Cheshire East Local Plan

Appendix B - Draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report January 2017

Cheshire East
Council

Appendices

Contents

1 Introduction

What is Sustainability Appraisal?

1.1 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is a process to assess the social, environmental and economic impacts of a Plan, and is performed alongside the production of the Plan.

1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (¶6) states that '*the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development*''. It goes on to say that '*there are three dimensions to sustainable development: economic, social and environmenta*l' (NPPF, ¶7).

1.3 SA is required under:

- The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004; and
- The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations, 2004,[1] which places an obligation on the Council to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment on land use and spatial plans.

1.4 The NPPF (¶165) requires that '*a sustainability appraisal which meets the requirements of the European Directive on strategic environmental assessment 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*'. Planning Practice Guidance provides clarity on the need for Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment in relation to plan development.

1.5 The integrated SA also incorporates the requirements of:

- **Strategic Environmental Assessment:** An assessment of the environmental implications of a Plan. The purpose of this assessment is to '*identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of, (a) implementing the plan; and (b) reasonable alternatives, taking into account the objectives and geographical scope.* [2] As Strategic Environmental Assessment is integrated into the SA, there is a need to make sure it addresses all the requirements of this process. This is achieved by using a Checklist, available in Appendix C of this Report.

- **Equality Impact Assessment:** A tool for identifying the potential impact of a Plan on those who live, work or access the Borough. The Assessment also makes sure that the Local Plan fulfils the requirements of anti-discrimination and equalities legislation.

- **Health Impact Assessment:** Predicts the health consequences of implementing a Plan. It also identifies ways to enhance positive and minimise or avoid negative health impacts.

- **Rural proofing:** The process of scrutinising a Plan to make sure that impacts on rural areas are fully considered.

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1   Which seeks to implement European Union Directive 2001/42/EC – Assessment of the Effect of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment, commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive
2   The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulation, 2004

1.6 In addition to the SA, the Local Plan will be subjected to a **Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)**. This is required under European Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (Habitats Directive), and seeks to identify the potential of the Local Plan to impact upon Natura 2000 sites - Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Ramsar Sites. The Council will undertake all the relevant HRA requirements to support the future development of the Site Allocations and Development Policies Document (SADPD) and the Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document (MWDPD).

1.7 **SA and other associated forms of appraisal help to make sure that a plan delivers development that balances social, environmental and economic considerations.**

What is this Report?

1.8 This Report is the Sustainability Appraisal: Scoping Report of the Local Plan (SA Scoping Report) that updates the previous version published in June 2012. The purpose of this Report is to identify the scope and methodology for the appraisal of the Local Plan and has been produced to make sure that the social, environmental, and economic issues previously identified are up to date.

1.9 The Report will:

- Identify the key social, environmental and economic issues facing Cheshire East;
- Develop a series of social, environmental and economic objectives for Cheshire East, based on the issues facing the Borough and the objectives of national, regional and local plans, policies and programmes; and
- Develop a series of tools for the assessment of the sustainability of the Local Plan.

The Local Plan

1.10 The Local Plan outlines the Development Plan for Cheshire East. It will set out the vision, objectives, spatial strategy, and policies for the development of the area up to 2030. The Local Plan will also assist in the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy for Cheshire East.

1.11 The Local Plan for Cheshire East will consist of three key documents, these are: the Local Plan Strategy; the SADPD; and the MWDPD. Further information on the Local Plan is available at: www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/localplan.

Local Plan Strategy

1.12 The Local Plan Strategy is the first, strategic part of the new Local Plan. It sets out planning policies and allocates sites for development up to 2030. Its vision, objectives and strategic policies are overarching and form the basis of the whole Local Plan.

Site Allocations and Development Policies Document

1.13 The SADPD will provide detailed planning policies and allocate sites for future development.

**Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document**

1.14   The MWDPD will have two main purposes:

- It will identify mineral and waste site allocations along with establishing Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSA); and
- It will set out detailed mineral and waste Development Management policies to guide planning application decisions in the Borough, excluding those areas within the Peak District National Park Authority.

2 How is the Sustainability Appraisal performed?

2.1   The SA is performed in five stages, which are carried out alongside the preparation of the Local Plan. The key stages of Local Plan preparation and their relationship with the SA process are show in Figure 2.1.[3]

Figure 2.1 SA and Local Plan Stages
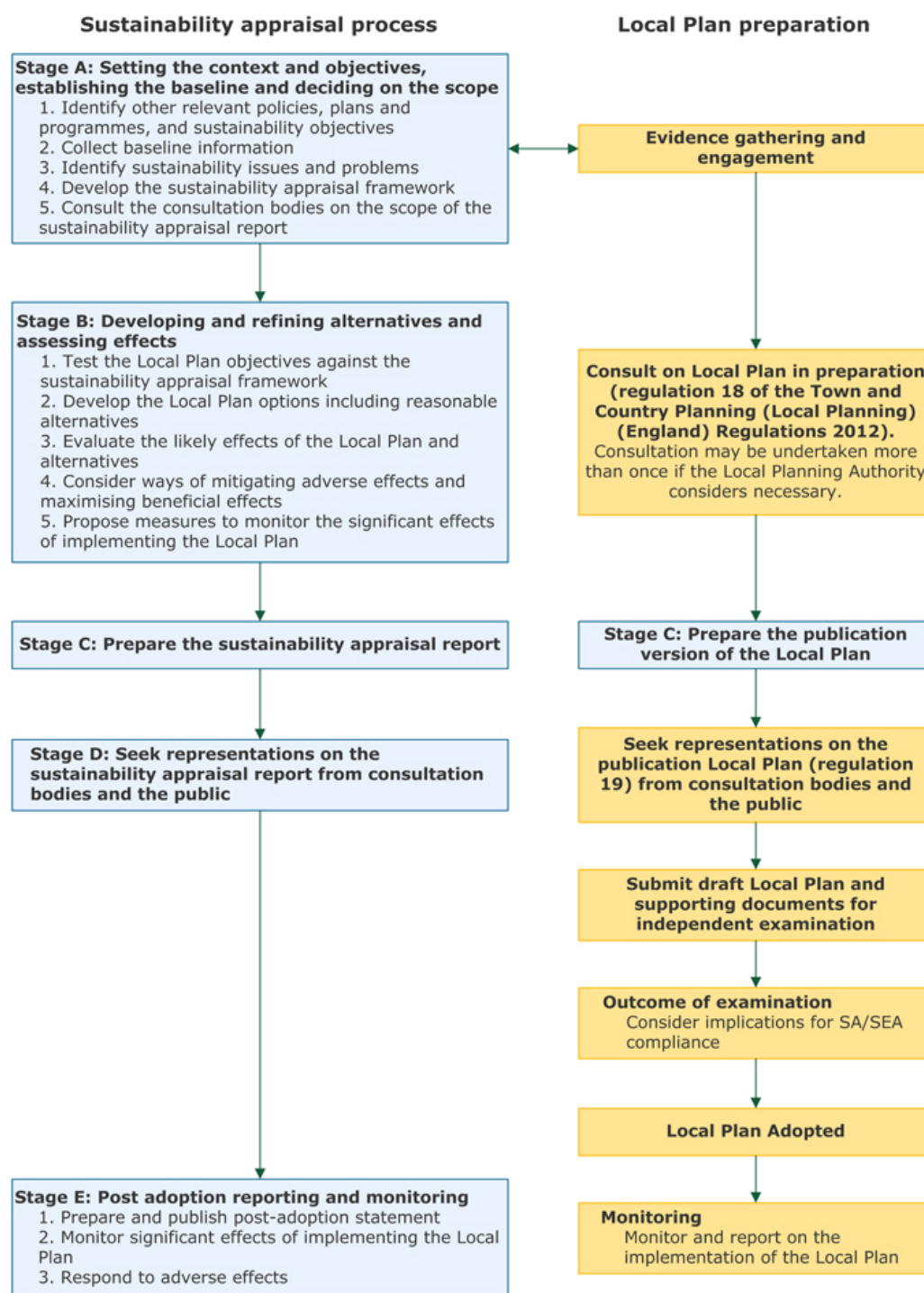
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3 Stage A1: Related Plans and Policies

3.1   The SA process requires the review of relevant policies, plans and programmes. The purpose of this review is to:

- Identify any external social, environmental or economic objectives that should be taken into account in the SA.
- Identify other external factors, including sustainability issues, which might influence the preparation of the Local Plan.
- Determine whether other policies, plans and programmes might give rise to cumulative effects, either positive or negative, when combined with the Local Plan.
- Make sure that the Local Plan and its SA are in line with the requirements of relevant policies, plans and programmes and through this identify inconsistencies or constraints that will need to be addressed.
- Identify sustainability objectives, key indicators, and baseline data that should be reflected in the SA.
- Suggest ideas as to how any constraints can be addressed, and to help identify the sustainability objectives.

3.2   A detailed list of policies, plans and programmes that have been identified as part of this review are identified in Appendix A of this Report, and include national, regional and local policies, plans and programmes. The large range of international plans are considered to have been covered by national plans. Table 3.1 Includes a list of the regional/sub-regional and local policies, plans, and programmes that are reviewed in Appendix A of this Report.

Table 3.1 Regional/Sub-Regional and Local Policies, Plans and Programmes

Regional/Sub-Regional Policies, Plans and Programmes
Cheshire and Warrington Matters: A Strategic and Economic Plan for Cheshire and Warrington (Cheshire and Warrington Enterprise Partnership) (2014)
Unleashing the Potential of Cheshire and Warrington - Draft Sub-Regional Strategy (2010)
Cheshire Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment (2014)
North West River Basin District River Basin Management Plan (2015)
Countdown - The Cheshire Region Biodiversity Action Plan
The North West Regional Forestry Framework (2005)
Green Infrastructure Framework for North East Wales, Cheshire and Wirral (2011)
Cheshire Regional Local Geodiversity Action Plan (2004)
Cheshire Landscape Character Assessment (2009)
Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project (2007)
Nationally, Regionally and Sub Regionally Significant Waste Management Facilities
Low Carbon and Environmental Goods and Services Sector Strategy for England's Northwest (2010)
Sports Sector Strategy for England's Northwest 2010 to 2020
Local Plans of adjacent Authorities
Local Transport Plans (full and implementation plans) of adjacent Authorities

| Regional/Sub-Regional Policies, Plans and Programmes |
|---|
| Joint Municipal Waste Strategy 2007 to 2020 |
| Cheshire Sub-Regional Housing Strategy 2009-2012 (2009) |
| **Local Policies, Plans and Programmes** |
| Ambition for All - The Cheshire East Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 |
| Corporate Plan 2016 to 2020 - Cheshire East Council |
| Cheshire East Local Transport Plan (2011) |
| Cheshire East Local Transport Plan: Implementation Plan (2011) |
| Cheshire East Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2011) |
| Rights of Way Improvement Plan Implementation Plan 2015 |
| Economic Development Strategy for Cheshire East (2011) |
| Cheshire East Local Economic Assessment (2011) |
| Cheshire East Housing Strategy: Moving Forward 2011 to 2016 (2011) |
| Cheshire East Council Homelessness Strategy 2014 to 2017 (2014) |
| Local Air Quality Action Plan (2011) |
| Local Air Quality Strategy for Cheshire East Council (2011) |
| Draft Cheshire East Cycling Strategy (2015) |
| Cheshire East Visitor Economy Strategy (2011) |
| Macclesfield Economic Masterplan (2010) |
| All Change for Crewe (2010) |
| Crewe Civic and Cultural Quarter (2013) |
| Macclesfield Town Centre Vision (2014) |
| Parish Plans produced in Cheshire East |
| Village Design Statements produced in Cheshire East |
| Neighbourhood Plans made in Cheshire East |
| Local Area Partnerships |
| All Change for Crewe: High Growth City (2013) |
| Macclesfield Heritage and Cultural Strategy (2014) |
| Macclesfield Brownfield Land Initiative - Delivery Strategy |
| Cheshire East Local Plan Evidence Base documents |
| Crewe Town Centre Regeneration Delivery Framework for Growth (2015) |
| Waste Management Needs Assessment for Cheshire East Council (2014) |
| Cheshire East Council Municipal Waste Management Strategy to 2030 (2014) |
| Minerals Sites and Areas Assessments (2015) |

Stage A1: Related Plans and Policies

4 Stage A2: Baseline Information

4.1 The SA process requires the collection of baseline information focusing on the social, economic and environmental characteristics of the Borough. This information is collected in order to:

- identify current baseline conditions in the area;
- find out trends in the data for the area;
- identify sustainability problems and opportunities;
- identify ways of dealing with problems and taking opportunities that exist in the area;
- predict likely effects resulting from the implementation of the Plan; and
- inform the development of the Local Plan.

4.2 Once the Local Plan is implemented, selected baseline data will also provide the basis for monitoring the sustainability effects resulting from the plan. This list is subject to revision as the plan progresses. Monitoring is performed to enable a clearer understanding of how situations are changing and will assist in identifying problems and alternative ways of dealing with them.

4.3 The baseline data collected for Cheshire East has been classified into nine categories, reflecting key areas for consideration identified in the Strategic Environmental Assessment guidance. These are:

- Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
- Population and Human Health
- Water and Soil
- Air
- Climatic Factors
- Transport
- Cultural Heritage and Landscape
- Social Inclusiveness
- Economic Development

4.4 The Borough of Cheshire East is bounded by Cheshire West and Chester to the west, Warrington and the Manchester conurbation to the north, Shropshire and The Potteries conurbation to the south, and the Peak District National Park to the east.

Figure 4.1 Cheshire East Location Map
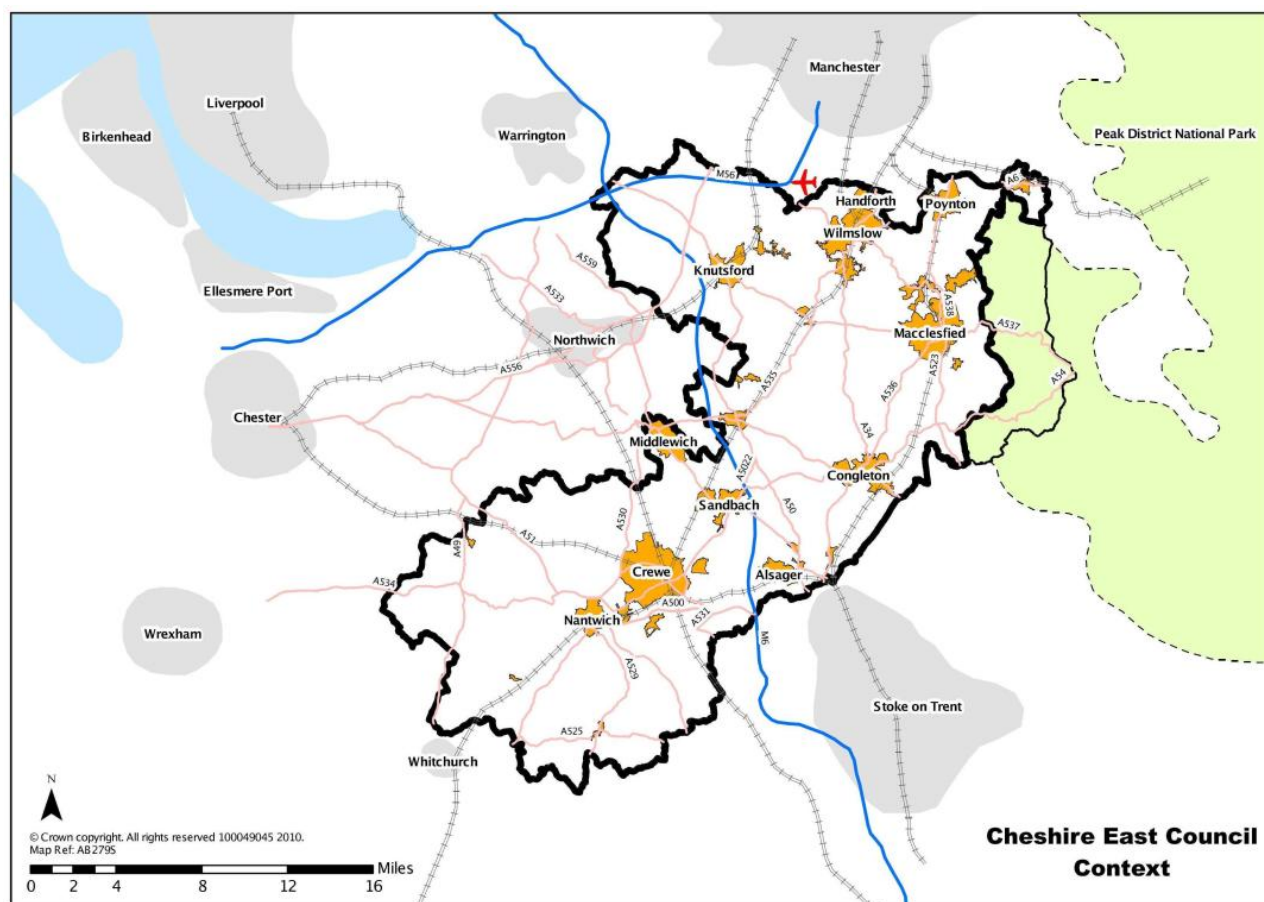
4.5 Cheshire East contains four categories of settlement; Principal Towns, Key Service Centres, Local Service Centres, and Other Settlements and Rural Areas.

4.6 The two Principal Towns are Crewe and Macclesfield; the Key Service Centres are Alsager, Congleton, Handforth, Knutsford, Middlewich, Nantwich, Poynton, Sandbach and Wilmslow; the Local Service Centres are Alderley Edge, Audlem, Bollington, Bunbury, Chelford, Disley, Goostrey, Haslington, Holmes Chapel, Mobberley, Prestbury, Shavington and Wrenbury; the Other Settlements and Rural Areas are the remaining settlements/areas in the Borough.

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

4.7 The Borough benefits from a diverse range of flora and fauna, much of which require conservation due to threats to their numbers nationally. Some of the most significant can be found in Table 4.1 (2011).[4]

Table 4.1 Biodiversity Action Plan species in Cheshire (Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton, Wirral and Warrington)

Category	Species/Habitats
Amphibians	Great Crested Newt and Natterjack Toad
Reptiles	Adder and Slow-worm

4   Cheshire Region Biodiversity Partnership

Category	Species/Habitats
Invertebrates	(Bees and Wasps: Sand Wasp, Cuckoo Bee and The Vernal Colletes, Mining Bee), Belted Beauty, Club-Tailed Dragonfly, Depressed River Mussel, Dingy Skipper, Downy Emerald, Lesser Silver Water Beetle, Mud Snail, Ringlet, Sandhill Rustic, Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Spotted Yellow/Black Leaf Beetle, Variable Damselfly, White Clawed Crayfish and White Letter Hairstreak.
Birds	Barn Owl, Black Necked Grebe, (Farmland Birds: Bullfinch, Corn Bunting, Grey Partridge, House Sparrow, Lapwing, Linnet, Reed Bunting, Skylark, Song Thrush, Starling, Tree Sparrow and Yellowhammer) and Spotted Flycatcher.
Mammals	Atlantic Grey Seal, (Bats: Common Pipistrelle, Soprano Pipistrelle, Noctule, Brown Long Eared, Whiskered and Brandts, Daubentons, Leislers, Natterers and Serotine), Brown Hare, Dormouse, Harvest Mouse, Otter, Polecat, and Water Vole.
Plants	Black Poplar, Ivy-leaved Water-crowfoot, Rock Sea-lavander, Bluebell, Mackay's Horsetail, Isle of Man Cabbage and River Water-Crowfoot.
Habitats	Hedgerows, Woodland, Arable Field Margins, Coastal & Floodplain Grazing Marsh, Coastal Sand Dune, Coastal Saltmarsh, Dry Stone Walls, Lowland Fen, Gardens & Allotments, Heathland, Lime beds, Lowland Raised Bog, Wood-Pasture and Parkland, Meres, Intertidal Mudflats, Ponds, Reedbeds, Roadside Verges, Traditional Orchards, Unimproved Grassland, and Waxcap Grasslands.

4.8   The flora and fauna exist in a range of varying environments, many of which have received some form of environmental designation in recognition of their importance.

4.9   The most prominent environmental designations in Cheshire East are:

- 414 **Local Wildlife Sites** (2013) - Locally valued sites of biological diversity;[5]
- 21 **Local Geological Sites** (2013) - Locally valued sites of geological or geomorphological value;[6]
- Eight **Local Nature Reserves** (2016) - Locally important sites established to protect the most important areas of wildlife habitat and geological formations in Britain;[7]
- 33 **Sites of Special Scientific Interest** (2015) - Nationally important sites, designated as they are felt to represent the very best wildlife and geological sites in the Country;[8]
- Two **National Nature Reserves** (2014) - Nationally important sites established to protect the most important areas of wildlife habitat and geological formations in Britain;[9]
- One **Special Protection Area** (SPA) (2016) - Designated as a result of its importance as a habitat for rare and vulnerable birds and is of international importance;[10]
- Two **Special Areas of Conservation** (SAC) (2016) - Designated due to their potential to contribute towards the conservation of 189 habitat types and 788 species, identified as requiring conservation at a European level (excluding birds). These sites are internationally valued;[11]

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5   Cheshire East Council - Environmental Planning
6   Cheshire East Council - Environmental Planning
7   Natural England
8   Natural England
9   Natural England
10   Joint Nature Conservation Committee
11   Joint Nature Conservation Committee

- Three **Ramsar** designations (2016) - Wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention;[12] and
- One **National Park** designation (2016) at the Peak District National Park - due to its outstanding beauty, and its ecological, archaeological, geological and recreational value.[13]

4.10 The distribution of key environmental designations is illustrated in Figure 4.2.

Figure 4.2 Key Nature Conservation Sites in Cheshire East
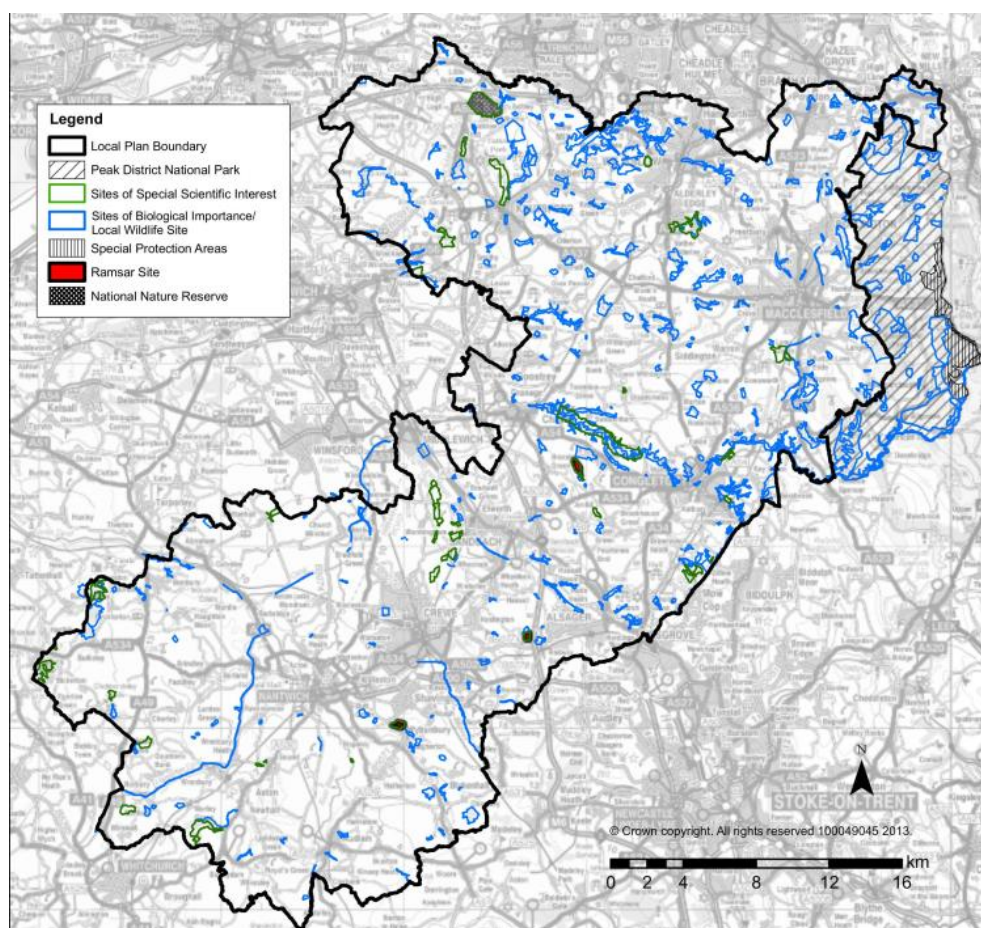
4.11 There are several issues that are currently affecting European sites within the influence of the Cheshire East Local Plan:[14]

- Hydrological changes
- Inappropriate water levels
- Water pollution
- Managed rotational burning
- Low breeding success/poor recruitment
- Inappropriate management practices
- Public access/disturbance
- Air pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen distribution

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12 Joint Nature Conservation Committee
13 Peak District National Park
14 Site Improvement Plans by Region, Natural England

- Wildfire/arson
- Vehicles
- Overgrazing
- Undergrazing
- Invasive species
- Changes in species distributions
- Inappropriate scrub control
- Game management: pheasant rearing
- Forestry and woodland management
- Habitat fragmentation
- Fertiliser use
- Inappropriate weirs, dams and other structures
- Disease
- Climate change
- Direct impact from third party
- Planning permissions
- Peat extraction
- Siltation

Summary of future baseline

4.12   Habitats and species have the potential to come under increasing pressure from the provision of new housing, employment and infrastructure in the Borough, including at designated sites. This could include from increased disturbance (recreational, noise and light induced) and atmospheric pollution, as well as the loss of habitats and fragmentation of biodiversity networks. The loss and fragmentation of habitats will be exacerbated by the effects of climate change, which has the potential to lead to changes in the distribution and abundance of species and changes to the composition and character of habitats.

Population and Human Health

4.13   Cheshire East has a population of 374,200 (2014); 51 per cent (190,900) are female and 49 per cent (183,200) are male.[15] The Borough has a population density of 3.1 people per hectare.[16]

4.14   Cheshire East has a lower proportion of its population aged 15 to 34 and higher proportion of people aged over 65 than the average for England and Wales (2011). The statistics indicate that Cheshire East has an ageing population.[17]

4.15   Using 2010 population data, it is expected that Cheshire East's population will increase by 58,100 between 2010 and 2030 leading to an overall population figure of 427,100.[18]

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15   Office for National Statistics
16   Office for National Statistics
17   Office for National Statistics
18   Population projections produced by Opinion Research Services (ORS) for the Cheshire East Housing Development Study 2015, ORS, June 20125 (Local Plan Exam Library ref [PS E033])

4.16 There is limited ethnic diversity amongst Cheshire East's population (2011); 93.6 per cent of residents are White British, a further 3.2 per cent are from Other White groups, 1.6 per cent are Asian/Asian British, 0.4 per cent are Black/Black British, and 1.2 per cent are Chinese or Other Ethnic groups.[19]

4.17 In in relation to religion, between 2001 and 2011 the proportion of Christians and Other religions has decreased, and the proportion of Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs has increased.[20]

4.18 In 2015, the health of people in Cheshire East was generally more varied than the England average. Deprivation is lower than the England average, however 7,700 children still live in poverty. Life expectancy for both men and women is higher than the England average. However, life expectancy is 9.0 years lower for men and 7.3 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Cheshire East than in the least deprived Lower Super Output Areas.[21]

4.19 Between 2013 and 2014, 15.6 per cent of year 6 children in Cheshire East were considered to be obese; this is an increase on the 15.1 per cent classified in 2012 to 2013.[22]

4.20 An estimated 17.3 per cent of adults smoke (2013) and 23.8 per cent are obese (2012).[23] In 2013 56.2 per cent of adults were physically active, which is slightly lower than the regional average.[24]

4.21 The rate of new cases of malignant melanoma is worse than the England average. Early deaths from cardiovascular diseases and early deaths from cancer are better than average.[25] However, the rate of road injuries and deaths is higher than the North West and England,[26] possibly as a result of the high dependency on the private car.[27]

Summary of future baseline

4.22 Population increases experienced in the Borough are likely to continue. Population trends will result in a further increase in the proportion of older people in the Borough.

4.23 Broadly speaking, the health of the population in the Borough is varied and this trend is likely to continue. Ongoing budget pressures to community services have the potential to lead to effects on health and wellbeing over the longer term.

4.24 Obesity is seen as an increasing issue by health professionals, and one that will contribute to significant health impacts for individuals, including increasing the risk of a range of diseases (heart disease, diabetes and some forms of cancer).

4.25 The Borough has an ageing population; this trend is likely to continue and has the potential to increase pressures on healthcare services.

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19   Office for National Statistics
20   Office for National Statistics
21   Public Health England
22   Public Health England
23   Public Health England
24   Public Health England
25   Public Health England
26   Public Health England
27   Office for National Statistics

Water and Soil

4.26   Cheshire East has a diverse aquatic environment focused on the range of larger and smaller rivers in the Borough. Some of the larger rivers in the Borough include the Weaver, Wheelock, Croco, Dean, Bollin and Dane. The location of these and other rivers and their tributaries, along with the areas of flood risk is indicated in Figure 4.3.

Figure 4.3 Main Rivers and Areas of Flood Risk in Cheshire East
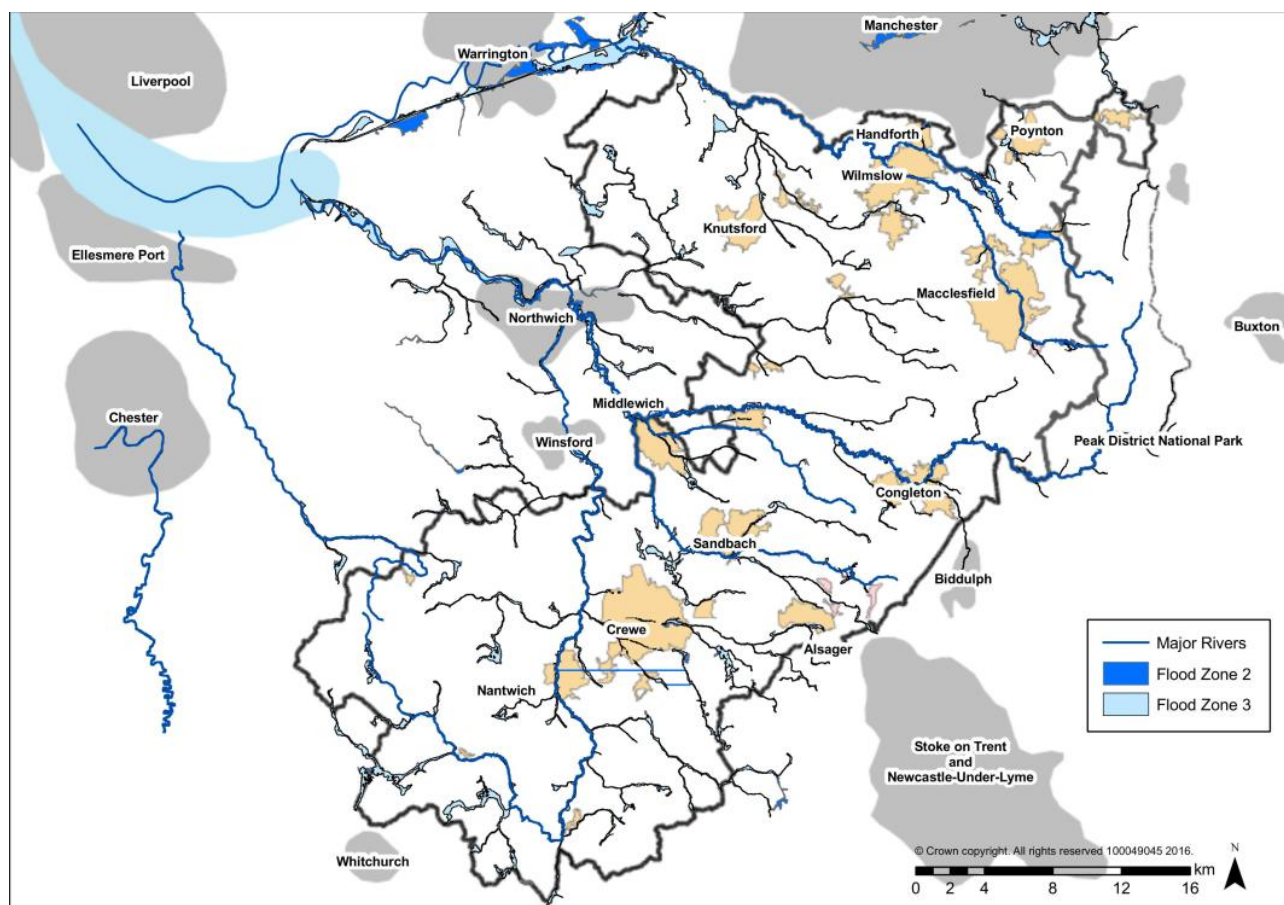
4.27   Cheshire East is located in two river catchment areas; these are the Weaver/Gowy and the Upper Mersey. There are priority issues outlined in the North West River Basin District River Basin Management Plan (2015) for both river catchment areas:[28]

- Weaver/Gowy - pollution from rural areas, waste water, and physical modifications
- Upper Mersey - diffuse pollution (urban and rural), pollution from waste water, and physical modifications

4.28   Ecological river quality has appeared to decline between 2014 and 2015 falling from 85 per cent good and 4 per cent fail to 31 per cent moderate, 46 per cent poor and 23 per cent bad. Chemical river quality has improved between 2014 and 2015 increasing from 15 per cent to 100 per cent good.[29]

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28   Defra and Environment Agency
29   Environment Agency

4.29   According to United Utilities, Cheshire East is divided into two water extraction areas; the South and West, and the North and East, with water extracted from a mixture of boreholes and surface water sources. The diverse sources of water used in the Borough mean that changes to water usage can have implications beyond the Borough boundary.

4.30   Mineral resources currently extracted in Cheshire East include silica (or industrial) sand, construction sand and gravel, sandstone (hard/crushed rock), salt (brine) and peat. Permitted extraction sites are situated across the Borough.[30] The location of these sites is indicated in Figure 4.4.

Figure 4.4 Mineral Sites in Cheshire East (2011)
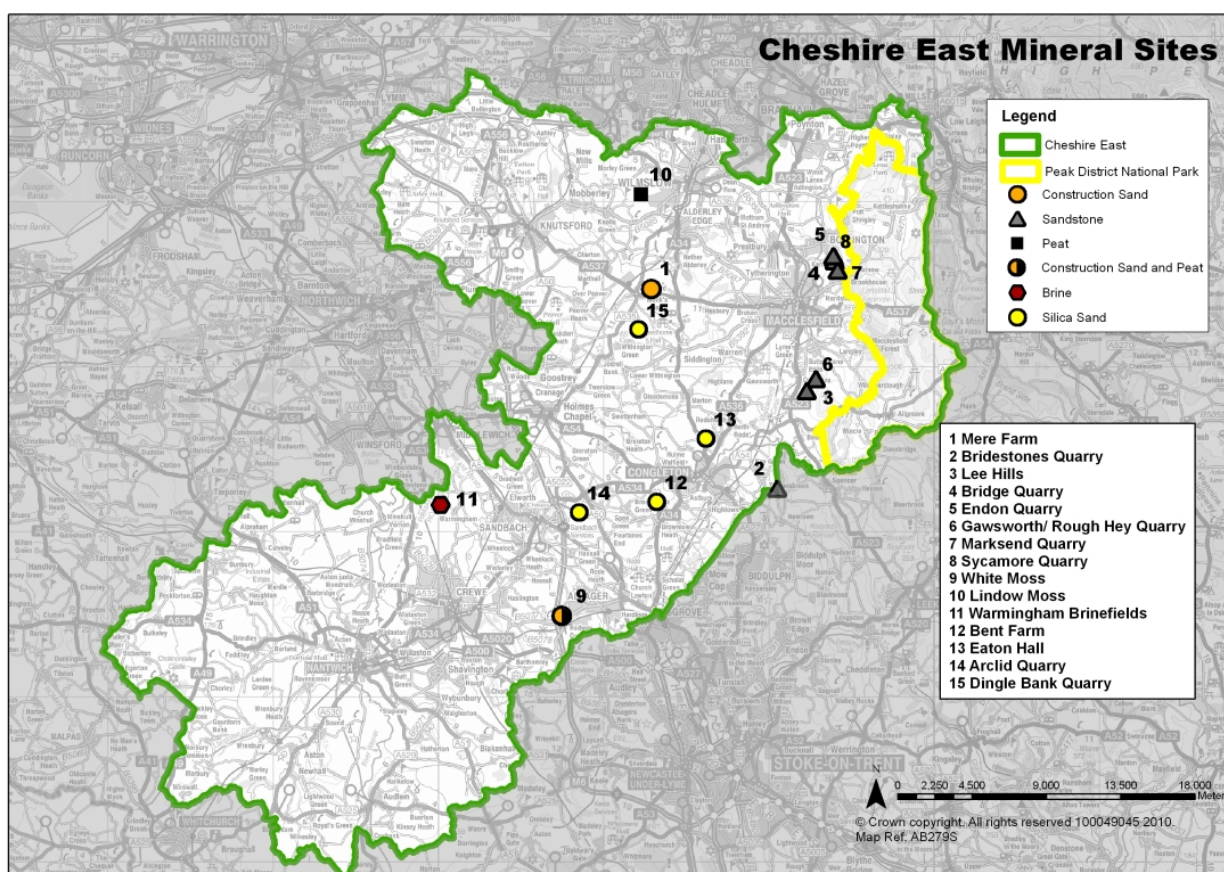
4.31   From 2012 sales of sand and gravel have increased steadily until 2014, which experienced a substantial rise (equating to a rise of 307 per cent) followed by a 9.3 per cent increase in 2015. Prior to this (2008 to 2011) a marked decline was experienced with some of this decline attributed to the wider economic downturn of 2008/2009 and consequential reduction in construction activity and demand for aggregates. It is not yet possible to monitor long term sales patterns in Cheshire East as a former Cheshire sub-region. Crushed rock sales have increased from 0.001mt in 2014 to 0.002mt in 2015. Sales from the sub-region are consistently very low owing to the material being low grade and is largely used as dressing stone.[31]

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30   Cheshire East Council - Spatial Planning
31   Annual Monitoring Report 2016 for North West Aggregate Working Party Data to December 2015.

Stage A2: Baseline Information

4.32   Cheshire East (10.9 per cent) has proportionately more Grade 1 and 2 land than the North West (7.4 per cent), but less than England (17.4 per cent). In terms of Grade 3 land however, Cheshire East (67.4 per cent) has proportionately more than both the North West (34.8 per cent) and England (49.6 per cent).[32] In total, Cheshire East has proportionately more Grade 1, 2 and 3 land than the North West and England.

4.33   In 2014/15, the total amount of household waste generated in Cheshire East was 181,268 tonnes; a slight increase on the previous year, of which about 57 per cent was sent for recycling and composting.[33]

4.34   The average amount of household waste collected per head of population in Cheshire East in 2014/15 was 483kg. This represents a 2.1 per cent increase across a 3 year monitoring period. In 2014/15, 100 per cent of Cheshire East households were served by the kerbside collection of at least two recyclables.[34]

Summary of future baseline

4.35   Existing planning policy encourages the efficient use of land and a preference for the development of brownfield land where possible. Future housing, employment and infrastructure growth is likely to result in further loss of greenfield and agricultural land. In line with the NPPF, the Council should seek to use areas of poorer agricultural land in preference to those of higher quality.

4.36   Due to increasing legislative and regulatory requirements, there are increasing pressures to improve recycling and composting rates and move towards zero waste to landfill. However, potential population increases within the Borough may increase pressures on recycling and waste management facilities. Furthermore, Defra's estimation for waste growth shows that national waste growth and estimates of future waste arisings expected to remain consistent with current levels. This is because widespread initiatives to reduce waste and improve materials reuse and recycling are likely to reduce long-term production of waste.

4.37   Water availability in the wider area may be affected by regional increases in population and an increased occurrence of drought, which is estimated to become increasingly prevalent as a result of climate change.

4.38   Water quality is likely to continue to be affected by pollution incidents in the area and physical modifications to water bodies. In the short to medium term, the requirements of the Water Framework Directive are likely to lead to improvements to water quality in watercourses in the wider area.

Air

4.39   There has been a growing body of evidence to suggest that poor air quality may have a negative effect on sensitive individuals. Air pollutants can also impact on vegetation, disrupt natural ecosystems and lead to the corrosion of buildings and monuments. Additionally, many pollutants are also greenhouse gases, which contribute to climate change.

32   Cheshire East Council - Report on the Role of the Best and Most Versatile Land in Cheshire East. Local Plan Exam Library Ref [PC B025]
33   Cheshire East Council - Recycling and Waste Performance Statistics
34   Cheshire East Council - Spatial Planning/Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

4.40 Those areas with the poorest air quality must be declared as Air Quality Management Areas. Following this declaration the Local Authority must produce an Air Quality Action Plan, showing how it intends to work towards achieving the national air quality objectives.

4.41 In Cheshire East there are 13 Air Quality Management Areas (2015).[35] These are shown in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Air Quality Management Areas in Cheshire East

Air Quality Management Areas			
A556 Chester Road, Mere	A523 London Road, Macclesfield	A34 West Road, Congleton	Nantwich Road, Crewe
A50 Manchester Road, Knutsford	A34 Lower Heath, Congleton	M6 Cranage, Nr. Holmes Chapel	Earle Street, Crewe
A6 Market Street, Disley	A54 Rood Hill, Congleton	A5022/A534, Sandbach	Wistaston Road, Crewe
			Hospital Street, Nantwich

4.42 One of the main causes of air pollution in Cheshire East is from transport. Car and van ownership in Cheshire East is significantly higher than that for the North West and England,[36] whilst the distances travelled to work are also high (2011).[37]

Summary of future baseline

4.43 New housing and employment provision in the Borough and sub-regionally has the potential to have adverse effects on air quality through increasing traffic flows and associated levels of pollutants such as nitrogen dioxide. Areas of particular sensitivity to increased traffic flows are likely to be routes with the largest congestion issues, including those with designated Air Quality Management Areas.

Climatic Factors

4.44 Climate change is the formal term given to the fluctuation of the Earth's temperature. Although it naturally fluctuates, during the last 100 years or so, the lowest parts of the atmosphere have warmed up on average by about 0.6°C; this represents a rapid increase beyond that expected of normal climatic fluctuations.

4.45 This rapid increase in temperature coincides with increased levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels for energy and transportation. Due to this a number of targets have been set for the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions (the most abundant greenhouse gas).

4.46 Between 2010 and 2013, the amount of carbon dioxide emissions have fluctuated, but was lower in 2013 than in 2010, as indicted in Table 4.3.[38]

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35 Cheshire East Council - Air Quality Team
36 Office for National Statistics
37 Table DC7701EWla (Method of travel to work (2001 specification) by distance travelled to work), 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics. ONS Crown Copyright 2016. ONS licensed under the Open Government Licence v. 1.0.
38 Local and Regional Carbon Dioxide Emissions Estimates for the UK. Produce by RICARDO-AEA and Aether for the Department for Energy and Climate Change, June 2015

Table 4.3 Emissions of Carbon Dioxide (CO$_2$)

Sector	2010	2011	2012	2013
Industrial and commercial	1,116kt CO$_2$	1,026kt CO$_2$	1,124kt CO$_2$	1,070kt CO$_2$
Domestic	986kg CO$_2$	855kg CO$_2$	921kg CO$_2$	901kg CO$_2$
Road transport	1,223kg CO$_2$	1,197kg CO$_2$	1,191kg CO$_2$	1,180kg CO$_2$
Land use, land use change & forestry	45kg CO$_2$	44kg CO$_2$	42kg CO$_2$	41kg CO$_2$
Total	**3,370kg CO$_2$**	**3,123kg CO$_2$**	**3,277kg CO$_2$**	**3,191kg CO$_2$**

4.47   Reducing greenhouse gas emissions will primarily be achieved through a combination of reducing emissions from buildings, (through changes to building uses and improved build standards) and reducing emissions from transport (encouraging modal shift and reducing need to travel).

4.48   Improvements have already been achieved to build standards, linked to changes to building regulations. During the 2014/15 monitoring period, the average SAP rating received by new build dwellings across Cheshire East was 81.0; this compares to 82.3 in the 2013/14 monitoring period. This is significantly higher than the average for existing dwellings across Cheshire East of 55.[39]

4.49   However, the reliance on private transport remains high, with the estimated miles driven by vehicles increasing between 2012 and 2014 from 2,163,529 vehicle miles to 2,255,026 vehicle miles.[40]

Summary of future baseline

4.50   Climate change has the potential to increase the occurrence of extreme weather events in the Borough, with increases in mean summer and winter temperatures, increases in mean precipitation in winter and decreases in mean precipitation in summer. Carbon dioxide emissions are likely to decrease as energy efficiency measures, renewable energy production and new technologies become more widely adopted. This includes relating to transport, as increased take up of more energy efficient vehicles and electric vehicles takes place. However, increases in the built footprint of the Borough may lead to increases in overall emissions if efficiency measures do not keep pace.

Transport

4.51   The extensive road network in the Borough includes the M6, which runs north to south through the centre of Cheshire East and the M56 running east to west. The M56 links to the M6 in the north of the Borough. There are also 14 primary 'A' roads in Cheshire East.

4.52   The rail network is accessible from 22 railway stations across the Borough, located on one or more of the rail lines radiating from Crewe. These are the West Coast Main Line to Glasgow and London, the Stoke-on-Trent/Derby Line, the Shrewsbury/South Wales Line, the Chester/Holyhead Line, and the Greater Manchester line. Macclesfield is on the West Coast Main Line - Stoke-on-Trent route, giving access to Greater Manchester and London Euston.

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39   Cheshire East Council - Civicance
40   Department for Transport

4.53   Over the last three years the number of vehicle travel miles has increased from 2,163,529 thousand vehicle miles in 2012 to 2,255,026 thousand vehicle miles in 2014.[41]

<u>Summary of future baseline</u>

4.54   Given the rural nature of the majority of the Borough and high levels of car ownership, the car is likely to remain a dominant form of transport in the Borough over the coming years. New housing and employment provision also has the potential to increase traffic flows without appropriate locational policies and interventions. As such, congestion is likely to continue to be an issue for parts of the Borough. Whilst negative effects of new development on the transport network are likely to be mitigated to a degree, there will be a continuing need for development to be situated in accessible locations that limit the need to travel by private car.

Cultural Heritage and Landscape

4.55   Cheshire East contains a valued, varied and unique heritage, which includes a number of cultural and environmental assets. These assets include Macclesfield's industrial heritage, Little Moreton Hall, Crewe's railway heritage, Tatton Park, Lyme Park, Quarry Bank Mill, Tegg's Nose, the canal network, historic towns and parts of the Peak District National Park, amongst others. Other unique attractions include a wealth of historic Parks and Gardens and Jodrell Bank Radio Telescope.

4.56   Formal cultural designations in Cheshire East include:

- 76 **Conservation Areas** of varying size and scale (2016) - Designated as a result of the special character of development that has taken place in them. In and adjoining these Areas there is a statutory duty to pay 'special attention' to development with the intention of preserving/enhancing its character or appearance;[42]
- **Listed Buildings** (2016) - Those of particular merit, for reason of architectural quality, their social or economic history, association with well known characters or events or because of their group value with other Listed Buildings. There are 2,641 listings covering a number of different gradings;[43]
- 106 **Scheduled Monuments** (2016) - Historically important sites and monuments;[44]
- 17 historic **Parks and Gardens** (2016) - Viewed as a distinctive and much cherished part of our inheritance;[45]
- Ten **areas of archaeological potential** (2015) - Parts of the country where it is deemed likely that buried archaeology has survived;[46] and
- One **registered battlefield** (2016) - Designated as a result of the importance of events that took place there.[47]

4.57   Cheshire East's landscape is dominated by the flat topography of the Cheshire Plains, containing a number of meres, ponds and marshes; however variety is provided as a result of the closeness of the Peak District to the east and the Mid-Cheshire Ridge to the west.

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41   Department for Transport
42   Cheshire East Council - Environmental Planning
43   Historic England
44   Historic England
45   Historic England
46   Cheshire East Council - Environmental Planning
47   Historic England

4.58   Much of the northern part of the Borough, and a smaller area to the east, lies in the Green Belt. Green Belt is intended to prevent urban sprawl, protect the countryside and assist in the regeneration of urban areas. Cheshire East has 40,730ha of land designated as Green Belt (2015).[48]

4.59   Green Gap is a local designation, introduced to achieve similar objectives to Green Belt; Cheshire East has 1,284.94ha of land identified as Green Gap in the south of the Borough (2016).[49]

Summary of future baseline

4.60   New development in the Borough has the potential to impact on the fabric and setting of cultural heritage assets. This includes through inappropriate design and layout. It should be noted, however, that existing historic environment designations will offer a degree of protection to cultural heritage assets and their settings. Also new development need not be harmful to the significance of a heritage asset; new development may be an opportunity to enhance the setting of an asset and better reveal its significance.

4.61   New development has the potential to lead to incremental changes in landscape and townscape character and quality in and around the Borough. This includes from the loss of landscape features and visual impact.   There may also be potential effects on landscape/townscape character and quality in the vicinity of the road network due to an incremental growth in traffic flows.

Social Inclusiveness

4.62   In 2014, Cheshire East contained 168,360 dwellings.[50] Of these, 89.2 per cent were private sector, 11.6 per cent were operated by a private registered provider and 0.1 per cent were owned by the Local Authority.[51]

4.63   The Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) (2015) for Cheshire East is 36,000 dwellings over the Local Plan period (2010 to 2030), which equates to 1,800 dwellings per year.[52]

4.64   House prices across Cheshire East started to increase from 2013, with the mean overall house price being £159,700 in February 2016, compared to £117,100 in the North West.[53]

4.65   The Index of Multiple Deprivation data (IMD 2015) combines a number of economic, social and environmental based indicators to assess and identify levels of deprivation in a particular area. IMD 2015 show that Cheshire East is one of the least deprived Local Authorities in the Country, reflected in the national rankings, which highlights that it is 223rd out of 326 Local Authorities.[54]

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48   Department for Communities and Local Government
49   Cheshire East Council - Spatial Planning
50   Department for Communities and Local Government
51   Department for Communities and Local Government
52   Cheshire East Housing Development Study 2015, Opinion Research Services, June 2015 (Local Plan Exam Library ref [PS E033]
53   Land Registry House Price Index up to February 2016 (published in March 2016)
54   Index of Multiple Deprivation from the 2015 Indices of Deprivation, Department for Communities and Local Government, Sept 2015

Summary of future baseline

4.66 The suitability of housing for local requirements depends in part on the successful implementation of appropriate housing policies taken forward through the Local Plan. However, without interventions, the affordability, suitability and quality of housing in the Borough may continue to be an issue. Unplanned development may also have wider implications in terms of transport and access to infrastructure or the natural environment.

Economic Development

4.67 The Borough has a job density of 0.92 jobs per person (2014). This is higher than the average job density for both the North West and Great Britain.[55]

4.68 Cheshire East performs better than the regional and national averages in terms of skill levels, with 40.4 per cent of residents having received NVQ level 4 (degree level) or above, compared to 30.9 per cent in the North West and 36.0 per cent in Great Britain.[56]

4.69 The percentage of people employed in professional occupations is significantly higher than in the North West and Great Britain, with sales and customer service occupations having the lowest percentage.[57] The percentage of residents in employment is higher than both the regional and Great Britain average, with the percentage unemployed being lower.[58] This is, perhaps, reflected in the low percentage of Jobseeker's Allowance claimants compared to both the North West and Great Britain averages.[59]

4.70 In Cheshire East 29,183 people travel over 20km to work (2011), which equates to 16.0 per cent of the population, and is significantly higher than for the North West (11.4 per cent) and England (13.6 per cent).[60]

Summary of future baseline

4.71 The District has significantly larger proportions of people in professional occupations, and significantly fewer in sales and customer service occupations when compared to regional and national averages; this trend is likely to continue in the absence of a major shift in the nature of the local economy.

4.72 The rural economy will continue to play a large part in the economic vitality of the Borough.

4.73 The Borough also has an important tourism offer and historic legacy, which provides significant opportunities for the economy.

4.74 An increasing trend of homeworking, self-employment and home based businesses is likely to have influence on the Borough's economic landscape in forthcoming years.

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55   Jobs density data, Office for National Statistics (ONS), NOMIS. ONS Crown Copyright
56   Annual Population Survey, Jan-Dec 2015, Office for National Statistics (ONS), NOMIS. ONS Crown Copyright.
57   Annual Population Survey, Oct 2014 - Sept 2015, Office for National Statistics (ONS), NOMIS. ONS Crown Copyright.
58   Annual Population Survey, Oct 2014 - Sept 2015, Office for National Statistics (ONS), NOMIS. ONS Crown Copyright.
59   Jobseeker's Allowance Count, Office for National Statistics (ONS), NOMIS. ONS Crown Copyright.
60   Table DC7701EWla (Method of Travel to work (2001 specification) by distance travelled to work), 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics. ONS Crown Copyright 2016. ONS Licensed under the Open Government Licence v. 1.0.

Conclusion

4.75   The baseline data collected provides the basis for predicting and monitoring effects and helps to identify sustainability problems and alternative ways of dealing with them.

4.76   The baseline data highlights a number of areas where policies may be produced along with issues that should be considered to make sure the social, economic and environmental benefits outweigh the negatives.

Difficulties in collecting data and limitations of the data

4.77   Ideally the baseline information would be entirely up to date, unfortunately due to a combination of the time it takes to collate data and data availability, this has not been possible. As far as possible the most up to date information has been used for each set of data provided.

5 Stage A3: (Part 1) Issues

5.1   The SA process requires the identification of environmental, economic and social issues affecting Cheshire East. This is informed by information from a range of sources including:

- Issues and objectives identified in relevant plans and policies.
- Baseline data for Cheshire East.
- Community and stakeholder consultation.

5.2   The social, environmental and economic issues identified in the SA will inform the development of the SA Framework and the scope of the Local Plan.

5.3   The key sustainability issues identified in Cheshire East are found in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1 Key Sustainability Issues

Key Sustainability Issues	
Social	
1	Cheshire East has an older age profile than the UK as a whole, which is exacerbated by the attractiveness of the area as a retirement destination. This will have implications for the types of development and services that will be required to meet the needs of society.
2	Deprivation across Cheshire East is lower than average, however there are pockets of deprivation throughout the Borough.
3	There is a need to make sure that Cheshire East has a good standard of equality and social inclusion.
4	There are some significant health inequalities between parts of Cheshire East.
5	The housing needs of Cheshire East are diverse, creating demand for a variety of housing types, tenures and affordability.
6	There is a need to make sure that vibrant rural communities are maintained.
7	Residents of Cheshire East have a high reliance on private transport; this must change by reducing the need to travel and promoting and encouraging sustainable forms of transport, especially walking, cycling and public transport.
8	The ability to easily access jobs, public transport, and services and facilities needs to be increased throughout Cheshire East. This will contribute to the creation of sustainable and more self-contained communities and reduce the need to travel by private vehicle.
9	Although Cheshire East is a safe place, there are some crime hot-spots and areas where public confidence in community safety needs to be improved.
10	There is a need to provide the infrastructure, services, and facilities to sustain the existing and future communities of the Borough.
Environmental	
11	The world's climate is changing, which is likely to have implications for Cheshire East in the short, medium and long term. The causes and effects of climate change should be reduced and adapted to where possible.
12	Water is increasingly recognised as an important resource that needs to be managed. Therefore, there is a need to manage water quality, quantity, and flood risk to make sure that supply can meet demand, and that the risk of flooding is minimised.
13	Cheshire East has a number of Air Quality Management Areas, leading to concern about air quality in general.

	Key Sustainability Issues
14	There is a need to conserve and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity of the Borough, particularly those sites and species that are designated.
15	Agricultural land quality in Cheshire East is below both the regional and national averages. However, there is a need to retain the most productive agricultural land available in the Borough to maintain local food production and support the agricultural sector.
16	There is a need to conserve and enhance the Borough's heritage assets, particularly those that are designated.
17	The average consumption of both gas and electricity in Cheshire East are above the regional and national averages. This increases the need to promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy technologies in new and existing development.
18	The amount of waste produced by each household in Cheshire East is relatively high. Although a large percentage is recycled, the amount of residual waste remains an issue. There is a need to provide the infrastructure to manage this waste sustainably.
19	Mineral extraction is an important part of the local economy, additionally a number of local resources are of national importance. However, promotion of more efficient use and recycling of materials needs to be increased to reduce the need for virgin materials and manage the implications of their extraction.
20	The re-use or redevelopment of previously developed land, buildings and infrastructure should be prioritised over development of greenfield sites. However, it must be recognised that certain previously developed sites form valuable ecosystems and may be more beneficial retained to enhance the biodiversity of an area.
21	The rate at which land and resources are used needs to be managed to increase sustainability in the short, medium, and long term.
22	Green Infrastructure and open spaces are a valuable resource. Although Cheshire East is considered a green area, significant shortages to the quantity and quality of open spaces exist, particularly in urban areas.
	Economic
23	There is a need to make sure that a sustainable, competitive and low-carbon economy is continued to be promoted in both urban and rural areas.
24	There is a need to encourage innovation and diversity in both new and existing businesses.
25	Cheshire East residents generally have a high level of education. However, there are significant disparities between educational attainment across the Borough.
26	A lower percentage of Cheshire East residents are unemployed than the average for the North West and Great Britain. However, unemployment remains an issue.
27	Cheshire East has a diverse rural area that makes a significant contribution to the Borough's economy. This needs to be supported and maintained in the future.
28	There is a need to make sure that town and village centres across Cheshire East continue to be vital and viable. Some towns and villages may need growth to support viable communities and regenerate areas in decline.
29	Town and village centre retail provision changes over time. However, there is a need to make sure that these changes reflect the character and needs of the place and community.

6 Stage A3: (Part 2) Objectives

6.1 Following on from the identification of key issues, the SA requires the development of a series of social, environmental and economic objectives for the Borough.

6.2 The SA objectives were chosen to address the predominant sustainability issues present in the Borough, whilst also ensuring that a balance between social, economic and environmental considerations are established. These objectives focus on outcomes (or ends), not on how the outcomes will be achieved (inputs or means).

6.3 The objectives aim to make sure that the Plan will create a place that people can and want to live, work and play. The objectives can be seen in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1 Sustainability Objectives

Sustainability Objectives	
Social	
1	Provide an appropriate quantity and quality of housing to meet the needs of the Borough. This should include a mix of housing types, tenures and affordability.
2	Create sustainable communities that benefit from good access to jobs, services, facilities and sustainable forms of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport.
3	Consider the needs of all sections of the community in order to achieve high levels of equality, diversity and social inclusion.
4	Create an environment that promotes healthy and active lifestyles.
5	Maintain and/or create vibrant rural communities.
6	Create a safe environment to live in and reduce fear of crime.
7	Maintain and enhance community services and amenities to sustain the existing and future community of the Borough.
Environmental	
8	To adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change.
9	Positively address the issues of water quality and quantity, and manage flood risk in the Borough.
10	Manage the impacts of development and associated activities to positively address all forms of pollution.
11	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats, geodiversity and important geological features; particularly those that are designated.
12	Protect and enhance the quality, integrity and distinctiveness of the area's heritage, landscapes and townscapes; particularly those that are designated.
13	Minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and high quality design, and increase the generation of energy from renewable resources.
14	Achieve sustainable waste management through adhering to the principles of the Waste Hierarchy.
15	Manage sustainable mineral extraction, and encourage their recycling/re-use, to provide a sufficient supply to meet social and economic needs, whilst minimising impacts on the environment and communities and safeguarding resources for future generations.
16	Reduce the consumption of natural resources, protect and enhance green infrastructure and high quality agricultural land, and optimise the re-use of previously developed land, buildings and infrastructure.

Stage A3: (Part 2) Objectives

Sustainability Objectives	
Economic	
17	To promote a sustainable, competitive and low-carbon economy that benefits from a range of innovative and diverse businesses in both urban and rural areas.
18	To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres with a balanced provision of retail, leisure, visitor and cultural facilities.
19	Positively manage the Borough's diverse rural economy.
20	Improve access to education and training, and the links between these resources and employment opportunities.

Coverage of Objectives

6.4   The SA objectives are intended to work towards the improvement of the sustainability issues identified in the Borough. The coverage of sustainability issues by objectives is identified in Appendix B.

Compatibility of Objectives

6.5   In order to make sure that the identified objectives can all be achieved and are complementary there is a need to assess their compatibility. This assessment is performed by considering the likely implications of working towards the achievement of the objective, although it is acknowledged that likely impacts are effected by implementation, which cannot always be predicted at this stage.

Figure 6.1 Compatibility of Objectives

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Social	1 Quantity and quality of housing																				
	2 Access to jobs, services, facilities and sustainable forms of transport	?																			
	3 Equality and social inclusion	✔	✔																		
	4 Healthy and active lifestyles	✔	✔	✔																	
	5 Vibrant rural communities	✔	✔	✔	-																
	6 Crime and the fear of crime	?	-	✔	-	-															
	7 Infrastructure, services and facilities	?	✔	-	?	✔	-														
Environmental	8 Climate change	?	✔	-	✔	?	-	?													
	9 Water quality, quantity and flood risk	?	?	-	-	?	-	?	✔												
	10 All forms of pollution	?	✔	-	✔	?	-	?	✔	✔											
	11 Biodiversity and geodiversity	?	-	-	-	?	-	?	✔	✔	✔										
	12 Heritage, landscapes and townscapes	?	-	-	-	?	-	?	?	?	-	✔									
	13 Energy use, energy efficiency, quality of design and renewable energy	?	-	-	?	✔	?	?	✔	?	✔	?	?								
	14 Waste management	?	✔	-	-	-	-	?	✔	✔	✔	?	-	✔							
	15 Minerals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	?	?	-	-	✔						
	16 Natural resources, green infrastructure, agriculture and previously developed land	?	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔					
Economic	17 Sustainable, competitive and low-carbon economy	?	-	-	-	✔	-	✔	✔	-	-	?	-	✔	✔	?	?				
	18 Town and villages centres	-	✔	-	✔	-	✔	-	-	-	-	✔	-	-	-	-	-	✔			
	19 Rural economy	-	✔	-	✔	-	✔	?	-	-	?	?	-	-	?	?	✔	✔			
	20 Education, training, jobs and employment opportunities	-	✔	✔	-	✔	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	✔	✔	✔		

Key	
✔	Compatible
X	Incompatible
-	No link / insignificant link
?	Dependent upon implementation

6.6 The assessment of potential conflict, required by the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, indicates that the majority of issues are either compatible or not linked; however there are several objectives where there is uncertainty as to whether there will be conflict, with this being dependent on the focus and method of implementation of policies.

7 Stage A4: Sustainability Appraisal Framework

7.1 The Sustainability Appraisal Framework (SAF) is at the centre of the SA process. It provides a way in which the social, economic and environmental effects of a plan can be described, analysed and compared, with the intention of delivering sustainable communities.

7.2 The aim of the SAF is to offer a consistent methodology for the appraisal of the effects of the plan and should produce results that allow direct comparison between various options.

7.3 During the Examination of the Local Plan Strategy, consultants Enfusion produced a revised SAF on behalf of the Council. The Council has taken the opportunity in this SA Scoping Report to review this and take account of the social, environmental and economic issues of the Borough that have been identified in this updated SA Scoping Report.

7.4 The SAF consists of the sustainability objectives identified for Cheshire East along with a series of criteria for the assessment of how a plan performs against each of the objectives.

Table 7.1 Proposed Sustainability Appraisal Framework

Category		Sustainability Objectives	
		Objective	Criteria
Social	1	Provide an appropriate quantity and quality of housing to meet the needs of the Borough. This should include a mix of housing types, tenures and affordability.	Will it provide an appropriate quantity and quality of housing?
			Will it provide an appropriate mix of housing types and tenures?
			Will it deliver sufficient affordable housing?
	2	Create sustainable communities that benefit from good access to jobs, services, facilities and sustainable forms of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport.	Will it provide good opportunities to access facilities and services?
			Will it provide good opportunities to access various forms of sustainable transport?
			Will it provide good opportunities to access open space?
			Will it provide good opportunities to access jobs?
	3	Consider the needs of all sections of the community in order to achieve high levels of equality, diversity and social inclusion.	Will it increase equality?
			Will it increase social inclusion?
			Will it create a cohesive community?
			Will it reduce poverty?

Category		Objective	Criteria
	4	Create an environment that promotes healthy and active lifestyles.	Will it address the issues regarding an ageing population?
			Will it result in a better quality of life for all?
			Will it improve human health?
			Will it reduce the number of long term illnesses?
			Will it provide good opportunities to access facilities that encourage an active lifestyle, helping to reduce obesity?
	5	Maintain and/or create vibrant rural communities.	Will it contribute to a vibrant rural community?
			Will it make sure that the rural environment, built and natural, is maintained or enhanced?
			Will it create a cohesive rural community?
	6	Create a safe environment to live in and reduce fear of crime.	Will it secure design that discourages crime and anti-social behaviour?
			Will it promote the safety of the community and so reduce the fear of crime?
	7	Maintain and enhance community services and amenities to sustain the existing and future community of the Borough.	Will it maintain or enhance necessary infrastructure?
			Will it maintain or enhance necessary services and facilities?
			Will it increase the accessibility of the countryside?
			Will it provide the infrastructure to support the existing community?
			Will it provide the infrastructure to support the future community, considering cumulative impacts?
Environmental	8	To adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change.	Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, in particular carbon dioxide and methane?
			Will it reduce the heat island effect?
			Will it increase resilience to extreme weather events and longer term rising temperatures?
			Will it prevent or mitigate flooding or rising sea levels?

Stage A4: Sustainability Appraisal Framework

Category	Sustainability Objectives	
	Objective	**Criteria**
9	Positively address the issues of water quality and quantity, and manage flood risk in the Borough.	Will it encourage the re-use and recycling of water, for example grey water and/or rain water harvesting?
		Will it maintain and improve the quality of ground and surface waters?
		Will it minimise risk to people, property and ecosystems from flooding?
		Will it prevent development of the flood plain?
		Will it encourage the use of sustainable drainage systems?
10	Manage the impacts of development and associated activities to positively address all forms of pollution.	Will it positively contribute to the management of air pollution, particularly in Air Quality Management Areas?
		Will it positively contribute to the management of water pollution?
		Will it positively contribute to the management of contaminated land/make sure additional contamination does not occur?
		Will it encourage the positive remediation of sites?
11	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats, geodiversity and important geological features; particularly those that are designated.	Will it protect or enhance biodiversity?
		Will it minimise the fragmentation of habitats?
		Will it help protect any species at risk?
		Will it protect or enhance geodiversity and geological sites and features?
		Will it protect or enhance designated sites or species?
12	Protect and enhance the quality, integrity and distinctiveness of the area's heritage, landscapes and townscapes; particularly those that are designated.	Will it protect or enhance the landscape?
		Will it protect or enhance the townscape?
		Will it complement the existing built and natural environment, ensuring that the area remains distinctive?
		Will it protect or enhance the area's designated heritage assets and their setting?
		Will it impact on the Green Belt?

Category		Objective	Criteria
	13	Minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and high quality design, and increase the generation of energy from renewable resources.	Will it encourage the efficient use of energy?
			Will it result in energy efficient development?
			Will it result in the high quality design and layout of development?
			Will it promote and encourage the use of renewable energy?
			Will it incorporate renewable energy technologies?
	14	Achieve sustainable waste management through adhering to the principles of the Waste Hierarchy.	Will it make sure the treatment of waste has regard to the principles of the Waste Hierarchy?
			Will it encourage sustainable methods of construction and use?
			Will it result in the provision of appropriately designed waste management facilitates in line with the Waste Hierarchy?
			Will it encourage the disposal of waste as close to the point of origin as possible?
	15	Manage sustainable mineral extraction, and encourage their recycling/re-use, to provide a sufficient supply to meet social and economic needs, whilst minimising impacts on the environment and communities and safeguarding resources for future generations.	Will it encourage the reuse and/or recycling of minerals?
			Will it protect nationally, regionally and locally important mineral resources?
			Will it allow for the delivery of a sufficient supply of minerals?
			Will it balance the need to deliver minerals with social and environmental issues?
	16	Reduce the consumption of natural resources, protect and enhance green infrastructure and high quality agricultural land and optimise the re-use of previously developed land, buildings and infrastructure.	Will it reduce the use or result in efficient consumption of natural resources?
			Will it protect, enhance, create or connect green infrastructure assets?
			Will it protect or enhance the best quality agricultural land?
			Will it encourage the re-use of previously developed land, buildings and infrastructure?
Economic	17	To promote a sustainable, competitive and low-carbon economy that benefits from a range of innovative and diverse businesses in both urban and rural areas.	Will it result in sustainable economic growth?
			Will it contribute to the achievement of a competitive, low-carbon economy?
			Will it allow a diverse range of business types?
			Will it positively effect both the urban and rural economy?

Stage A4: Sustainability Appraisal Framework

Category		Sustainability Objectives	
		Objective	**Criteria**
	18	To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres with a balanced provision of retail, leisure, visitor and cultural facilities.	Will it enhance the viability and vitality of town centres?
			Will it enhance the viability and vitality of village centres?
			Will it create a balanced provision of retail, leisure, visitor and cultural facilities?
	19	Positively manage the Borough's diverse rural economy.	Will it contribute to the achievement of delivering a diverse rural economy?
	20	Improve access to education and training, and the links between these resources and employment opportunities.	Will it increase access to education and training opportunities?
			Will it increase access to jobs and employment opportunities?

7.5 When utilising the SAF the following considerations should be taken into account:

- The likely effects; social, environmental and economic.
- The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects.
- The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of population likely to be affected).
- The cumulative nature of the effects.
- The trans-boundary nature of the effects.
- Risks to human health.
- Risks to the environment.

7.6 It is intended that the objectives that form the SAF in this Report will be broadly consistent throughout all Sustainability Appraisals that the Council undertakes. As the SA evolves there may be situations that require the SAF to be reviewed. These situations could include:

- New baseline information emerging that better reflects the current objectives in the SAF.
- Changes to the objectives in the SAF.
- Direction from a consultation body that information in the SAF needs amending.

8 Next Steps

8.1   The SA Scoping Report has identified a SAF that will enable the social, economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan to be assessed. It also identifies a series of sustainability objectives and sub-objectives that can be monitored over time. Alternatives will be considered in emerging draft plans and will be considered against the SAF.

Consulting Relevant Authorities

8.2   This SA Scoping Report was prepared in accordance with:

- Article 5(4) of the European Union Directive 2001/42/EC Regulations set out in the Environmental Assessments of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004
- The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

8.3   In accordance with these Regulations this Report will be sent to the statutory Strategic Environmental Assessment Consultation Bodies with environmental responsibilities. These are:

- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Historic England

8.4   In accordance with the Sustainability Appraisal Advice Note 2010, other appropriate social and economic consultees will be contacted.

8.5   The purpose of the consultation is to:

- Make sure the SA is comprehensive and robust enough to support the Local Plan.
- Make sure that the assessment methodology is comprehensive.
- Advise on the appropriateness of the sustainability objectives.
- Advise on the appropriateness of the key sustainability issues.
- Advise on the comprehensiveness of the baseline data.

8.6   Consultation on this SA Scoping Report will run for xx weeks between **xx 2017** and **5pm xx 2017.** Only comments received during the consultation period will be considered. The Council asks that comments on this document are made using the online consultation portal at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/localplan, where possible, to save time and money. However, comments made on paper will, of course, be accepted. Anonymous comments cannot be accepted.

Contacting the Spatial Planning Team

8.7   You can contact the Spatial Planning Team by:

- Email: localplan@cheshireeast.gov.uk
- Website: www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/localplan
- Telephone: 01270 685893
- Post: Spatial Planning, Cheshire East Council, Westfields, C/o Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe CW1 2BJ

Appendices

Appendices

Related Plans and Policies

A Related Plans and Policies

Table A.1 Related Plans, Policies and Programmes: National

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012)	Sets out the Government's economic, environmental and social planning policies for England, which together will articulate the Government's vision of sustainable development, to be interpreted and applied locally to meet local aspirations. It provides a framework in which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive Local and Neighbourhood Plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities. The policies set out in the NPPF will apply to the preparation of Local and Neighbourhood Plans.	Provides a set of core land-use planning principles that should underpin plan making. Outlines that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. For the planning system delivering sustainable development means: • Planning for prosperity (an economic role) • Planning for people (a social role) • Planning for places (an environmental role)	All	The Local Plan will need to be consistent with the policies and objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework.
National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) (2014)	Sets out guidance as to how the policies set out in the NPPF should be met.	None identified.	All	The policies of the Local Plan should take the NPPG into account.
Securing the Future: UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)	Sets out five principles that form the basis for policy in the UK. For a policy to be sustainable, it must respect all five of these principles. • Living within environmental limits • Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society • Achieving a sustainable economy • Promoting good governance • Using sound science responsibly	A range of national indicators. More relevant strategies exist at regional and local levels.	Economic development; Population and human health; Biodiversity, flora and fauna	The Local Plan should include policies that are socially, economically and environmentally balanced and that promote sustainable development.

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
The Plan for Growth and supporting Ministerial Statement (2011)	Sets out the Government's plan to put the UK on a path to sustainable, long term economic growth. This goal is underpinned by the policy objective of achieving strong, sustainable and balanced growth that is more evenly shared across the country and between industries. This includes supporting job creation to introducing a powerful presumption in favour of sustainable development, while retaining existing controls on Green Belt land, and ensuring all planning applications and appeals are processed in 12 months.	Overarching ambitions: • To make the UK one of the best places in Europe to start, finance and grow a business • To encourage investment and exports as a route to a more balanced economy • To create a more educated workforce that is the most flexible in Europe	Economic development	Policies of the Local Plan should provide for sustainable economic growth.
National Policy Statements	They set out national policy against which proposals for major energy infrastructure projects will be assessed and decided on by the Planning Inspectorate. NPS EN-1 sets out the broad overarching policy context and need for the development of nationally significant energy infrastructure, provides assessment principles in accordance with which applications will be decided, and sets out generic assessment impacts for all NPS technology types. The other NPS documents are: • EN-2 Fossil Fuel Electricity Generating Infrastructure • EN-3 Renewable Energy Infrastructure • EN-4 Gas Supply Infrastructure & Pipelines • EN-5 Electricity Networks Infrastructure • EN-6 Nuclear Power Generation – Volume 1 • EN-6 Nuclear Power Generation – Volume 2 • Ports • Waste water • Hazardous Waste The individual technology NPSs provide further detailed guidance for the specific type of development they cover, in addition to the generic guidance set out in EN-1.	Reaffirm the need for new low carbon energy infrastructure, based around: • The country's wider greenhouse gas reduction and renewable energy production targets • Security of supply • Increasing electricity demand • Increasing energy costs • Closure of existing generation capacity	Climatic factors	The Local Plan will need to consider and be consistent with the policies and objectives of the National Policy Statements where applicable.

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
Housing and Planning Act (2016)	Sets out measures to support the delivery of the Government's commitment to deliver new homes. The Act is made up of nine parts: New homes in England, Rogue landlords and property agents in England, Recovering abandoned premises in England, Social housing in England, Housing, estate agents and rent charges: other changes, Planning in England, Compulsory purchase etc, Public Authority land, and General. Th Act introduces a requirement for Council's to guarantee the provision of Starter Homes on all "reasonably sized" sites and granted the Government powers to make sure that Councils have Local Plans in place by 2017. It also paved the way for planning permission in principle to be given to sites allocated in a brownfield register, Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	None identified.	Social inclusiveness	The Local Plan will need to promote the delivery of new homes including a mixture of housing types, sizes and tenures.
Localism Act (2011)	Sets out a series of proposals with the potential to achieve a substantial and lasting shift of power away from central Government and towards local people, underpinning the Government's vision for a shift in power to individuals, communities and local government, from Whitehall. The proposals include: • New freedoms and flexibility for local government; • New rights and powers for communities and individuals; • Reforms to make the planning system more democratic and more effective; • Reforms to ensure decisions about housing are taken locally The Act sets out a range of changes to the planning system. Most significant for plan making are the concept of neighbourhood planning, which includes Neighbourhood Development Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders (supporting community right to build) and abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies.	None identified.	All	The Local Plan will need to reflect the principles of Localism as identified in the document. It will also need to incorporate the concept of Neighbourhood Planning, with the intention of giving neighbourhoods far more ability to determine the shape of the places in which people live.

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
Planning and Energy Act 2008	The Act allows local councils in England and Wales to include in their local Development Plan policies setting out reasonable requirements for: • a proportion of energy used in development in their area to be energy from renewable sources; • a proportion of energy used in development in their area to be low carbon energy from sources in the locality of the development; and • development in their area to comply with energy efficiency standards that exceed the energy requirements of building regulations.	None identified.	Climatic impact	Policies in the Local Plan should promote the use of low and zero carbon energy, and may specify a proportion of the energy used in development in their area to be low carbon energy and specify energy efficiency standards.
The Climate Change Act 2008	Sets out the legally bonding target for emissions reductions.	UK emissions to fall by 34% by 2020, and at least 80% by 2050.	Climatic impact	The Local Plan should contribute towards the achievement of this legislation.
UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)	The UK's proposed share (of an EU-wide target of 20%) is to achieve 15% of the UK's energy from renewables. In 2006 only around 1.5% of final energy consumption came from renewable sources, and under current policies this will rise to 5% by 2020. This document consults on a range of possible measures to deliver this and seeks views about the additional measures that could include: • encouraging up to 30-35% of our electricity to come from renewable sources by 2020; • encouraging a very large increase in renewable heat; • helping the planning system to deliver, by agreeing a clear deployment strategy at regional level similar to the approach established for housing; • exploiting the full potential of energy from waste, by discouraging the landfilling of biomass as far as is practical; • requiring all biofuels to meet strict sustainability criteria, to limit adverse impacts on food prices, or other social and environmental concerns; • promoting the development of new renewable technologies, through effective support particularly where the UK has the potential to be a market leader.	• 15% UK energy from renewable sources by 2020 • All new homes in England will be zero-carbon from 2016, and all new buildings by 2019 • 30-35% of electricity may need to come from renewable sources • Biomass-fuelled technologies, including biogas, may need to provide around 30% of the UK's renewable electricity and heat generation	Climatic impact	Policies in the Local Plan should contribute towards the achievement of the objectives of this document.
UK Renewable Energy Roadmap (2013)	Sets out how the non-financial barriers to renewable deployment will be met, allowing the country to meet its 2020 and future goals.	Supply 15% of our energy from renewable sources by 2020 in the most cost	Climatic impact	Policies in the Local Plan should promote development that is energy efficient and

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
	The planning system plays a central role in delivering the infrastructure needed to reduce the country's carbon emissions, to ensure continued security of energy supply and help our economy to grow. It has a vital role in safeguarding the landscape and natural heritage and allowing individual communities the opportunity to shape their environment.	effective way, whilst there is scope for renewable energy to account for 30-45% of all energy consumed in the UK by 2030.		increases the use and/or availability of renewable energy.
Meeting the Energy Challenge: A White Paper on Energy (DBERR, May 2007)	Sets out the Government's international and domestic energy strategy to deliver four energy policy goals: • to cut CO₂ emissions by some 60% by about 2050, with real progress by 2020; • to maintain the reliability of energy supplies; • to promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond; • to ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated.	• 60% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050, and a 26-32% reduction by 2020, against a 1990 baseline. • Increase renewables as a proportion of electricity supplies to 10% by 2010, with an aspiration for this level to double by 2020 • EU binding target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2020 • UK needs 30-35GW of new generating capacity over the next two decades with two thirds of this by 2020	Climatic impact	Policies in the Local Plan should promote development that is energy efficient and increases the use and/or availability of renewable energy.
Planning our Electric Future: A White Paper for secure, affordable and low-carbon electricity (2011)	Electricity plays a part in almost every aspect of modern life and is vital to the country's economic and social wellbeing. The energy market has served the country well over the past 30 years and it is crucial that this continues for the UK's international competitiveness and economic development. However over the next decades the country will face a number of challenges to meet this goal: ○ Security of supply is threatened as existing plants close. Over the next decade the UK will lose around a quarter (around 20 GW) of its existing generation capacity as old or more polluting plants close. ○ Decarbonising electricity generation to meet the country's renewable energy and carbon emission reduction targets	• Ensure the future security of electricity supplies • Drive the decarbonisation of electricity generation	Climatic impact	The Local Plan should help to achieve carbon reductions, facilitate the delivery of low carbon energy sources, support energy efficiency and zero carbon development.

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
	• Demand for electricity is likely to rise; it may double by 2050 due to the electrification of the transport, heat and other carbon intensive sectors • Electricity prices are expected to rise			
The Carbon Plan: Delivering our low carbon future (2011)	Recognises that climate change is one of the greatest threats to both the UK and global economy, going on to set out the range of Government-wide actions to tackle climate change, across all Government departments, and deadlines for the next five years. These include: • Encouraging local communities to host renewable energy projects • Improving the energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings; • Delivering zero carbon homes and zero carbon non-domestic development by 2016 and 2019 • Developing a new generation of low carbon electricity • Taking advantage of public transport • Developing low carbon vehicle technologies	Reinforces that the Government's approach to avoiding the risk of dangerous climate change is underpinned by the Climate Change Act 2008, which requires Government to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by cutting emissions by at least 34% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 – below the 1990 baseline	Climatic impact	The guidance in this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies.
Climate Change: The UK Programme (March 2006)	Sets out the Governments' commitments both at international and domestic levels to meet the challenges of climate change. • Water supply, drainage and flooding issues need to be tackled. • Local Authorities should set high standards for energy efficiency and encourage renewable energy supply. • Adaptation is required for anticipated climate shifts. These should be anticipatory rather than reactive.	To reduce domestic carbon emissions by 20% of 1990 levels by 2010 (and 60% by 2050).	Climatic impact; Air	The Local Plan should promote development in locations that minimise the need to travel.
Government Review of Waste Policy in England (2011)	Sets out the coalition government's commitment to reviewing current waste policy in England. The main areas set out for review are sustainable use of materials; waste prevention, re-use and recycling; regulation and enforcement; householders and local authorities working together; business waste collection; energy recovery.	None identified.	Water and soil	The Local Plan should contribute to the achievement of the objectives of this document.
Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon: Making Sustainable	Sets out the Government's vision for a sustainable local transport system. The Government's overall priority for local transport is to "*Encourage sustainable local travel and economic growth by making*	None identified.	Climatic impact;	The Local Plan should promote development in

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
Local Transport Happen. Transport White Paper (2011)	*public transport and cycling and walking more attractive and effective, promoting lower carbon transport and tackling local road congestion"*. It explains how the Government is placing localism at the heart of the transport agenda, taking measures to empower local authorities when it comes to tackling these issues in their areas. • Locally tailored transport solutions can meet the needs of local people and can create growth and improve quality of life. • Transport planning and local land use planning need to work together to make active travel and public transport more attractive and to manage traffic to reduce carbon emissions and tackle congestion. • There is a need to make car travel greener, particularly through electric vehicles and infrastructure.		Population and human health	locations that minimise the need to travel. The Local Plan and transport policies should be closely co-ordinated to produce more sustainable patterns of development and travel.
Making the Connection: The plug-in vehicle infrastructure strategy (2011)	Strategy setting out the framework for the development of recharging infrastructure to support plug-in vehicles in the UK. The shift to ultra-low emission vehicles presents unique environmental and economic opportunities for the UK. It offers the potential to decarbonise road transport while still enabling mobility and stimulating the kind of green jobs and investment that are required to help rebalance the economy. Planning policies should facilitate and support the installation of recharging infrastructure at home, in public places and at work.	None identified.	Climatic factors	Policies in the Local Plan should seek to facilitate and support the installation of recharging infrastructure.
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (DEFRA, 2007)	Sets out air quality objectives and policy options to further improve air quality in the UK. As well as direct benefits to public health, these options are intended to provide important benefits to quality of life and help to protect the environment.	Contains a number of air quality targets and limit values for: • Particulate Matter (PM-PM10 and PM2.5) • Oxides of nitrogen (NOX) • Ozone (O3) • Sulphur dioxide (SO2) • Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)	Air	The Local Plan should promote development in locations that minimise the need to travel and reduce other sources of air pollution.

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
		• Benzene • 1,3-butadiene • Carbon monoxide (CO) • Lead (Pb) • Ammonia		
Countryside and Rights of Way Act (as amended) (2001)	The purpose of the Act is to create a new statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, to modernise the public Rights of Way system, to strengthen nature conservation legislation, and to facilitate better management of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna; Cultural heritage and landscape	The policies of the Local Plan will be expected to comply with this Act.
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010	These Regulations transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the 'Habitats Directive'). Part 6 - Assessment of plans and projects Regulations 60 to 67 require the effect on a European site to be considered before the granting of consents or authorisations of a kind specified in Regulations 68 to 101, including the grant of planning permission, consents under the Electricity Act 1989, authorisations under the Pipelines Act 1962, orders under the Transport and Works Act 1992, environmental permits, abstraction licences and marine works. Regulation 61 provides that a competent authority may not authorise a plan or project that may adversely affect the integrity of a European site, subject to the exceptions set out in Regulation 62 (considerations of overriding public interest). Chapter 8 of Regulation 102 to 105 sets out similar requirements in relation to land-use plans and National Policy Statements.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna; Cultural heritage and landscape	The Local Plan must comply with the relevant requirements of this legislation.
Biodiversity duty: public authority duty to have regard to conserving biodiversity (2015)	A public authority has a duty to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of policy or decision making. Conserving biodiversity can include restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna; Economic development	Local Plan policies should have seek to conserve biodiversity.
The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature, White Paper (2011)	A healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal wellbeing.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Local Plan policies should have regard to biodiversity.

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
	Economic growth and the natural environment are mutually compatible. Sustainable economic growth relies on services provided by the natural environment, often referred to as 'ecosystem services'. Some of these are provided directly, such as food, timber and energy. Others are indirect, such as climate regulation, water purification and the productivity of soil.			
	High-quality natural environments foster healthy neighbourhoods; green spaces encourage social activity and reduce crime. The natural environment can help children's learning.			
	Nature in England is highly fragmented and unable to respond effectively to new pressures such as climate and demographic change. Past action has often taken place on too small a scale.			
	The Government wants to promote an ambitious, integrated approach, creating a resilient ecological network across England, moving from a net biodiversity loss to a net gain.			
Climate Change and Biodiversity Adaptation: the Role of the Spatial Planning System (2009)	Helps identify the role the planning system could play in assisting biodiversity adaptation to climate change.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna; Cultural heritage and landscape; Climatic impact	The guidance in this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies.
By All Reasonable Means; Inclusive Access to the Outdoors by Disabled People (2005)	Designed to help improve the accessibility of sites, routes and facilities.	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape; Population and human health	Local Plan policies should consider the advice provided in this document in order to make sure that open space and the outdoors are accessible to all.
Future Water (2008)	Outlines how the Government want the water sector to look by 2030, along with the steps needed to achieve this. The vision includes:	None identified.	Water and soil	The Local Plan will need to include the objectives of this document. Water sustainability

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
	• Environmental and recreational improvements to rivers, canals, lakes and seas • Excellent quality drinking water • Protection and respect shown to water resources • Water charges are fair, affordable and cost-reflective • Flood risk is addressed with markedly greater understanding and use of good surface water management Water industries have reduced their greenhouse gas emissions. The sector will be resilient to climate change, with its likelihood of more frequent droughts as well as floods, and to population growth, with forward planning fully in tune with these adaptation challenges.			should be integrated into the document.
Understanding the risks, empowering communities, building resilience: The national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England (2011)	The risk of flooding and coastal erosion in England is predicted to increase due to climate change and development in areas at risk. It is not possible to prevent all flooding or coastal erosion, but there are actions that can be taken to manage these risks and reduce the impacts on communities. The strategy sets out a national framework for managing the risk of flooding and coastal erosion. It will help risk management authorities and communities understand their different roles and responsibilities and will be particularly relevant to Lead Local Flood Authorities, which have new responsibilities under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010). It is essential that spatial planning makes sure that new developments take flood and coastal erosion risk fully into account, and are safe from, do not increase, and where possible reduce risk over their lifetimes.	None identified.	Climatic impact; Water and soil	Flood risk assessment will become a more important part of planning policies. There will be increased emphasis on integrated systems and multi objective schemes. The Environment Agency will become a more significant consultee.
Healthy Lives, Healthy People. Health White Paper (2010)	Outlines the ambition for health and wellbeing through life, with power shifted to local communities for them to focus on the needs of the local population. Healthy places to grow up and grow older in will be created by giving local government control of public health resources, with new partnerships created in important areas, such as housing, planning, schools and transport.	None identified.	Climate change and energy; Cultural heritage and landscape;	The Local Plan should seek to included health and well-being in its policies.

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
	Sets out that there are community responses that can help address the long term challenge of climate change, which itself is currently one the biggest public health threats, whilst also having a positive impact in the short term. These include: • Active travel – delivering low-cost health improvements and reducing emissions • Green spaces – improving mental health and the quality of community life, offering some protection from the expected increase in heatwaves and flooding • Spatial Planning – Promoting local ownership and occupation of public spaces • Behaviour change – Embedding new ways of sustainable living and working • Community projects to harness renewable energy – Mitigating the effects of climate change		Population and human health	
Opening Doors/Breaking Barriers – A Strategy for Social Mobility (2011)	Sets out that a well functioning housing market can promote social mobility and increase fairness in the distribution of wealth. Social mobility is defined as the degree to which the patterns of advantage and disadvantage in one generation are passed on to the next. The strategies priorities are focused around improving intergenerational social mobility – the extent to which peoples success in life is determined by who their parents are; and relative social mobility – the comparative chances of people with different backgrounds ending up in certain social or income groups The Government intends to provide more housing and improve choice by increasing the supply of suitable housing, stabilising the housing market and over the long term building confidence for buyers, sellers, house builders and lenders, and increasing housing affordability.	Provides lead indicators that support the Government's action plan for improving social mobility, in each life stage (Foundation years, school years, transition years and adulthood): • Low birth weight • Child development • School attainment • Employment and participation in education of 18-24 year olds • Further education • Higher education • Social mobility in adulthood	Social inclusiveness; Population and human health	The Local Plan should seek to provide a mix of housing, including affordable housing.

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	Sets out legislation behind the process of heritage protection.	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape	The policies of the Local Plan will be expected to comply with this Act.
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	Sets out legislation behind the process of heritage protection.	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape	The policies of the Local Plan will be expected to comply with this Act.
Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England, 2009	Sets out a strategy to make sure that: • agricultural soils will be better managed and threats to them will be addressed; • soils will play a greater role in the fight against climate change and in helping us to manage its impacts; • soils in urban areas will be valued during development, and construction practices will ensure vital soil functions can be maintained; and • pollution of our soils is prevented, and our historic legacy of contaminated land is being dealt with.	None identified	Water and soil	The Plan should consider the vision and aims in developing policies and objectives.
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services	New biodiversity strategy for England that builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and provides a comprehensive picture of how the UK is implementing its international and EU commitments. It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea. The mission for this strategy for the next decade is to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.	The document contains a set of strategic goals and targets (the 'Aichi' targets) to drive action on biodiversity.	Biodiversity, flora and fauna,	The Local Plan should seek to protect and enhance existing biodiversity and considered ecosystem services.
Health and Social Care Act 2012	An Act to establish and make provision about a National Health Service Commissioning Board and Clinical Commissioning Groups and to make other provision about the National Health Service in England; to make provision about public health in the United Kingdom; to make provision about regulating health and adult social care services; to make provision about public involvement in health and social care matters, scrutiny of health matters by Local Authorities and co-operation between Local Authorities and	None identified	Population and human health	The Local Plan must comply with the relevant requirements of this legislation.

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for Local Plan
	commissioners of health care services; to make provision about regulating health and social care workers; to establish and make provision about a National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; to establish and make provision about a Health and Social Care Information Centre and to make other provision about information relating to health or social care matters; to abolish certain public bodies involved in health or social care; to make other provision about health care; and for connected purposes.			
Waste Management Plan for England 2013	Analyses waste management situation in England and evaluates how it will support implementation of the objectives and provisions of the revised Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC	None identified	Waste	The Local Plan should identify sites and areas suitable for new or enhanced facilities for the waste management needs of their area.

Table A.2 Related Plans, Policies and Programmes: Regional/Sub-Regional

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
Cheshire and Warrington Matters: A Strategic and Economic Plan for Cheshire and Warrington (Cheshire and Warrington Enterprise Partnership) (2014)	Ten year strategic economic plan to support growth and economic development. It sets out intervention priorities and investment proposals.	An outcome for Cheshire East is to improve connectivity between Crewe, the M6 and mid-Cheshire towns to unlock development in Crewe High Growth City.	Economic development	The Local Plan will need to consider the contents of this document.
Unleashing the Potential of Cheshire and Warrington - Draft Sub-Regional Strategy (2010)	Sets out how the sub-region's economic performance is already significantly higher than that of other North West sub-regions, and how it is ready to significantly accelerate growth in population, jobs and productivity in order to boost its position in a changed post-recession economy.	• Increase GVA by 2030 to at least £30 billion per annum. • Increase population by 100,000 or more. • Increase employment by no less than 22,000 • Exploit appropriate housing and employment land in order to support the planned growth strategy. • Promote sustainability by ensuring that all new development is high standards in terms of materials and energy consumption. • Address deprivation issues in urban and rural areas.	Economic development	The Local Plan should reflect the objectives of this document and take advantage of the opportunities presented in it.
Cheshire Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment (2014)	Local evidence study to assess the access to accommodation for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople.	The Borough needs 69 extra pitches and 13 extra plots provided between 2013 and 2028.	Social inclusiveness	The Local Plan should seek to provide for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson's need.
North West River Basin District River Basin Management Plan (2015)	Provides a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. To achieve this, and because water and land resources are closely linked, it also informs decisions on land-use planning.	• Weaver Gowy River Catchment priority issues: pollution from rural areas, waste water, physical modifications • Upper Mersey River Catchment priority issues: diffuse pollution (urban and	Water and soil	The Local Plan will need to consider the objectives of this strategy.

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
		rural), pollution from waste water, physical modifications		
Countdown -The Cheshire Region Biodiversity Action Plan	Cheshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) works on the basis of partnership to identify local priorities and to determine the contribution they can make to the delivery of the national Species and Habitat Action Plan targets. BAP Priority Habitat Action Plans detail descriptions for 45 habitats falling within the Broad Habitat classification and detailed actions and targets for conserving these habitats.	None identified	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Cheshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) provides baseline information on biodiversity, protected sites and protected species, which will inform the evidence base for the Local Plan.
The North West Regional Forestry Framework (2005)	A framework to shape the woodland and forestry sector for the next 20 years. It provides six action areas to develop woodlands and forestry in the future, highlighting where planning can help to achieve an action. The action areas include: ● Regional image - including using woodlands as a tool in the regeneration and reclamation of derelict land, and the integration of trees and woodland into development schemes. ● Biodiversity and landscape. ● Health, well-being and quality of life - including developing accessible woodlands, and linking woodlands and health. ● Climate change and energy - including urban trees, uplands and flood plains.	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape	The Local Plan should seek to consider and reflect information in this document.
Green Infrastructure Framework for North East Wales, Cheshire and Wirral (2011)	Sets out a vision of how a healthy natural environment can help sustain economic growth and self-supporting communities. It provides a guide for Green Infrastructure planning, investment and delivery. It highlights where the existing Green Infrastructure assets are, locates the weaker areas and guides priorities for future investment. It has been produced to assist with, and guide actions for, the delivery of Green Infrastructure across North East Wales, Cheshire and Wirral as part of its long term sustainable development.	Suggests a detailed range of actions to deliver green infrastructure objectives for the area.	Cultural heritage and landscape	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the information in this document.

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
Cheshire Regional Local Geodiversity Action Plan (2004)	Sets out an integrated, target led plan to contribute to the maintenance and improvement of the well-being of the Cheshire region by safeguarding the geology, geomorphology, soils and landscapes of the area.	Promote existing activities available in the region linked to geodiversity.	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	The Local Plan should seek to take account of this Plan.
Cheshire Landscape Character Assessment (2009)	Provides an overview of the landscape of Cheshire East and is used to inform responsible land use and decision making, as well as complying with planning policy guidance.	The study has the following objectives: • To encourage a greater awareness of landscape character • To help recognise contemporary pressures • To stimulate debate about the future The study includes the following aims: • To inform new planning policies on landscape •To guide and inform the development control process	Cultural heritage and landscape	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the information in this document.
Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project (2007)	Provides guidance for the sustainable management of historic landscapes in Cheshire.	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape	The Local Plan must take account of historic landscape and buildings in the Borough and potentially neighbouring authorities.
Cheshire Historic Towns Survey (2003)	Survey of 37 historic towns in Cheshire to produce a detailed synthesis of their historical and archaeological background. The survey assists in identifying the unique character of each town to ensure the sustainable management of each area's archaeological urban heritage. It proposes areas of archaeological potential and archaeological character zones, where possible, for each town.	None identified	Cultural heritage and landscape	The Local Plan must take account of historic landscape (including areas of archaeological potential) and buildings in the Borough and potentially neighbouring authorities.
Nationally, Regionally and Sub Regionally Significant	A study undertaken by Griffin Hill Ltd working jointly with Urban Mines Ltd to develop an understanding of the pattern for nationally, regionally and sub-regionally		Water and soil	The Local Plan will need to consider the findings of this report.

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
Waste Management Facilities	significant waste management facilities in the North West.			
Low Carbon and Environmental Goods and Services Sector Strategy for England's Northwest (2010)	The document seeks to identify the most significant opportunities for low carbon growth, and where and how real value can be added, by promoting innovation and addressing market failure.	Several key measures are incorporated to monitor progress.	Climatic change	The guidance contained in this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies and objectives.
Sport Sector Strategy for England's Northwest 2010 to 2020	This strategy provides a framework for the sustainable development of the sport business sector over the next ten years.	The document contains an action plan and several key performance indicators to monitor progress.	Population and human health	The objectives and guidance contained in this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies and objectives.
Local Plans of adjacent Authorities	These documents contain the Development Plan for the relevant area. They will specify a vision, objectives and policies.	None identified	All	These documents contain the social, environmental and economic policies and objectives for each of the adjacent Local Authorities. The Local Plan will need to consider the content of neighbouring Authorities' policies.
Local Transport Plans (full and implementation plans) of adjacent Authorities	Contain an outline of the current baseline with regard to transport, accessibility and pollution; set out challenging but achievable objectives; set out the programme for achieving these objectives; and outline 'bids' for funding from the DfT.	None identified	All	The Local Plan will need to consider the content of neighbouring Authorities Transport Plans.
Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2007 to 2020	Provides the basis upon which the Cheshire Waste Partnership progresses its waste management activities. These include investments in waste minimisation initiatives, recycling infrastructure and a project to procure new waste treatment capacity for Cheshire.		Water and soil	The Local Plan should reflect the principles in the Strategy.
Cheshire Sub-Regional Housing Strategy 2009-2012 (2009)	The Council has adopted this document. The Strategy is intended to: • Provide a framework for the future housing of Cheshire and identify sub-regional priorities.	None identified	Social inclusiveness	The content of this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies and objectives.

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
	• Show the crucial roles played by partnerships in delivering and improving housing and housing services in the sub-region. • Illustrate the links between this strategy and other key national and regional policies and strategies.			

Table A.3 Related Plans, Policies and Programmes: Local

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
Ambition for All - The Cheshire East Sustainable Community Strategy 2010	The purpose of the strategy is to set out how, over the next 15 years, the Partnership for Action for Cheshire East will seek to make sure that Cheshire East continues to prosper. The activities outlined in the strategy are intended to improve the quality of life of all the people of Cheshire East and to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through action to improve economic, social and environmental well-being across the area.	Seven priorities for action: • Nurturing strong communities; • Creating conditions for business growth; • Unlocking the potential of our towns; • Supporting our children and young people; • Ensuring a sustainable future; • Preparing for an increasingly older population; and • Driving out the causes of poor health.	All	The Local Plan will deliver the place shaping aspects and objectives of the Sustainable Community Strategy. Therefore it should consider and reflect the objectives of this document.
Corporate Plan 2016 to 2020 - Cheshire East Council (2016)	The Council regularly reviews how local services can best meet the needs of residents in Cheshire East. Through its Corporate Plan the Council aims to help local people to be healthy and enjoy living in Cheshire East. The Council will work to create wealth from its approach to education, employment, housing and transport. The approach will lead to mental wellbeing, safe communities and overall economic prosperity.	Sets out six outcomes: 1. Local communities are strong and supportive 2. A strong and resilient economy 3. People have the life skills and education they need to thrive 4. A green and sustainable place 5. People live well and for longer 6. A responsible, effective and efficient organisation	All	The Local Plan should help to achieve these outcomes and be flexible so that changing priorities can be addressed.

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
Cheshire East Local Transport Plan (2011)	A strategic plan for the development of transport over the period 2011 to 2026, outlining how transport will contribute to and support the longer-term aspirations of the Borough.	Contains objectives for congestion, accessibility, maintenance, community, health, environment, and safety. It also contains policies.	Air; Population and human health	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the wider objectives of this document.
Cheshire East Local Transport Plan: Implementation Plan (2011)	Sets out the plan for implementation of the Local Transport Plan.	Contains policies and proposed indicators.	Air	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the wider objectives of this document.
Cheshire East Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2011)	Developed to assess: • the extent to which the local Rights of Way network meets the present and future needs of the public; • the opportunities provided by the local Rights of Way network for exercise and other forms of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the Local Authority's area; and • the accessibility of local Rights of Way for blind or partially sighted persons and others with mobility problems.	It contains a statement of the actions that the authority propose to take for the management of local Rights of Way, and for securing an improved network of local rights of way.	Air; Population and human health	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the wider objectives of this document.
Rights of Way Improvement Plan Implementation Plan 2015	Rolling 4-year implementation plans detailing projects through which the policies and initiatives stated in the Rights of Way Improvement Plan will be delivered.	Former national Best Value Performance Indicator 178: the percentage of paths deemed 'easy to use'.	Air; Population and human health	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the wider objectives of this document.
Economic Development Strategy for Cheshire East (2011)	Sets out the Borough's understanding of the current state of the economy of Cheshire East, and identifies in particular its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats; sets out objectives and priorities for the next 15 years; and the partners for the achievement of the strategy.	None identified	Economic development	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the wider objectives of this document.
Cheshire East Local Economic Assessment (2011)	Provides up to date and relevant information on the Cheshire East area, particularly focusing on its economy. It also attempts to understand the local economy in context i.e. that economies stretch over administrative boundaries, and it gives an indication of	None identified	Economic development	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the wider objectives of this document.

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
	how the area is performing compared to the national picture and neighbouring authorities.			
Cheshire East Housing Strategy: Moving Forward 2011 to 2016 (2011)	Sets out the long term housing vision for the Borough. The housing vision of the document is that housing supports the creation of balanced and sustainable communities, where all residents can achieve independent living in good quality, affordable homes that are appropriate to their needs.	Five key objectives: 1. Delivering market and affordable housing; 2. Making the best use of our existing stock; 3. Meeting the needs of our most vulnerable residents; 4. Meeting the needs of an ageing population; and 5. Investing in our neighbourhoods.	Social inclusiveness	The content of this document, including its vision, objectives and baseline information should be considered when developing relevant planning policies and objectives.
Cheshire East Council Homelessness Strategy 2014 to 2017 (2014)	Sets out strategic priorities for homelessness in Cheshire East: ● Providing effective early intervention ● Complex needs and crisis management ● Support ● Accommodation and affordability ● Communication	Contains several targets for the action plan.	Social inclusiveness	The Local Plan will need to make sure that the appropriate levels and types and tenures of housing are available to meet the needs of the local population and to try to reduce homelessness in the Borough.
Local Air Quality Action Plan (2011)	Outlines measures to make sure that air quality work undertaken in the Borough is coordinated at a strategic level. It addresses poor air quality in the Air Quality Management Areas, and focuses on the impact of nitrogen dioxide from transportation sources.	None identified	Air	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the wider objectives of this document.
Local Air Quality Strategy for Cheshire East Council (2011)	Outlines high level, broad commitments across the Council aimed at improving air quality.	The document contains several objectives.	Air	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the wider objectives of this document.
Draft Cheshire East Cycling Strategy (2015)	The Strategy arises from the need to: ● Accelerate the development of cycling in the county while ensuring a structured and co-ordinated approach.	● Cycle Activity – To be consistent with the draft DfT Cycle Delivery Plan (October 2014), double the number of cycling stages made each	Air; Population and human health	The Local Plan will need to consider and reflect the wider objectives of this document.

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
	• Set out priorities and actions for the development of cycling facilities to guide the Highways and Transportation Local Joint Committee in the development of cycling Action Plans. • Provide a link into other Council programmes, such as Local Agenda 21, Cheshire's Sustainable Transport Strategy, TravelWise and the Cheshire Sustainable Tourism Strategy, which recognise cycling as making an important contribution to the overall aims.	year in Cheshire East by 2025 from a 2013 baseline. • Public Perception – Improve public perception of cycling in the district by ensuring that annually measured NHT satisfaction scores are improving over time on an upward trajectory. • Leisure Cycling – Increase the proportion of residents who cycle for leisure once a week to national levels and increase those travelling 3 and 5 times by 10% by 2026.		
Cheshire East Visitor Economy Strategy (2011)	Sets the context in which Cheshire East Council will support the Visitor Economy to 2015 and beyond. It sets out the strategic framework in which the Council intends to operate, whether in its own activity, in partnership or in the context of regional/sub-regional priorities.	• Develop a Visitor Economy with a value of £818m by 2015. • Increase jobs directly related to the Visitor Economy by around 1,271 over the same period • Increase visitor numbers to Tatton to 1million by 2015 • Increase the number of businesses achieving quality accreditation.	Economic development; Cultural heritage and landscape	The content of this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies and objectives.
Macclesfield Economic Masterplan (2010)	The purpose of the project was to provide two focused action plans, the first addressing the project to be implemented in the town centre and the second the project to be implemented in the South Macclesfield Development Area. The overall purpose of the study is: • A review of the planning context and opportunities to provide an evidence base to inform the emerging Local Plan. • To provide Cheshire East Council with Action Plans guiding implementation of opportunities to be brought forward in Macclesfield town centre.	None identified	Economic development	The content of this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies and objectives.

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
All Change for Crewe (2010)	An ambitious strategy to support Crewe's economic development over the next 20 years. The strategy intends that by 2030, Crewe will be: • A nationally significant economic centre with a total population in excess of 100,000 people - currently it has about 83,000. • One of the leading centres for advanced, engineering and manufacturing in England; and • Recognised as a sought-after place in the South Cheshire Belt for people to live, work, put down roots, and develop their talents.	None identified	Economic development	The content of this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies and objectives.
Crewe Civic and Cultural Quarter (2013)	Intended to contribute to the evidence base supporting the regeneration and future development of Crewe Civic and Cultural Quarter.	None identified	Economic development	The content of this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies and objectives.
Macclesfield Town Centre Vision (2014)	Seeks to promote the opportunities that exist in Macclesfield.	None identified	Economic development	The content of this document should be considered when developing relevant planning policies and objectives.
Parish Plans produced in Cheshire East	A critical and in depth survey of a community carried out by the community itself. This survey then informs an Action Plan that identifies how the community sees itself developing over the next 5 to 10 years.	None identified	All	The content of these documents should be considered when developing the Local Plan.
Village Design Statements produced in Cheshire East	A practical tool to help influence decisions on design and development in a town or village.	None identified	All	The content of these documents should be considered when developing the Local Plan.
Neighbourhood Plans made in Cheshire East	Provides a powerful set of tools for local people to make sure that they get the right types of development for their community where the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area.	Contains policies on the development and use of land.	All	These documents form part of the Development Plan.
Local Area Partnerships	In 2009, Cheshire East Council established seven Local Area Partnerships (LAPs), which bring local partners together to improve services, influence decision making	None identified	All	The Local Plan should reflect the priorities identified in the LAPs.

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
	and empower communities, focusing on what really matters to local people. The LAPs produce Area Plans, which inform their work plans. The Area Plans focus on local issues that cannot be tackled by one organisation on its own, bringing together all those with an ability to make a difference. Priorities are identified by community led planning, partner agencies and local data.			
All change for Crewe: High Growth City (2013)	Government plans for a HS2 route through Crewe, including connectivity with existing rail networks, including the West Coast Mainline, have given added impetus for economic growth in Crewe, the rest of the sub-region and beyond. High Growth City is the programme that will deliver the ambitions of All Change for Crewe up to 2030. But, with the prospect still remaining of a HS2 Hub station at Crewe with a direct interchange, the prospects for super-charged growth beyond 2030 will take the town forward from this point with even higher levels of growth. This could be focused around a new Central Business District at the HS2 Hub Station at Crewe.	None identified	Economic development	The Local Plan should consider the potential implications of HS2 and develop policies in line with the programme.
Macclesfield Heritage and Culture Strategy (2014)	Seeks to promote the opportunities that exist in Macclesfield in terms of heritage and culture.	None identified	Economic development	The content of the document should be considered when developing relevant policies and objectives.
Macclesfield Brownfield Land Initiative - Delivery Strategy	The aims of the initiative are: • To increase housing development in the urban area of Macclesfield; • To prioritise the development of previously developed land; • To maximise such development in the early years of the new Local Plan period; and • To attract further investment in housing across Macclesfield.	None identified	Economic development; Social inclusiveness; Water and soil	The content of the document should be considered when developing relevant policies and objectives.

Document	Overview	Target/Indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
Cheshire East Local Plan Evidence Base documents	Several documents have been produced to form the evidence base for the Local Plan.	Contains information to be taken into account in the Local Plan process.	All	The contents of the documents should be considered when developing relevant policies and objectives.
Crewe Town Centre Regeneration Delivery Framework For Growth (2015)	Sets out a vision for Crewe town centre and identifies how key sites could be brought forward for redevelopment. The Framework outlines how the town centre can be transformed alongside new investments in the town centre, including the new Lifestyle Centre and the University Technical College.	This Vision will be supported by the following objectives: ● To stimulate new investment in the town centre including retail, leisure, residential and business by bringing vacant sites back into use, intensifying the use of underperforming sites and utilising Cheshire East Council's assets. ● To increase the number of town centre users, their dwell time and spend. ● To diversify the housing stock in and around Crewe town centre and to increase the catchment of the town centre. ● To make it easier to get into and around the town centre by foot, bicycle, bus and car. ● To improve the quality and amount of the public space (including green space) and public realm (including green infrastructure) that links key spaces, buildings and the town's heritage and cultural offer in the town centre and to the Railway Station/proposed HS2 North West Gateway Hub. ● To transform perceptions of Crewe town centre. ● To provide sustainable development and design and support the Council's renewable energy agenda.	Economic development	The content of the document should be considered when developing relevant policies and objectives.

Related Plans and Policies

Related Plans and Policies

Document	Overview	Target/indicator	SA Topic	Implications for the Local Plan
Waste Management Needs Assessment for Cheshire East Council (2014)	Provides an understanding of the waste that requires management up to 2030 and assesses existing facilities available and considers the need for additional facilities to manage forecast.	None identified	Waste	The Local Plan will need to consider the findings of this report.
Cheshire East Council Municipal Waste Management Strategy to 2030 (2014)	Sets out key aims and objectives for future management of municipal waste within Cheshire East	Contains information to be taken into account in the Local Plan process	Waste	The Local Plan should consider and reflect the objectives of this document.
Minerals Sites and Areas Assessments (2015)	Appraises site areas, addresses demand and supply and identifies sites and areas for potential future supply	Contains information to be taken into account in the Local Plan process	Mineral Reserves	The content of this report should be considered when developing relevant policies and objectives.

B Issues and Objectives

Table B.1 Sustainability Issues and Objectives

Sustainability Issues		Sustainability Objectives	
Social			
1	Ageing population	3	Consider the needs of all sections of the community in order to achieve high levels of equality, diversity and social inclusion.
2	Social deprivation	3	Consider the needs of all sections of the community in order to achieve high levels of equality, diversity and social inclusion.
3	Equality and social inclusion	3	Consider the needs of all sections of the community in order to achieve high levels of equality, diversity and social inclusion.
4	Healthy and active lifestyles	4	Create an environment that promotes healthy and active lifestyles.
5	Quantity and quality of housing	1	Provide an appropriate quantity and quality of housing to meet the needs of the Borough. This should include a mix of housing types, tenures and affordability.
6	Vibrant rural communities	5	Maintain and/or create vibrant rural communities.
7	Sustainable forms of transport	2	Create sustainable communities that benefit from good access to jobs, services, facilities and sustainable forms of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport.
8	Access to jobs, services and facilities	2	Create sustainable communities that benefit from good access to jobs, services, facilities and sustainable forms of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport.
9	Crime and the fear of crime	6	Create a safe environment to live in and reduce fear of crime.
10	Infrastructure, services and facilities	7	Maintain and enhance community services and amenities to sustain the existing and future community of the Borough.
Environmental			
11	Causes and effects of climate change	8	To adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change.
12	Water quality, quantity and flood risk	9	Positively address the issues of water quality and quantity, and manage flood risk in the Borough.
13	Air quality	10	Manage the impacts of development and associated activities to positively address all forms of pollution.
14	Biodiversity and geodiversity	11	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats, geodiversity and important geological features; particularly those that are designated.
15	Agricultural land	16	Reduce the consumption of natural resources, protect and enhance green infrastructure and high quality agricultural land and optimise the re-use of previously developed land, buildings and infrastructure.

Issues and Objectives

Sustainability Issues			Sustainability Objectives
16	Heritage	12	Protect and enhance the quality, integrity and distinctiveness of the area's heritage, landscapes and townscapes; particularly those that are designated.
17	Energy efficiency and renewable energy	13	Minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and high quality design, and increase the generation of energy from renewable resources.
18	Waste management	14	Achieve sustainable waste management through adhering to the principles of the Waste Hierarchy.
19	Minerals provision	15	Manage sustainable mineral extraction, and encourage their recycling/re-use, to provide a sufficient supply to meet social and economic needs, whilst minimising impacts on the environment and communities and safeguarding resources for future generations.
20	Previously developed land and infrastructure	16	Reduce the consumption of natural resources, protect and enhance green infrastructure and high quality agricultural land and optimise the re-use of previously developed land, buildings and infrastructure.
21	Land and natural resources	16	Reduce the consumption of natural resources, protect and enhance green infrastructure and high quality agricultural land and optimise the re-use of previously developed land, buildings and infrastructure.
22	Green Infrastructure and open space	16	Reduce the consumption of natural resources, protect and enhance green infrastructure and high quality agricultural land and optimise the re-use of previously developed land, buildings and infrastructure.
Economic			
23	Sustainable, competitive and low-carbon economy	17	To promote a sustainable, competitive and low-carbon economy that benefits from a range of innovative and diverse businesses in both urban and rural areas.
24	Innovation and diversity of businesses	17	To promote a sustainable, competitive and low-carbon economy that benefits from a range of innovative and diverse businesses in both urban and rural areas.
25	Access to education and training	20	Improve access to education and training, and the links between these resources and employment opportunities.
26	Employment opportunities	20	Improve access to education and training, and the links between these resources and employment opportunities.
27	Rural economy	19	Positively manage the Borough's diverse rural economy.
28	Vitality and viability of the town and village centres	18	To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres with a balanced provision of retail, leisure, visitor and cultural facilities.
29	Balanced provision of retail, leisure, visitor and cultural facilities	18	To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres with a balanced provision of retail, leisure, visitor and cultural facilities.

Issues and Objectives

C Regulatory Requirements

As this SA will also be fulfilling the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive   Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans Regulations 2004 explains the information that must be contained in the SA Report; it is therefore important to make sure that all of the requirements have been met and fully integrated into the SA process. This will be done using a Checklist (Table C.1) to signpost where the regulatory requirements are met in this Report.

Table C.1 Checklist of where in this Report the regulatory requirements have been met

Regulatory requirement	Discussion of how requirement is met
Schedule 2 of the regulations lists the information to be provided in the SA Report	
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	The purpose of the Local Plan is set out in Section 1, Paras 1.10 to 1.14 of this Report. Its relationship with other plans and programmes in set out in Section 3 and Appendix A of this Report.
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	A summary of the baseline information is provided in Section 4 of this Report. The current state of the environment is set out along with relevant comparators and trends. The likely evolution of the baseline without the Local Plan or 'future baseline' is also set out in Section 4.
c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	The environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be affected are set out in Section 4 of this Report.
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;	The summary of the baseline information provided in Section 4 of this Report identify a number of existing environmental problems that are relevant to the Local Plan. This includes identifying sites designated pursuant to Birds and Habitats Directives. Key sustainability issues are identified in Section 5 of this Report.
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;	A comprehensive range of plans and programmes have been reviewed and the implications for the Local Plan and SA are clearly set out in Appendix A. A list or regional/sub-regional and local plans are included in Section 3.
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);	-
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;	-

Regulatory Requirements

Regulatory requirement	Discussion of how requirement is met
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;	-
i) description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Art. 10;	-
j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	-
The SA Report must be published alongside the draft plan, in-line with the following regulations	
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)	-
The SA Report must be taken into account, alongside consultation responses, when finalising the plan.	
The environmental report prepared pursuant to Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of any transboundary consultations entered into pursuant to Article 7 shall be taken into account during the preparation of the plan or programme and before its adoption or submission to the legislative procedure.	-

Regulatory Requirements

D Glossary of Terms

Accessibility	The ability of people to move around an area and reach places and facilities, including elderly and disabled people, those with young children and those encumbered with luggage or shopping.
Adverse Impact	Where a development/policy would result in harmful effects.
Affordable Housing	Social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing, provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market. Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices. Affordable housing should include provisions to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households or for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision.
Aggregates	Sand, gravel, crushed rock and other bulk materials used by the construction industry.
Agricultural Land Classification	Provides a method for assessing the quality of farmland to enable informed choices to be made about its future use in the planning system. Land is classified into five grades, with Grade 3 subdivided into Subgrades 3a and 3b. The best and most versatile land is defined as Grades 1, 2 and 3a by the National Planning Policy Framework.
Air Quality Management Area	Areas designated by Local Authorities because they are not likely to achieve national air quality objectives by the relevant deadline.
Biodiversity	The whole variety of life encompassing all genetics, species and ecosystem variations, including plans and animals.
Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)	A strategy prepared for a local area aimed at conserving and enhancing biological diversity.
Brownfield	Previously developed land that is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land and any associated fixed surface infrastructure. Also see 'Previously Developed Land'.
Capacity (in retailing terms)	Potential spending by the public in the catchment area, with which to support existing and additional retail floorspace.
Character	A term relating to Conservation Areas or Listed Buildings, but also to the appearance of any rural or urban location in terms of its landscape or the layout of streets and open spaces, often giving places their own distinct identity.
Climate Change	Long-term changes in temperature, precipitation, wind and all other aspects of the Earth's climate. Often regarded as a result of human activity and fossil fuel consumption.

Glossary of Terms

Community Strategy	A strategy prepared by a local authority to improve local quality of life and aspirations, under the Local Government Act 2000.
Composting	The process that converts biodegradable material such as garden or kitchen waste, in the presence of oxygen (aerobic) into a stable material that can be used as a soil improver. Composting can be done at different scales, from home composting to a large centralised facility.
Conservation Area	Local authorities have the power to designate as Conservation Areas any area of special architectural or historic interest. This means the planning authority has extra powers to control works and demolition of buildings to protect or improve the character or appearance of the area. Conservation Area Consent has been replaced by planning permission for relevant demolition in a Conservation Area.
Consultation Body	Authorities which, because of their environmental responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by effects of implementing plans and programmes and must be consulted at specific stages of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The Consultation Bodies designated in the SEA regulations are Historic England, Natural England, and the Environment Agency.
Contaminated Land	Land that has been polluted or harmed in some way making it unfit for safe development and usage unless cleaned.
Crushed rock	Hard types of rock that have been quarried, fragmented and graded for use as aggregate.
Cumulative Impact	A number of developments in a locality or a continuous activity over time that together may have an increased impact on the environment, local community or economy.
Development	Defined under the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act as 'the carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operation in, on, over or under land, or the making of any material change in the use of any building or other land.' Most forms of development require planning permission.
Development Plan	This includes adopted Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans and is defined in Section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
Economic Development	Development, including those in the B Use Classes, public and community uses and main town centre uses (but excluding housing development).
Energy from Waste	The conversion of waste into a useable form of energy, often heat or electricity.

Environment Agency	A government body that aims to prevent or minimise the effects of pollution on the environment and issues permits to monitor and control activities that handle or produce waste. It also provides up-to-date information on waste management matters and deals with other matters such as water issues including flood protection advice.
Fauna	All the animal life of a given place or time.
Flood plain	Generally low-lying areas adjacent to a watercourse, tidal lengths of a river or the sea, where water flows in times of flood or would flow but for the presence of flood defences.
Flora	Plant life occurring in a particular region or time.
Fossil Fuels (non-renewable)	Carbon-rich fuel (coal, oil and natural gas) formed from the remains of ancient animals and plants. Their combustion is considered to contribute to the 'greenhouse effect'.
Green Belt	A designation for land around certain cities and large built-up areas, which aims to keep this land permanently open or largely undeveloped. The purposes of the Green Belt are: to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas; to prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another; to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment; to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and assist urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land. Green Belts are defined in a Local Planning Authority's Development Plan.
Green Gap	A local designation that seeks to maintain the definition and separation of existing communities, and to indicate support for the longer term objective of preventing Crewe, Willaston, Wistaston, Nantwich, Haslington and Shavington from merging into one another.
Greenfield	Land, or a defined site, usually farmland, that has not previously been developed.
Greenhouse Gases	Naturally occurring examples include water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone. Some human activities increase these gases, including fossil fuel combustion in motor vehicles and some power stations.
Habitat	An area of nature conservation interest.
Historic England	Government advisors with responsibility for all aspects of protecting and promoting the historic environment.
Historic Landscape Character	A picture of the entire landscape, including that which is most recent, presenting a comprehensive view of the sequence of changes that have contributed to the character of the landscape.

Glossary of Terms

Historic Parks and Gardens	A park or garden of special historic interest, graded I (highest quality), II* or II, and designated by Historic England.
Infrastructure	Basic services necessary for development to take place, for example, roads, electricity, sewerage, water, education and health facilities.
Key Service Centre (KSC)	Towns with a range of employment, retail and education opportunities and services, with good public transport. The KSCs are Alsager, Congleton, Handforth, Knutsford, Middlewich, Nantwich, Poynton, Sandbach, and Wilmslow.
Landfill (including land raising)	The permanent disposal of waste into the ground, by the filling of man-made voids or similar features, or the construction of landforms above ground level (land-raising).
Landscape Character Assessment	A method of assessing appearance and essential characteristics of a landscape.
Landscape Character	The distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occur consistently in a particular type of landscape. It reflects particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement.
Listed Building	A building of special architectural or historic interest. Listed Buildings are graded I, II* or II with grade I being the highest. Listing includes the interior as well as the exterior of the building, and any buildings or permanent structures in its curtilage.
Local Nature Reserve	Non-statutory habitats of local significance designated by Local Authorities where protection and public understanding of nature conservation is encouraged (see also Local Wildlife Site).
Local Plan	The plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the community. In law this is described as Development Plan Documents adopted under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Current Core Strategies or other planning policies, which under the regulations would be considered to be Development Plan Documents, form part of the Local Plan. The term includes old policies that have been saved under the 2004 Act.
Local Planning Authority	The Local Authority or Council that is empowered by law to exercise planning functions. Often the local borough or district council. National Parks and the Broads Authority are also considered to be Local Planning Authorities.
Local Plan Strategy	Development Plan Document setting out the spatial vision and strategic objectives of the planning framework for an area, having regard to the Community Strategy.

Local Service Centres (LSC)	Smaller centres with a limited range of employment, retail and education opportunities and services, with a lower level of access to public transport. The LSCs are Alderley Edge, Audlem, Bollington, Bunbury, Chelford, Disley, Goostrey, Haslington, Holmes Chapel, Mobberley, Prestbury, Shavington, and Wrenbury.
Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)	Locally important sites of nature conservation adopted by Local Authorities for planning purposes.
Mineral	Rock or other material that has a commercial value when extracted.
Mineral Resource	A potential mineral deposit where the quality and quantity of material present has not been tested.
Mitigation Measures	Measures designed and intended to reduce adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided.
National Nature Reserve	Areas designated with the aim of securing protection and appropriate management of the most important areas of wildlife habitat, and to provide a resource for scientific research. All National Nature Reserves are Sites of Special Scientific Interest.
National Park	The statutory purposes of national parks are to conserve and enhance their natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage and to promote opportunities for public understanding and enjoyment of their special qualities. National parks are designated by Natural England, subject to confirmation by the Secretary of State under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.
Natural England	Natural England is the Government's statutory adviser on landscape in England, with responsibility for landscape designations such as National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Heritage Coasts. Natural England is also concerned with England's future landscapes, with involvement in planning policy and a range of environmental land management projects.
Previously Developed Land (PDL)	Land that is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land (although it should not be assumed that the whole of the curtilage should be developed) and any associated fixed surface infrastructure. This excludes: land that is or has been occupied by agricultural or forestry buildings; land that has been developed for minerals extraction or waste disposal by landfill purposes where provision for restoration has been made through development control procedures; land in built-up areas such as private residential gardens, parks, recreation grounds and allotments; and land that was previously-developed but where the remains of the permanent structure or fixed surface structure have blended into the landscape in the process of time.

Glossary of Terms

Principal Town	The largest towns with a wide range of employment, retail and education opportunities and services, serving a large catchment area with a high level of accessibility and public transport. The Principal Towns are Crewe and Macclesfield.
Public Right of Way	A highway over which the public have a right of access along the route.
Ramsar Sites	Wetlands of international importance, designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention.
Recovery	Value can be recovered from waste by recovering materials through recycling, composting or recovery of energy.
Recycled Aggregates	Aggregates produced from recycled construction waste such as crushed concrete and planings from tarmac roads.
Renewable Energy	Energy flows that occur naturally and repeatedly in the environment - from the wind, the fall of water, the movement of the oceans, from the sun and also from biomass and deep geothermal heat.
Restoration (in terms of minerals operations)	Steps to return land to its original or former condition following mineral working by using subsoil, topsoil or soil-making material.
Scheduled Monument	Nationally important monuments, usually archaeological remains, which enjoy greater protection against inappropriate development through the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.
Scoping	The process of deciding the scope and level of detail of a Sustainability Appraisal, including sustainability effects and alternatives that need to be considered, the assessment methods to be used, and the structure and contents of the Sustainability Appraisal Report.
Secondary Aggregates	Includes by-product waste, synthetic materials and soft rock used with or without processing as a secondary aggregate.
Secondary (indirect) Effects	Effects that are not a direct result of the plan, often produced away from or as a result of a complex pathway
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Sites designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
Social Inclusion	Positive action taken to include all sectors of society in planning and other decision-making.
Special Area Of Conservation (SAC)	Areas given special protection under the European Union's Habitat's Directive, which is transposed into UK law by the Habitats and Conservation of Species Regulations 2010.

Special Protection Areas (SPA)	Areas that have been identified as being of international importance for the breeding, feeding, wintering or the migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds found in European Union countries. They are European designated sites, classified under the Birds Directive.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	A procedure (set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004) which requires the formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes that are likely to have significant effects on the environment.
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	An appraisal of the economic, environmental and social effects of a plan from the outset of the preparation process to allow decisions to be made that accord with sustainable development.
Sustainable Communities	Places where people want to live and work, now and in the future.
Sustainable Development	A widely used definition drawn up by the World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987: 'Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.' The Government has set out four aims for sustainable development in its strategy 'A Better Quality of Life, a Strategy for Sustainable Development in the UK'. The four aims to be achieved simultaneously are: • Social progress that recognises the needs of everyone • Effective protection of the environment • Prudent use of natural resources • Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment
Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS)	An approach to managing rainfall in development that replicates natural drainage, managing it close to where it falls, maximising infiltration and minimising surface run-off.
Sustainable transport	Any efficient, safe and accessible means of transport with overall low impact on the environment, including walking and cycling, low and ultra low emission vehicles, car sharing and public transport.
Topography	A description (or visual representation on a map) of the shape of the land, for example, contours or changes in the height of land above sea level.
Townscape	The general appearance of a built-up area, for example a street, town or city.
Viability	In terms of retailing, a centre that is capable of commercial success.

Glossary of Terms

Vitality

In terms of retailing, the capacity of a centre to grow or develop its likeliness and level of activity.

Waste

Any material or object that is no longer wanted and requires disposal. If a material or object is re-usable, it is still classed as waste if it has first been discarded.

Waste Hierarchy

A framework for securing a sustainable approach to waste management. Waste should be minimised wherever possible. If waste cannot be avoided, then it should be re-used; after this value recovered by recycling or composting; or waste to energy; and finally landfill disposal.

Glossary of Terms