <li>• making connections between different steps in the journey, and different modes of transport, easier; and</li> </ul> <p>providing better interchange facilities.</p>		will enhance public transport provision and encourage active modes of travel such as walking and cycling.	relating to sustainable transport.
<b>Legislation</b>				
Housing Act 2004	<p>Protect the most vulnerable in society and help create a fairer and better housing market.</p> <p>Strengthen the Government's drive to meet its 2010 decent homes target.</p>	No indicators or targets.	Ensure that site allocations and policies will help to create a fairer and better housing market.	Include sustainability objectives to improve access to good quality and affordable housing.

# Appendix 3

## Proposed Health Impact Assessment Framework

**Table A3.1: Proposed Health Impact Assessment Framework for the Kirklees Local Plan**

Influence	Impacts	Positive Effects of Planning	Decision Making Questions Does the plan ...
1. Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overcrowding and sanitation</li> <li>• Lack of affordable housing – low income residents spend high proportion of income on housing to detriment of lifestyle.</li> <li>• Poor choice of location and bad design/ orientation can lead to physical and mental health conditions.</li> <li>• Poor construction methods can have impacts on wellbeing.</li> <li>• Poor match between housing stock and household needs.</li> <li>• Some houses may lack basic facilities to enable to preparation of healthy foods.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code for Sustainable Homes</li> <li>• Accessibility</li> <li>• Adaptable / lifetime homes</li> <li>• Good design and orientation including internal layout</li> <li>• Housing mix (the type and tenure)</li> <li>• Energy efficiency</li> <li>• Affordable homes</li> <li>• Location close to basic services such as post offices, shops and health facilities</li> <li>• The provision of land in the right places to fulfil housing need</li> </ul>	<p>Promote adaptable/ lifetime homes?</p> <p>Promote high quality / sustainable design of residential accommodation?</p> <p>Ensure residential developments are located close to basic services?</p> <p>Seek to provide a mix of types and tenures of housing?</p> <p>Seek to provide sufficient affordable housing?</p>
2. Access to Public Services such as health centres, libraries and information centres and education facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to public services required to develop strong communities, can lead to greater community cohesion.</li> <li>• Use of primary/ preventative healthcare dependent on accessibility.</li> <li>• Services located far away can cause significant problems for the less mobile, including elderly, particularly lack of social interaction – potentially leading to isolation and depression.</li> <li>• Access to effective and affordable Early Years Development Provision is critical in reducing inequalities not just in educational attainment, but also in health.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take account of public service needs, location and accessibility</li> <li>• Reconfiguration of health and social service provision</li> <li>• Co-location of public services</li> </ul>	<p>Consider the needs, location and accessibility of public services?</p> <p>Consider the requirements of the PCT regarding delivery of health services in affected area been assessed?</p> <p>Seek to facilitate multiple building uses for different public services?</p> <p>Seek to provide community facilities in conjunction with development?</p>
3. Opportunities for Physical Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low levels of physical activity are a main cause of obesity and a range of other significant health issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitating walking and cycling</li> <li>• Recreation opportunities distributed equally across</li> </ul>	<p>Make provision for a walking and cycling network and seek to prioritise</p>



Influence	Impacts	Positive Effects of Planning	Decision Making Questions Does the plan ...
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green space facilitates opportunities for exercise</li> <li>• Green spaces can help reduce depression for those in urban areas</li> <li>• Physical activity in childhood perceived to be a significant determinant in adult behaviour – access to sport and play facilities important</li> <li>• Isolated developments can lead to sedentary lifestyles and mental ill health</li> <li>• Badly located facilities can lead to excessive use of cars and lack of physical activity</li> <li>• Moderate physical activity can help against cognitive decline in older people</li> </ul>	<p>communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protecting / enhancing green space</li> <li>• Locating housing and employment close to services / facilities</li> <li>• Planning for extended schools</li> </ul>	<p>walking and cycling?</p> <p>Seek to enhance recreation and leisure facilities?</p> <p>Protect and enhance existing green spaces and seek to create new ones?</p> <p>Ensure residential developments are located close to basic services?</p> <p>Seek to enhance the quantity and quality of open space provision?</p>
4. Air quality, Noise, Neighbourhood Amenity and Natural Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor air quality can lead to increased incidence of lung and heart conditions and potentially asthma amongst children</li> <li>• Living in proximity to busy roads is linked to negative health outcomes</li> <li>• Absence of a good neighbour policy can mean residents and workers are subject to excessive noise and fumes</li> <li>• Visually arid environments can undermine wellbeing and not facilitate physical activity</li> <li>• The quality of the natural environment in general can contribute to well being in the same way as green spaces and amenity spaces.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Segregation of 'bad neighbour' uses</li> <li>• Enhanced green space and green infrastructure</li> <li>• Good quality amenity space incorporated into development</li> <li>• Deter car use and restrict lorries to specific routes</li> </ul>	<p>Seek to minimise air and noise pollution?</p> <p>Promote enhanced air quality? (particularly through better green infrastructure)</p> <p>Seek to provide high quality amenity space close to people's homes?</p> <p>Seek to minimise car use and / or road freight?</p> <p>Segregate 'bad neighbour' uses?</p> <p>Seek to protect and enhance the natural environment?</p> <p>Seek to protect open spaces that offer visual amenity?</p>
5. Accessibility and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easy, well orientated and walkable access to facilities provides opportunities for greater social interaction</li> <li>• Easily accessible buildings and spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved streetscape</li> <li>• Improved choice of modes of transport by ensuring homes, jobs and services are well connected to each other and to</li> </ul>	<p>Promote an enhanced streetscape?</p> <p>Seek to enhance public transport provision?</p>

Influence	Impacts	Positive Effects of Planning	Decision Making Questions Does the plan ...
	<p>encourages greater use by elderly / disabled</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing car dependency leads to more physical exercise</li> <li>• Poor access can disadvantage particularly community groups such as elderly, children.</li> <li>• Traffic congestion can lead to more hostile environments and reduce reliability of bus services, therefore decreasing walking.</li> <li>• Road traffic accidents are a major cause of injury and fatality in young people and perceived danger from roads places restrictions on children's independent mobility.</li> </ul>	<p>existing transport corridors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making local facilities accessible by walking and cycling</li> <li>• Promoting walking and cycling networks</li> <li>• Traffic calming in residential areas</li> <li>• Developing home zones can lead to greater community involvement and sense of ownership – increased community safety</li> <li>• Requiring travel plans to support modal shift.</li> <li>• Managing car parking effectively to deter commuting by car.</li> </ul>	<p>Ensure residential developments are located close to basic services?</p> <p>Make provision for a walking and cycling network and seek to prioritise walking and cycling?</p> <p>Promote home zone and traffic calming measures in residential areas?</p>
6. Crime reduction and community safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment (street design, unfriendly environments) can increase 'fear of crime' and be detrimental to wellbeing</li> <li>• Where a pedestrian environment is intimidating people use cars and social interaction is reduced – increasing potential for crime</li> <li>• Poorly designed green space and lack of investment in green space can potentially increase crime and antisocial behaviour</li> <li>• Lack of trust in services can increase the fear of crime.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Layout of spaces to ensure natural surveillance</li> <li>• Designing places to enhance opportunities for social interaction</li> <li>• Improved lighting in public spaces</li> <li>• Designing out crime</li> </ul>	<p>Contain urban design policies that seek to 'design out crime'?</p>
7. Access to Healthy Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People on low incomes less able to eat well</li> <li>• Food production co-op schemes can increase wellbeing, levels of physical activity and social interaction</li> <li>• Centralisation of food shopping facilities can reduce variety locally and exacerbate social inequity</li> <li>• A concentration of fast food outlets, particularly in areas close to schools, could potentially increase consumption of unhealthy foods.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding areas for community food growing projects</li> <li>• Diversity of food shopping facilities including access to affordable healthy food and avoiding an over concentration of fast food outlets.</li> <li>• Reduced reliance on large supermarkets</li> <li>• Retention / enhancement / provision of allotments</li> <li>• Development of farmers markets</li> </ul>	<p>Make provision for spaces where community can grow their own food?</p> <p>Seek to enhance convenience goods retail if there is a shortfall?</p> <p>Seek to avoid an over concentration of fast food outlets?</p> <p>Protect / enhance the provision of allotments?</p>

Influence	Impacts	Positive Effects of Planning	Decision Making Questions Does the plan ...
			Maintain / enhance the vitality and viability of town and local centres?
8. Access to work and impact of unemployment and low incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job security and job variety leads to increased health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Income is a strong indicator of health</li> <li>• Job satisfaction links to increased contribution to social networks</li> <li>• Correlation between unemployment and heightened health risks</li> <li>• Employment opportunities in inaccessible locations can affect health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Low income leads people to refrain from purchasing goods / services that would improve health</li> <li>• Low income minimises participation in social life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allocating appropriate accessible sites</li> <li>• Encouraging diversity in employment</li> <li>• Local job retention through local labour agreements</li> <li>• Promoting access to work via walking and cycling</li> <li>• Availability of support services – such as childcare – but other town centre uses-shops and services</li> <li>• Provision of facilities / activities for people on low / limited incomes</li> </ul>	Seek to provide a range of jobs close to where people live, in accessible locations, particularly the most deprived communities?
			Promote the use of local labour agreements?
			Ensure employment sites are located close to basic services?
			Seek to raise the profile of the district to encourage investment?
9. Social Cohesion and Social Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fragmentation of social structure can lead to ghettos – contributing to isolation and insecurity</li> <li>• Material deprivation but also social and psychological problems of living in poverty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mixed use developments in town centres</li> <li>• Safe and permeable environments with natural social foci</li> <li>• Providing diverse employment opportunities</li> </ul>	Seek to provide a mix of types and tenures of housing in all communities, where possible?

Influence	Impacts	Positive Effects of Planning	Decision Making Questions Does the plan ...
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispersal of residential communities and roads serving as barriers</li> <li>• Loss of community facilities such as healthcare, education and meeting places.</li> <li>• Indirect impacts on income arising from spatial planning such as access to employment.</li> <li>• Risks associated with negative perceptions of the planning process as people may feel they've lost out.</li> <li>• Perceptions of racial discrimination contribute to mental ill health in BAME communities</li> <li>• Improved social networks and social support can improve mental wellbeing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involvement of the voluntary sector in the planning process</li> </ul>	<p>Ensure residential developments are located close to basic services, meeting places and employment opportunities?</p> <hr/> <p>Seek to provide high quality amenity space close to people's homes?</p> <hr/> <p>Seek to provide community facilities in conjunction with development?</p>
10. Resource minimisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing and minimising waste can improve environmental quality and improve human health</li> <li>• Disposal of hazardous waste can have significant health impacts</li> <li>• Maximising natural light can have a therapeutic / calming effect</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impose standards on hazardous waste disposal and waste linked to development</li> <li>• Redevelopment of brownfield sites – recycling land</li> <li>• Improved building design by meeting BREEAM (environmental assessment of buildings) and CEEQUAL (a civil engineering sustainable design award scheme) construction</li> </ul>	<p>Encourage the redevelopment of brownfield land?</p> <hr/> <p>Encourage and promote recycling?</p>

Influence	Impacts	Positive Effects of Planning	Decision Making Questions Does the plan ...
		standards.	Promote building designs which seek to minimise resources?
11. Climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extreme weather events can affect health</li> <li>• Anxiety arising from vulnerability to flooding</li> <li>• Physical health risks from flooding, with threat of sewers flooding, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact on energy use through building design, transportation etc.</li> <li>• Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding in accordance with the sequential and exception tests including flood resilient development where applicable.</li> </ul>	Promote the use of renewable energy? Promote sustainable drainage systems? Seek to minimise flood risk impacts of new development? Seek to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding?
12. Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cold housing is a health risk and contributes to extra deaths in winter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable design</li> </ul>	Promote building designs which seek to minimise resources?

# Appendix 4

## SA Matrix for Spatial Framework Options

## Options for the Kirklees Local Plan Spatial Framework

SA Objectives	Approach 1: Allocating development based on the size of settlements	Approach 2: Allocating development based on an area's character, its constraints and opportunities	Approach 3: Allocating development based on an area's character and the size of its settlements	Justification
<p>1. Increase the number and range of employment opportunities available for local people, and ensure that they are accessible.</p>	+	?	+?	<p>Under approach 1, more development (both housing and employment) would take place in larger towns such as Huddersfield and Dewsbury. Focussing employment development in those locations would have a positive effect on connecting local people with job opportunities as more people live in these larger towns and so would be easily able to access the jobs created, including people without cars. Locating most housing development at the larger towns would also have a positive effect on access to jobs as the new residents would be in closer proximity of both existing jobs which tend to be located in towns such as Huddersfield and Dewsbury as well as the new employment development which would also be focussed in those larger towns.</p> <p>Under approach 2 development would be distributed on the basis of the characteristics and constraints of different parts of the district, rather than the size of a town or village. This approach could therefore result in housing and employment development being spread more widely throughout Kirklees. The effect of this approach on ensuring that people have access to jobs is uncertain as it will depend largely on which areas are assessed as being suitable for development, which is not known at this stage.</p> <p>The likely effects of approach 3 are also to some extent uncertain as under that approach the character and constraints of an area would be taken into account as well as settlement size when allocating development; therefore the majority of development is still likely to be directed towards the larger towns where levels of access to jobs are likely to be better. A potential but uncertain minor positive effect is therefore likely for that option.</p>
<p>2. Achieve an economy better capable of</p>	0	0	0	<p>All three approaches would have a negligible effect on this objective as effects will depend on the amount of development (in particular employment land) that is</p>

SA Objectives	Approach 1: Allocating development based on the size of settlements	Approach 2: Allocating development based on an area's character, its constraints and opportunities	Approach 3: Allocating development based on an area's character and the size of its settlements	Justification
growth through increasing investment, innovation and Entrepreneurship.				delivered through the Local Plan, regardless of its spatial distribution.
3. Ensure education facilities are available to all.	+?	?	?	The effects of the three options on access to education will depend largely on factors such as whether additional school places are provided to accommodate population growth (wherever it takes place) in order to avoid existing schools being overloaded, which cannot be determined at this stage. While there may be more schools in close proximity where housing is developed in the larger towns and villages, the existing population in those areas is also larger so it cannot be assumed that schools would be more easily able to accommodate additional pupils. Therefore, the likely effects of all three options on this SA objective are largely uncertain. However, under approach 1 it is more likely that people would live in closer proximity of schools and physical access may therefore be easier, particularly for people without a car. A potential but uncertain minor positive effect is therefore likely for that option.
4. Improve the health of local people and ensure that they can access the health and social care they need.	+?	?	?	The effects of the three options on access to health and social care will depend largely on factors such as whether healthcare facilities such as doctor's surgery places are provided to accommodate population growth (wherever it takes place) in order to avoid existing facilities being overloaded, which cannot be determined at this stage. While there may be more healthcare facilities in close proximity where housing is developed in the larger towns and villages, the existing population in those areas is also larger so it cannot be assumed that facilities would be more easily able to accommodate additional users. Therefore, the likely effects of all three options on this SA objective are largely uncertain. However, under approach 1 it is more likely that people would live in closer proximity of healthcare facilities and physical access may therefore be easier, particularly for people without a car. It is also more likely that people would be able to undertake day to day journeys on foot or by bicycle, thus increasing overall levels of physical activity. A potential but



SA Objectives	Approach 1: Allocating development based on the size of settlements	Approach 2: Allocating development based on an area's character, its constraints and opportunities	Approach 3: Allocating development based on an area's character and the size of its settlements	Justification
				uncertain minor positive effect is therefore likely for that option. The effects of approaches 2 and 3 on people's ability to use active modes of transport will depend largely on whether the constraints at each town or village result in development being directed towards larger towns, which cannot be determined at this stage.
5. Protect local amenity including avoiding noise and light pollution.	-?	?	?	<p>Focussing more development in towns and larger villages could mean that there are more sensitive receptors in close proximity which may be affected by noise from new development, during the construction phase in particular. A potential minor negative effect is therefore identified for approach 1 although this is uncertain depending on the exact location of development in relation to sensitive receptors.</p> <p>The effects of approaches 2 and 3 on this objective will depend largely on where the constraints/character considerations used to allocate development result in development being focussed, and its proximity to sensitive receptors (in particular how much development takes place at the larger towns as opposed to smaller villages).</p>
6. Retain and enhance access to local services and facilities.	+	-?	?	<p>Where development is focussed mainly in the larger towns such as Huddersfield and Dewsbury, access to services will be easier, particularly for people without a car. As well as services and facilities being generally closer, making walking and cycling to them possible, there are also good public transport links. A positive effect is therefore likely for SA objective 5 under approach 1.</p> <p>Under approach 2, more development may take place in the smaller towns and villages, depending on an assessment of character and constraints. While new residential development in smaller towns and villages may stimulate the provision of new services and facilities in those areas, the number and range of services and facilities in close proximity is likely to be generally lower. A potential but uncertain minor negative effect is therefore likely.</p> <p>The effects of approach 3 are uncertain and will depend largely on how much development is focussed in larger towns and villages and how much is directed to</p>

SA Objectives	Approach 1: Allocating development based on the size of settlements	Approach 2: Allocating development based on an area's character, its constraints and opportunities	Approach 3: Allocating development based on an area's character and the size of its settlements	Justification
				smaller settlements as a result of concerns about character and other constraints.
7. Make our communities safer by reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime.	0	0	0	The effects of new developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within new development sites which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the overall spatial distribution of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for individual sites.
8. Protect and enhance existing and support the provision of new recreation facilities and areas of open space and encourage their usage.	+	?	?	The effects of all of the options on this SA objective will depend largely on the proximity of new development sites to open space, cycle paths and footpaths which can be used for recreation. This is largely uncertain at this stage although certain types of recreation facilities such as sports facilities may be more focussed in urban areas. Therefore, a minor positive effect is likely for approach 1 and an uncertain effect is identified for approaches 2 and 3.
9. Ensure all people are able to live in a decent home which meets their needs.	0	0	0	All three approaches would have a negligible effect on this objective as effects will depend on the amount of housing development (in particular the amount of affordable housing) that is delivered through the Local Plan.
10. Secure an effective and safe transport network which encourages people to make use of sustainable and active modes of transport.	+	+/-?	+?	<p>Locating most housing and employment development in larger urban areas under approach 1 is more likely to mean that residents and employees would be able to make use of a range of transport links including bus and train services, all of which would maximise access to key services, employment opportunities and amenities including for people without a car. Therefore, a positive effect on this objective is likely under approach 1.</p> <p>Under approach 2, development allocations would be made on the basis of considerations other than settlement size; therefore development may be more widely distributed including at smaller towns and villages which may have less extensive public transport services, potentially resulting in a negative effect on this</p>

SA Objectives	Approach 1: Allocating development based on the size of settlements	Approach 2: Allocating development based on an area's character, its constraints and opportunities	Approach 3: Allocating development based on an area's character and the size of its settlements	Justification
				<p>objective. However, if transport links are one of the issues taken into account when assessing the suitability of a town or village for development, there may be a positive effect on this SA objective.</p> <p>The effects of approach 3 are largely uncertain although may be positive as the size of settlement would still be taken into account to some extent when allocating development. As with approach 2, if transport links are one of the factors guiding decisions about the allocation of development, further positive effects would occur.</p>
11. Secure the efficient and prudent use of land.	+?	?	+?	<p>Focussing most development within larger towns such as Huddersfield (approach 1) may provide more opportunities to locate development on brownfield land; therefore a positive effect is likely although this is minor and uncertain depending on the specific locations and availability of development sites.</p> <p>Under approach 2, development is likely to be more widely distributed, including at smaller towns and villages, as allocations would be based on factors other than settlement size. This could result in fewer opportunities to develop brownfield land although this is uncertain until the allocations and specific development sites are known.</p> <p>Under approach 3, settlement size is one of the considerations that will determine allocations (along with other considerations); therefore a potential but uncertain minor positive effect is again identified.</p>
12. Protect and enhance the character of Kirklees and the quality of the landscape and townscape.	-?	++?	+?	<p>Approach 1 involves allocating development purely on the basis of settlement size, with no consideration given to the particular characteristics of individual towns and villages. The effects of development will depend largely on its specific location and design which cannot be assessed at this stage; however the lack of consideration given to local character means that a potential negative effect on this objective is likely.</p> <p>Under approach 2, allocations would be made entirely on the basis of local character</p>

SA Objectives	Approach 1: Allocating development based on the size of settlements	Approach 2: Allocating development based on an area's character, its constraints and opportunities	Approach 3: Allocating development based on an area's character and the size of its settlements	Justification
				<p>and constraints which should have a significant positive effect on protecting and enhancing the character of the district. However, this is again uncertain depending on the specific location and design of the new development.</p> <p>Approach 3 involves considering local character but also the size of settlements; therefore a potential but uncertain minor positive effect is identified.</p>
13. Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+/-?	+?	+?	<p>The effects of all three options on the historic environment are largely uncertain at this stage as they will depend on the location of specific development sites in relation to heritage features such as listed buildings, which cannot be assessed at this stage.</p> <p>Under approach 1 most development would take place in the larger towns. While focussing development in larger urban areas may help to enhance the setting of listed buildings and Conservation Areas for example (which tend to be more densely focussed in urban areas) through careful design, there is also the potential for new development to also negatively affect the historic environment. Therefore a mixed and uncertain effect on this SA objective is identified for approach 1.</p> <p>Under approach 2, local characteristics and constraints would be taken into account when allocating development, which is assumed to include the historic environment. A positive effect is therefore likely; however this is again uncertain depending on the specific location of development and the extent to which heritage considerations are one of the factors taken into account when allocating development.</p> <p>Under approach 3, constraints (assumed to include heritage features) would be taken into account but most development is still likely to be steered towards larger towns. A potential minor positive effect is therefore likely; however this is again uncertain depending on the specific location of development and the extent to which heritage considerations are taken into account when allocating development.</p>
14. Maximise opportunities to protect and enhance	+/-?	+?	+?	The effects of all three options on biodiversity are largely uncertain at this stage as

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biodiversity and geodiversity.				<p>they will depend on the location of specific development sites in relation to areas of high biodiversity importance, which cannot be assessed at this stage.</p> <p>Under approach 1 most development would be focussed in larger towns where it is less likely to disturb designated biodiversity sites. However, urban brownfield sites can still harbour valuable biodiversity. There is also the possibility of protecting biodiversity through the creation of biodiversity enhancements within new developments. A mixed and uncertain effect is therefore likely.</p> <p>Under approach 2, local characteristics and constraints would be taken into account when allocating development, which is assumed to include the location of valuable biodiversity. A positive effect is therefore likely; however this is again uncertain depending on the specific location of development and the extent to which biodiversity considerations are taken into account when allocating development.</p> <p>Under approach 3, constraints (assumed to include biodiversity) would be taken into account but most development is still likely to be steered towards larger towns. A positive effect is therefore likely; however this is again uncertain depending on the specific location of development and the extent to which biodiversity considerations are taken into account when allocating development.</p>
15. Reduce air, water and soil pollution.	0	0	0	The effects of new development on pollution will not be determined by its location. Effects of will depend on factors which cannot be determined at this strategic level of assessment. Therefore, a negligible effect is anticipated for all three approaches.
16. Prevent inappropriate new development in flood risk areas and ensure development does not contribute to increased flood risk for existing property and	+?	+?	+?	Under approach 1, most development would take place in the larger towns such as Huddersfield where there may be more opportunities to reuse existing brownfield sites, thereby avoiding the loss of impermeable surfaces. A minor positive effect is therefore likely although this is uncertain and will depend on the specific location of development in relation to high flood risk areas, as well as factors such as whether SuDS are used in new development.

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people.				<p>Under approach 2, particular weight would be given to land use constraints when allocating development, which is assumed to include areas of flood risk. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely although this is again uncertain depending on the specific location of development in relation to high flood risk areas, as well as factors such as whether SuDS are used in new development.</p> <p>Under approach 3, both settlement size and local constraints would be taken into account; therefore a potential but uncertain minor positive effect is also likely under that approach.</p>
17. Increase prevention, re-use, recovery and recycling of waste close to source.	0	0	0	None of the three options would have a direct effect on waste generation and levels of recycling, which would be influenced by factors other than the spatial distribution of development.
18. 18. Increase efficiency in water, energy and raw material use.	0	0	0	The effects of new development on the efficient consumption of water, energy and raw materials will not be determined by its spatial distribution. Therefore, negligible effects are likely for all three options.
19. Reduce the contribution that the district makes to climate change.	+	+/-?	+?	<p>The effects of the options on this SA objective will depend largely on the design of new development and the incorporation of features such as renewable energy generation. However, effects will also be influenced by levels of emissions from transport.</p> <p>Locating most housing and employment development in larger urban areas under approach 1 is more likely to mean that residents and employees would be able to make use of a range of transport links including bus and train services, all of which should reduce levels of car use. Therefore, a positive effect on this objective is likely under approach 1.</p> <p>Under approach 2, development allocations would be made on the basis of considerations other than settlement size; therefore development may be more widely distributed including at smaller towns and villages which may have less</p>

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				<p>extensive public transport services, potentially resulting in higher levels of car use and a negative effect on this SA objective. However, if transport links are one of the issues taken into account when assessing the suitability of a town or village for development, there may be a positive effect on this SA objective.</p> <p>The effects of approach 3 are largely uncertain although may be positive as the size of settlement would still be taken into account to some extent when allocating development. As for approach 2, if transport links are one of the factors guiding decisions about the allocation of development, further positive effects would occur.</p>

## **Appendix 5**

### Vision and Objectives from the Shaping our Local Plan engagement document (2014)



## **Vision for Kirklees**

The Kirklees Local Plan supports the ambition for Kirklees to be a great place to live, work and invest in; where all residents can enjoy quality of life, have access to job opportunities and a decent and affordable home. People will have access to a range of local facilities, adequate infrastructure, and places will be well-connected encouraging sustainable travel and improving links to other parts of the Leeds City Region and beyond.

The Plan will recognise the diverse character of the district as a whole, and also the opportunities within individual character areas to build thriving communities which respond to local needs.

The district will be ideally placed to encourage inward investment and stimulate economic growth, regenerating our towns whilst preserving their distinct character, and through the creation of jobs will tackle poverty. The natural built and historic environment will be maintained and enhanced to improve quality of life, through high quality, inclusive design and safe environments; and opportunities for play and sport will promote healthy and happy lives for Kirklees residents and visitors.

## **Objectives**

Our Local Plan will:

- support the growth and diversification of the economy, including the provision of a high quality communication infrastructure;
- strengthen the role of town centres, particularly Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Batley, to support their vitality and viability;
- improve transport links within and between Kirklees towns and with neighbouring towns and cities, giving priority to public transport, commercial traffic, and to cycling and walking;
- provide new homes which meet the needs of the community offering a range of size, tenure and affordability, with good access to employment, shops and services;
- tackle inequality and give all residents the opportunity of a healthy lifestyle, free from crime and to achieve their potential in work and education;
- protect and improve green infrastructure so that residents have access to good quality open spaces, sport and recreation opportunities, and for wildlife to flourish;
- promote development that helps to mitigate climate change, and development which is adapted so that the potential impact from climate change is reduced;
- protect and enhance the characteristics of the built, natural and historic environment, and local distinctiveness which contribute to the character of Kirklees;
- promote the use of brownfield land to meet development needs and support the regeneration of areas;
- facilitate the sustainable use and management of minerals and waste.