

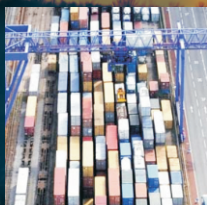
Sustainability Appraisal Delivery and Allocations Local Plan

(incorporating Partial Review of the Core Strategy)

October 2017



your halton
your vision
your thoughts



HALTON LOCAL PLAN 2014-2037

**Halton Borough Council
Local Plan**

Sustainability Appraisal Report
Of Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Draft
Document (incorporating Partial Review of
Core Strategy)

2017

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Version	Author	Checked by
Final	AM/JH	AC

Executive (Non-Technical) Summary

- i. Sustainable development is a central plank of government policy. Sustainability appraisal is a tool to ensure that the council's planning policies take account of nationally recognised principles and priorities for making progress towards sustainable development.
- ii. Sustainability appraisal is an iterative process and will be ongoing throughout the preparation of the Halton Local Plan.
- iii. This section provides a non-technical summary of the SA Report of the Revised Core Strategy policies and the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) Draft Document.
- iv. This document has been prepared by Halton Borough Council, it identifies the policies that are needed in order to guide the future development of Halton, and equally importantly it will also identify which policies are no longer needed. When completed this document will:
 - a. Replace a number of policies contained in the Halton Local Plan Core Strategy (adopted April 2013) and the remaining saved policies of the Halton UDP (adopted April 2005).
 - b. Refresh and update the Strategic Policies of the Core Strategy.
 - c. Include allocations of land for residential, employment, retail, leisure and other land uses.
 - d. Identify areas to be designated and protected for landscape, nature conservation, environmental and heritage reasons.
 - e. Provide policies to guide decision making in the development management process.
 - f. Replace the existing UDP Proposals Map with a new Policies Map.
- v. This document together with the Joint Merseyside and Halton Waste Local Plan (Joint Waste Local Plan) (July 2013) and the remaining policies of the Core Strategy will form Halton's Local Plan.
- vi. The objective of this SA is to inform the development of the Revised Core Strategy policies and DALP Draft Document, alongside the overall SA of the Halton Local Plan. It considers the documents implications from a social, economic and environmental perspective, using the relevant baseline data and sustainability objectives identified in the SA Scoping Report (Jan 2016). The findings of this SA will help the Council to identify the considerations that need to be taken into account whilst drafting more detailed policies and allocating sites.
- vii. The National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) provides guidance on the content of the SA. This report sets out Stage B of the process, along with a brief overview of the work undertaken in the SA Scoping as part of Stage A. A diagram showing the stages can be found in Section I of this document, Figure I.1.
- viii. This Document highlights the intention to retain the Core Strategy Vision and Objectives, which have already been agreed and appraised through the adoption of the Core Strategy.
- ix. During the development of the DALP Scoping Document several potential options for how to take policies forward were identified. These potential options are what have been appraised within this document, considering their likely sustainability impacts both positive and negative. This will aid the Council in preparing policies in these areas by identifying

potential impacts that will need to be addressed when more detailed policies are prepared and allocations are considered.

- x. The Halton Local Plan will be monitored to ensure that the potential sustainability impacts are checked and to ensure that action can be taken if required. For practical reasons, and in order to remain consistent, this will be based on the indicators identified in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.
- xi. You are invited to comment on the content of this document and to draw the Council's attention to any matters which have not been identified. The consultation period for this Sustainability Appraisal Report runs from: **Thursday 4th January to 5pm Thursday 15th February 2018**. Only comments received during the consultation period will be considered. The Council asks that consultation responses are made via email to forward.planning@halton.gov.uk, where possible, to save time, paper and money.
- xii. You will find a copy of each of the relevant the documents online at www.halton.gov.uk/DALP or you can view a paper copy at the Halton Direct Links (HDLs) at Halton Lea, Runcorn and Brook Street, Widnes, or at the Libraries at Runcorn Shopping Centre (formerly known as Halton Lea), Runcorn; Granville Street, Runcorn; Kingsway, Widnes and Ditton, Widnes.

Introduction

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

- I.1 A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is a systematic process that attempts to predict and assess the economic, environmental and social effects that may arise from a plan, with a view to avoiding and mitigating adverse impacts and maximising positive impacts where appropriate.
- I.2 A SA must be carried out during the preparation of a Local Plan as required by Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004¹ to assess how the plan will contribute to sustainable development (SA is not required for Supplementary Planning Documents).
- I.3 It is a legal requirement that SA is undertaken in line with the procedures prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004² which transpose the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive³, setting statutory requirements concerning assessments made of land use planning documents.
- I.4 This is an update to the previous SA Report⁴ which was undertaken to support the Core Strategy Local Plan and the wider Local Plan and Planning Policy Framework, and follows on from the SA Scoping Report January 2016.
- I.5 The National Planning Practice Guidance⁵ (known as PPG) sets out the stages in the SA process (Figure I.1).

¹ HM Gov (2004) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

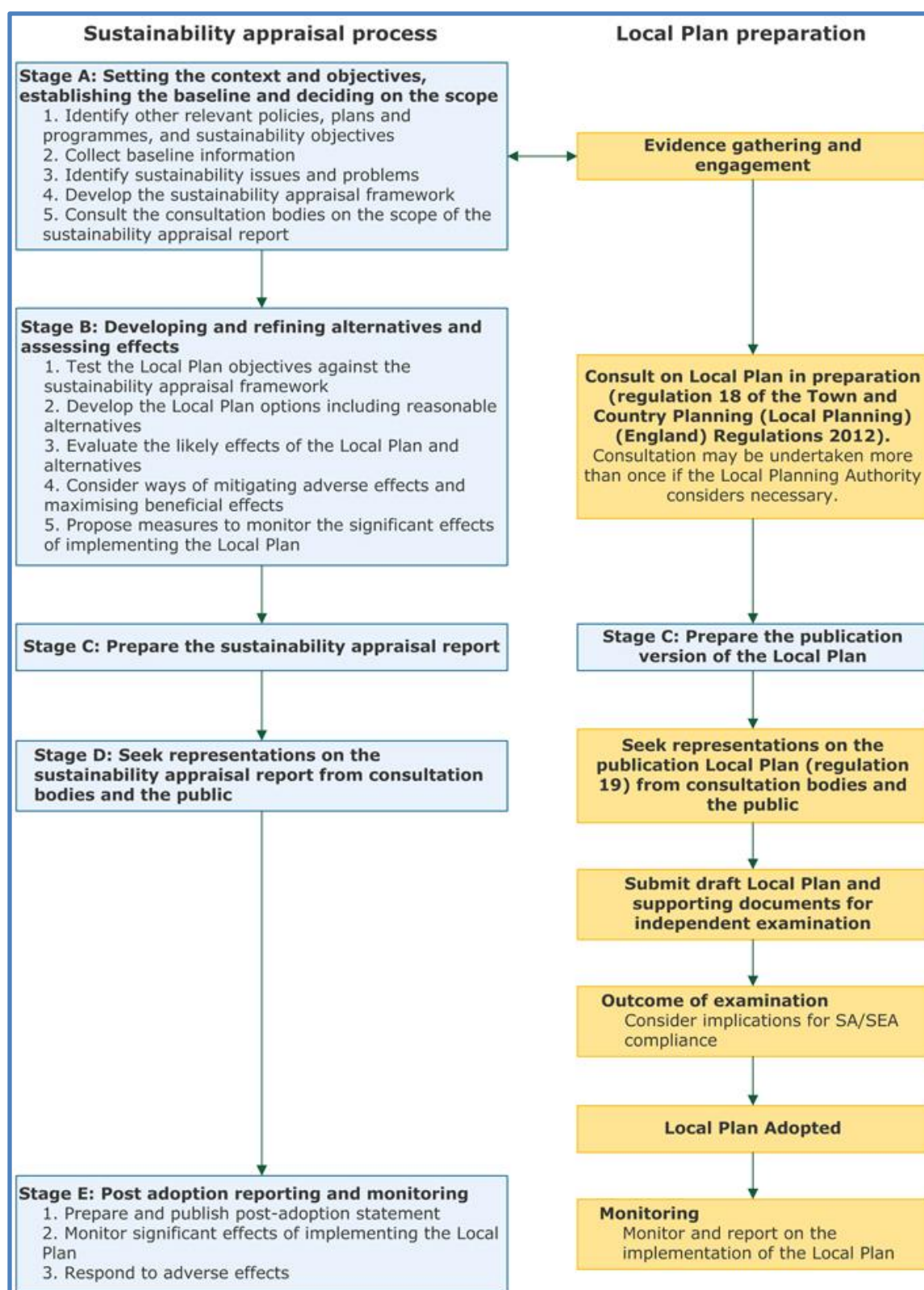
² HM Gov (2004) The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

³ European Union Directive 2001/42/EC

⁴ Scott Wilson (2009) HBC LDF Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

⁵ CLG (live) National Planning Practice Guidance (<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/>)

Figure 1.1: SA Process Stages - National Planning Practice Guidance (CLG, live)



Purpose of this Sustainability Appraisal Report

- I.6 This Sustainability Appraisal is based on the Scoping Report originally produced for Halton's Local Plan (previously known as Local Development Framework) in 2009 and updated in both 2014 and 2016.
- I.7 A Sustainability Appraisal is performed in five stages. These stages are carried out alongside the preparation of the Local Plan.
- I.8 The key stages in the performance of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (known as the DALP) are explained in Table I.1.

Table I.1: SA Stages		
Stage	Description	Progress and Location
Stage A	This stage involves setting the context, and establishing a baseline for the Sustainability Appraisal process. Stage A consists of five tasks; these are: • A1: Identify relevant policies, plans and programmes • A2: Collect baseline information • A3: Identify sustainability issues and problems • A4: Develop the Sustainability Appraisal framework • A5: Consult on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal	This stage is contained within the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (latest update January 2016).
Stage B	This stage involves developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects. It is a specific requirement of the SEA Directive and guidance that emerging plans and policies are appraised in terms of the likely significance of effects. • B1: Test the Local Plan objectives against the sustainability appraisal framework • B2: Develop the Local Plan options including reasonable alternatives • Evaluate the likely effects of the Local Plan and alternatives • Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects • Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing	This stage was undertaken as part of the SA Report of the DALP Scoping Document from January 2016. It is likely that this stage will continue to be reviewed as the Local Plan process progresses and policies are written and reviewed.

	the Local Plan	
Stage C	This stage involves the production of a Sustainability Appraisal Report to present information on the effects of the Development Plan Document. This stage allows formal consultation on the effects of the document.	This stage is contained in this document. It was also undertaken as part of the SA Report of the DALP Scoping Document from January 2016. It is possible that this stage may be repeated as the Local Plan process progresses and policies are written and reviewed.
Stage D	This stage is to outline the public participation that will occur for the document and the subsequent review of consultation responses and development of relevant changes. This stage should also involve the establishment of the monitoring process to occur, to make sure the documents impacts are positive and have been correctly assessed.	This stage is the consultation that this document will be subject to as the Local Plan progresses. Previously consultation has also been carried out in January 2016, as part of the preparation of the DALP Scoping Document.
Stage E	This stage involves monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DALP.	This stage will be completed as part of the monitoring processes identified.

Halton's Local Plan

- I.9 The Council is now producing a Revised Core Strategy policies and Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (known as the DALP) Draft Document that will review and replace some of the policies of the Halton Core Strategy as appropriate and supersede the remaining policies from the Halton UDP. This would form part of Halton's Local Plan alongside the Joint Merseyside and Halton Waste Local Plan (Joint Waste Local Plan) (July 2013) and the remaining policies of the Core Strategy.
- I.10 The role of the Halton Local Plan and associated Policies Map is to allocate sites and provide detailed policies for Halton's places, areas and issues. Once adopted, the Revised Core Strategy policies and Delivery and Allocations Local Plan will provide a robust and up-to-date policy framework to guide future development within the Borough. Specifically, the new Local Plan will:
- Replace a number of policies contained in the Halton Local Plan Core Strategy (adopted April 2013) and the remaining saved policies of the Halton UDP (adopted April 2005).
 - Refresh and update the Strategic Policies of the Core Strategy.
 - Include allocations of land for residential, employment, retail, leisure and other land uses.

- d. Identify areas to be designated and protected for landscape, nature conservation, environmental and heritage reasons.
- e. Provide policies to guide decision making in the development management process.
- f. Replace the existing UDP Proposals Map with a new Policies Map.

Consultation

- I.11 The SEA Directive requires environmental authorities to be consulted at Stage A5 on the scope of the environmental report and again during public consultation at Stage D1 on the plan and report (see Figure 1: SA Process Stages). Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England are the statutory Consultation Bodies for England, Natural Resources Wales will however, also be consulted.
- I.12 Comments made on the Sustainability Appraisal of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Scoping Report will be taken into account in the production of the Halton Local Plan.

Sustainability Appraisal Framework

- 2.1 The SA Scoping Report (Jan 2016) synthesised and presented to stakeholders the main messages emerging from the Local Plan evidence base. The Scoping Report was based on the information gathered and developed during the previous stages of the SA process, specifically a contextual analysis, the collection of baseline information, the identification of sustainability issues as well as the formation of SA objectives.
- 2.2 This SA Scoping Report was organised on the following topic-by-topic basis:
 - Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
 - Water Quality and Resources
 - Soil and Land Resources
 - Air Quality
 - Climatic Factors and Flooding
 - Cultural Heritage and Landscape
 - Population and Human Health
 - Social Inclusiveness including Skills and Education
 - Local Economy and Employment
 - Housing
 - Transportation.
- 2.3 Each of these topics were explored in terms of a context review, including a review of key messages from national and regional policy; an assessment of the current baseline situation, including locally collected data; and an appraisal of the likely future baseline, should existing trends continue. For each topic, the key emerging sustainability issues were highlighted, as were the data limitations encountered.
- 2.4 A critical role of the Scoping Report was to outline a series of SA Objectives and criteria which can be used to assess the sustainability of the Local Plan. These objectives and criteria form the SA Framework. It is provided for information in table 2.1.
- 2.5 It is a specific requirement of the SEA Directive and guidance that emerging plans and policies are appraised to identify their likely significance of effects. This is performed in Stage B of the Sustainability Appraisal process.
- 2.6 This assessment is performed by analysing the impact of the proposed policies of the Revised Core Strategy policies and Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Draft Document on a series of social, environmental and economic criteria. This stage of the assessment is performed in order to inform the selection of options to be taken forward. This assessment appraises each of the options proposed in the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Scoping Report, and will help to develop and refine the way the options are taken forward into policy, as part of the iterative process of preparing the Local Plan. This is done using the SA Framework.

Table 2.1: The SA Framework

Indicators in Green are from Halton's Monitoring Framework

Indicators in Orange are further indicators that the Council may wish to collect data on to help monitoring of the SA Framework

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
I. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes and buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and archaeological value	Protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and areas archaeological importance which contribute to the cultural and tourism offer of the Borough.	- Proximity to a heritage asset and understanding of the significance of said asset - Understanding the relationship between the site and any heritage asset. And the potential for impact (either positive or negative) on the heritage asset and its setting eg restoration of a building at risk or redevelopment of a site that is detracting from an asset or loss of asset. - Potential for impact on an area identified for its landscape value. - Access to public open space and natural green space	- Percentage of eligible open spaces managed to green flag award standards - Number of listed buildings in Halton - Number of buildings in conservation areas - Condition of SSSI's % of Grade I and 2* listed buildings at risk % of new development meeting BREEAM standards - No. of derelict properties - Number of up to date Conservation Appraisals - Number of refusals due to impact on landscape character/ designation - Hedges removed (number of hedge removal notices refused) - Number of environmental stewardship
	Ensure that all new development has considered the heritage value of the area and in particular the significance of the any heritage assets and their settings.		
	Ensure that all development avoids or minimises conflict between any heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.		
	Ensure that all new development meets high standards in terms of quality of design, safety, security and accessibility and relates well to existing development and the public realm.		

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
	Conserve and enhance high quality landscapes and townscapes in the Borough, especially those that contribute to local distinctiveness. Ensure access to Green Infrastructure including high quality public open space and natural green space.		schemes - Number of Tree Preservation Orders made - Proportion of applications, which are Listed Building Consents - Publically accessible heritage assets
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	To ensure that new development does not impact upon the condition of sites of biodiversity (including both habitat and species) interest including SSSI and other local and national designations. To protect Natura 2000 sites from the adverse effects of human activity, pollution and coastal erosion.	- Proximity to a SSSI or Natura 2000 site (distance) - Are there known protected species on the site? Is there potential for protected species to exist on the site? - Proximity to / Impact on NIA - Proportion of development site on greenfield land - Is there potential for impact on TPOs?	- Change in propriety habitats and change in species (by type) - Change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value - Condition of SSSI's - No. developments including landscaping schemes to benefit biodiversity - No. of developments including schemes to protect and/or enhance existing biodiversity. - Loss of designated habitat - Number of permissions where protected species are considered as a part of a condition, to ensure appropriate working practices or works to protect are

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
			undertaken BAP habitat created or managed as part of a planning permission
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources	Promote sustainable design and construction measures that reduce water consumption and result in decreased run-off of polluted water (including during construction phase)	- Proportion of development site within a Groundwater Source Protection Zone. - Proximity to bodies of water that are sensitive to change.	- Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the EA on water quality grounds - Length of watercourses / proportion of water bodies with 'good' status in the ecological and chemical classification - Daily Domestic Water Use (per capita consumption) - No. of applications including Sustainable Drainage Systems - Number of beaches with a blue flag status - Number of planning permissions granted with potential impacts on water protected source zones. - Number of planning permission granted to development that incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems.
	Encourage the allocation and location of new development where water abstraction can occur sustainably.	Could the site accommodate SuDs?	
	Ensure efficient use and management of water resources throughout the Borough.	Development standards in relation to water efficiency are not related to site locations therefore the SA of sites does not assess this; this is instead considered through policies.	
	Consider the wider implications of the management of foul water and run-off, including cumulative impacts.	It is assumed that sites will not be developed until suitable infrastructure improvements have been implemented to ensure potable water supply and waste water are managed to avoid adverse effects on water quality.	

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
4. To promote adaptation to Halton's changing climate	Promote new development that minimises the emission of greenhouse gases.	Development standards relating to the minimisation of greenhouse gases are not determined by location and will instead be considered through the detailed proposals for each site.	- Renewable energy capacity installed by type - Provision of renewable energy in new development % of development meeting Code For Sustainable Homes standards
	Seek to provide a built environment and green infrastructure network that will minimise health impacts associated with climate change.		
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such as surface water and groundwater	Ensure new development incorporates SUDs.	- Proportion of site within a Flood Zone. - Development standards relating to the provision of SuDS are not determined by location and will instead be considered through SA of policies.	- Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Lead Local Flood Authority on flood defence grounds - Number of approvals incorporating Lead Flood Authorities advice on flood mitigation guidelines
	Avoid development in locations at risk from flooding and mitigate any residual flood risk through appropriate measures including through design.		
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources	Promote high sustainable design and construction standards for housing and non-housing development, in order to ensure that Halton meets the Government target of all new residential development being zero carbon by 2016.	- Does the site allow for development to take advantage of low carbon energy sources? - Does the site allow for alternative energy generation? - All new development is expected to maximise the use of energy efficient methods of construction: proposals will be assessed as part of the	- Renewable energy capacity installed by type - Amount of energy produced by renewable energy Sources - Energy efficiency – the average SAP rating of local authority owned dwellings (1 – highly inefficient, 100 – highly efficient) - Provision of renewable energy in new
	Clear guidelines and support for the use of renewable energy sources such as wind and hydro power in new and existing		

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
	developments.	planning application and building control process.	development
7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton	To conserve and enhance soil quality and general geodiversity in Halton.	- Proportion of development site on greenfield land. - Proportion of site within Agricultural Land Grades 1 and 2. - Proportion of site covered by contaminated land and proportion of contaminated land to be remediated or brought back into use.	- Amount of floorspace by employment type, which is on previously developed land - Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land % of development on greenfield sites (Ha) Contaminated land reclaimed as a) Open Space/Natural Green Space b) Development % of contaminated land reclaimed in total % new development on brownfield sites % of development on protected open space - Number of Green Flag Parks - Progress against Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) - Proportion of land allocations on best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 1
	Develop brownfield sites where these can support wider sustainability objectives (e.g. reduce travel by car, improve the public realm, avoid loss of biodiversity, gardens, etc.).		
	Ensure new development will not result in contamination of land and promote the remediation of existing contaminated sites.		
	To protect the existing, and support the provision of, Green and Blue Infrastructure within Halton.		
	Seek to protect areas of best and most versatile agricultural land from development.		

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
			and 2)
8. To improve air quality in Halton	Seek to reduce the volume of CO2 emissions attributable to the transport sector.	- Is the site located where it can be easily access by walking, cycling or public transport in order to reduce journeys made by private car? - Access to cycle ways - Access to public footpaths - Proximity to a bus stop - Proximity to a train station - Is the site within or adjacent to an Air Quality Management Area?	- Number and total Air Quality Management Areas - Estimated traffic flows for all vehicle types (million vehicle kilometres) % of development outside of the urban area - CO2 Emissions
	Reduce the number of journeys made by private car in order to reduce the high levels of nitrogen dioxide in areas of traffic congestion in the Borough.		
	Consider and mitigate the impacts on air quality that might result from development, including major infrastructure projects.		
9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates	Reduce the proportion of waste that goes to Landfill in the Borough.	Waste generation is not related to site location therefore the SA of sites does not consider this, instead the relevant policies will consider this.	- Capacity of new waste management facilities by type - Amount of municipal waste arising by management type, and the percentage each management type represents of the waste managed - No. of new developments incorporating
	Promote the integration of waste management facilities to enable efficient recycling and energy from waste as part of new developments.		

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
			recycling facilities
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton	Ensure that all new development meets the lifetime homes standards, in order to meet the needs of an ageing population in the Borough.	- Potential for residential development on the site and potential capacity. - Will the site provide Affordable homes?	- Housing Trajectory - Percentage of new dwellings completed at less than 30 dph, between 30-50 dph and above 50 dph
	Seek to develop mixed income communities and flexibility of tenure and housing type in the Borough.	Will development of the site increase the range, choice and mix of Homes?	- Affordable Housing Completions - Average House Price
	Coordinate housing provision with investment in employment and community services to ensure that settlements meet the needs of their communities.	Will development of the site provide specialist accommodation to meet identified needs in Halton?	- Average Rentals - House Type and Tenure
	Provide decent, good quality and affordable housing for all, including intermediate and key worker housing in line with RSS (and Growth Point) housing targets.	Will the site provide an opportunity to meet the accommodation needs of gypsy and traveller groups?	% of households rated unfit - No. unfit dwellings demolished - No of people on housing waiting list % of housing development incorporating community green space / children's play areas - Income to average house price ratio
11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton	Provide improved physical access to education, skills and training facilities on foot, cycle and by public transport.	Proximity to Primary and Secondary Schools	Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, a hospital, a primary school, a

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
	Provide access from residential development to GPs, Hospitals, areas of employment, Town, District and Local Centres. Secure economic inclusion in the most deprived wards in the Borough, particularly those most affected in Runcorn and Widnes. Ensure that issues of both rural and urban deprivation are considered in development proposals.	- Proximity to Further & Higher Education - Proximity to GP Surgery - Proximity to Hospitals - Proximity to Areas of Employment - Proximity to Town or District Centres - Proximity to Local Centres	secondary school, areas of employment and a major retail centre - Percentage of rural households within set distances (either 4km or 2km) of key services % of development located within the urban areas - Number of households within 30 minutes of key service centres by public transport - Number of planning applications refused on access grounds - The % of the population within 20 minutes travel time of different sports facility types
12. To improve physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Halton	Maintain accessible healthcare facilities throughout Halton. Promote healthy and active lifestyles through encouraging walking and cycling as well as the provision and improvement of public access to Green Infrastructure, including good quality rights of way, open space, countryside, sporting, recreational	- Proximity to GP Surgery - Proximity to Hospitals - Access to cycle ways - Access to public footpaths - Proximity to Open Space (Formal Parks, Children's Play Areas, Playing	- Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP and a hospital - Doctor/Patient ratio - Length of cycleways created % Adults taking part in sport

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
	and community facilities in Halton. Reduce crime and the fear of crime, by adhering to 'designing out crime' principles in all new development.	Pitches) - Does the site present an opportunity to create additional open space or to create a link into the existing green infrastructure network? - Proximity to Indoor Leisure Facilities - Proximity to Community Facilities - The effects of new development on safety, crime and fear of crime will depend on design proposals for the sites. Generally, these issues will not be influenced by the location of development and will instead be determined through the detailed proposals for each site.	- Number of developments with restriction of opening hours/ noise reduction measures - No. Visits to leisure centres - Design Out Crime layouts included in applications - No of developments which meet police crime design awards standard % Households with 1 or more person with a limiting long term illness
13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for lifelong learning	Improve linkages between higher education providers and local employers. Promote good access to educational and training opportunities for all sectors of the population, particularly amongst deprived communities.	- Proximity to Primary and Secondary Schools - Proximity to Further & Higher Education	- Percentage of Year 11 pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs grade A-C - Percentage of Year 11 pupils educated to NVQ levels 2,3 or 4 % of the population whose highest qualification is a first degree (or

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
			equivalent) - Number of S106 agreements requiring skills training % of the population with no or low qualifications
I4. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth	Promote employment in areas where unemployment is high, particularly in Runcorn and Widnes, which reflects the skills and aspirations of local people.	Potential for economic development and employment opportunities on the site	Amount of floor space developed for employment by type
	Provide a positive planning framework for exploiting new opportunities in tourism, creative and knowledge based industries and the energy sector, including renewable energy technologies.	Would the development of the site lead to the loss of employment land? (High / Low Quality employment land)	Amount of floor space developed for employment by type in employment or regeneration areas
	Provide support for economic development that is appropriate for small businesses or home-based working.	Will the site provide land and / or buildings attractive to the employment market?	Employment land available by type
	Seek to attract employment and training programmes specifically targeted at maintaining and increasing the proportion of young people in the Borough.	- Proximity to areas classified as one of the 20% most deprived by the Indices of Deprivation. - Could development of the site improve the appearance and image of the area to encourage new businesses to locate?	- Losses of employment land in (i) employment / regeneration areas and (ii) local authority area - Amount of employment land lost to residential development - Economic Activity Rate - GVA per head claimant count - VAT registrations - Worklessness in Halton - Unemployment Annual Population Survey

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
			and Claimant Count Rates - Average Household Income - Amount of completed retail and office development - ONS Annual Population Survey - Proximity of jobs from residences - Unemployment rate % (male and female) - GVA £ per capita
15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry	Improve the quality of supporting infrastructure for tourism in the Borough, such as accommodation and leisure and cultural facilities.	Potential for cultural, leisure and/ or tourism related development on the site	- Amount of completed leisure development - Visitor Numbers - Tourism expenditure in the Borough - Additional expenditure in the Borough as a result of the tourism industry
	Encourage the use of the Borough's natural and cultural features for tourism development, within their environmental limits.		
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough	Protect the shopping and community services function of local service centres.	- Proximity to Town or District Centres - Proximity to Local Centres	- Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres - Vacancy rates within the Town Centres
	Reduce the number of vacant retail properties in Runcorn, Halton Lea and		

SA Framework			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Locally Distinctive Sub-Criteria	Site Assessment Criteria	Relevant Indicators of Note
	Widnes and the other smaller service centres in the Borough. Improve the quality of the public realm in order to improve the attractiveness of the service centres to new investment.		- Footfall within the Town Centres - Retail Hierarchy and ranking - New business start-up / closure rate
17.To improve the choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel	Improve the provision and quality of bus and rail services in Halton. Develop and maintain safe, efficient and integrated transport networks within Halton, with good internal and external links. Reduce car dependency by providing services and facilities accessible by sustainable modes of transport, particularly in rural areas. Promote a pattern of development which reduces private vehicle dependency in the location of homes, jobs, leisure and community services.	- Is the site located where it can be easily access by walking, cycling or public transport? - Access to cycle ways - Access to public footpaths - Proximity to a bus stop - Proximity to a train station - Does development of the site have the potential to fund improvements to existing provision for cycling, walking and public transport?	- Amount of completed non-residential development complying with local car parking standards - Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, a hospital, a primary school, a secondary school, areas of employment and a major retail centre - Methods of travel to work - Vehicle Ownership - Distance travelled to work - No. of road accidents % of development located within the urban areas

- 2.7 When the Sustainability Appraisal Framework is used to assess sites the following scoring system will be attributed to each SA Objective for each Policy or Site Allocation to indicate its likely sustainability effects:

++	Significant positive effect likely
+	Minor positive effect likely
0	Negligible effect likely
-	Minor negative effect likely
--	Significant negative effect likely
+/-	Mixed effect likely
?	Likely effect uncertain
N/A	Policy is not relevant to the SA Objective

- 2.8 The likely effects of the Local Plan need to be determined and their significance assessed, and this inevitably requires a series of judgements to be made. It should be noted that the dividing line in making a decision about the significance of an effect is often quite small, and can potentially be changed by small amendments to policies or through mitigation and the design of a development on a particular site.

- 2.9 The table below indicates how the objectives contained within the SA Framework were allocated to the topics within the SA Scoping Report.

Topic Area	SA Objective
Biodiversity	2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton
Water Quality and Resources	3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources
Soil and Land Resources	7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton 9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates
Air Quality	8. To improve air quality in Halton

Climatic Factors and Flooding	4. To promote adaptation to Halton's changing climate 5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change 6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources
Cultural Heritage and Landscape	1. To protect, enhance and manage places, landscapes and buildings of historic, cultural and archaeological value
Population and Human Health	12. To improve physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Halton
Social Inclusiveness Including Skills and Education	11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton 13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for lifelong learning
Local Economy and Employment	14. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth 15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry 16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough
Housing	10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton
Transportation	17. To improve the choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel

Stage B I: Testing the Local Plan Objectives

- 3.1 Stage B in the SA process is the appraisal itself, and is an iterative process. The first step in Stage B is to test the Local Plan Objectives. The Revised Core Strategy policies and Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Draft Document does not propose a new vision or objectives, it currently suggests that the existing Core Strategy Local Plan Vision and Objectives are maintained.
- 3.2 The Core Strategy Vision and Objectives have already been subject to consultation and have been subject to Sustainability Appraisal as part of the wider assessment and appraisal of the Core Strategy.
- 3.3 The Core Strategy Objectives are as follows:
 1. *Create and support attractive, accessible and adaptable residential neighbourhoods where people want to live*
 2. *Provide good quality, affordable accommodation and a wide mix of housing types to create balanced communities*
 3. *Create and sustain a competitive and diverse business environment offering a variety of quality sites and premises, with a particular emphasis on the revitalisation of existing vacant and underused employment areas*
 4. *Further develop Halton's economy around the logistics and distribution sector, and expand the science, creative and knowledge based business clusters*
 5. *Maintain and enhance Halton's town, district and local centres to create high quality retail and leisure areas that meet the needs of the local community, and positively contribute to the image of the Borough*
 6. *Ensure all development is supported by the timely provision of adequate infrastructure, with sufficient capacity to accommodate additional future growth*
 7. *Provide accessible travel options for people and freight, particularly through the realisation of the Mersey Gateway Project, ensuring a better connected, less congested and more sustainable Halton*
 8. *Ensure that all development achieves high standards of design and sustainability and provides a positive contribution to its locality*
 9. *Minimise Halton's contribution to climate change through reducing carbon emissions and ensure the Borough is resilient to the adverse effects of climate change*

- 10. Support the conservation and enhancement of the historic and natural environment including designated sites and species and the Borough's green infrastructure in order to maximise social, economic and environmental benefits*
 - 11. Improve the health and well-being of Halton's residents throughout each of their life stages, through supporting the achievement of healthy lifestyles and healthy environments for all*
 - 12. Prevent harm and nuisance to people and biodiversity from potential sources of pollution and foreseeable risks*
 - 13. Support sustainable and effective waste and minerals management, reducing the amount of waste generated and contributing to the maintenance of appropriate mineral reserves.*
- 3.4 As it is not proposed to amend these objectives, no further assessment has taken place at this time.

Stage B2: Developing Options and Reasonable Alternatives

- 4.1 The PPG states that ‘reasonable alternatives should be identified and considered at an early stage in the plan making process, as the assessment of these should inform the local planning authority in choosing its preferred approach’.
- 4.2 It is noted at this point that the Halton Core Strategy Local Plan has already been subject to Sustainability Appraisal and examination and many of the overarching options have already been assessed and examined as part of this process. Therefore the options provided here are much more closely related to the potential different directions that can be taken by the more detailed policies rather than the larger strategic issues.
- 4.3 In formulating the options for the DALP a number of reasonable alternatives have been explored in relation to the allocation of sites.
- 4.4 Set out below are the options as proposed in the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Scoping Report.
- Urban (Brownfield) - detailed analysis of all potential developable brownfield land has been undertaken. A number of potential allocations identified were limited due to the sites deliverability, developability and viability for an intended use due to issues of contamination etc.
 - Urban (Greenfield) – A review of greenspace standards has been undertaken to investigate the scope for releasing urban green space for development.
 - Neighbouring Authorities – Each neighbouring Authority within the Housing Market Area and Functional Economic Market Area have been contacted to ascertain their ability to accommodate a part of Halton’s OAN.
 - Green Belt – Accommodating Halton’s need by releasing land from the greenbelt for the identified shortfall once all other alternatives had been explored.

Extracts from the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Scoping Document

Supporting Halton’s Economy

6.1 - Amount of Employment Land Provided

- 4.5 The amount of employment land provided will be important in ensuring that we meet the needs of current employers and that we are able to attract employers into the Borough. It is also important to ensure that there are employment opportunities available to Halton residents, and to attract new working age people into the Borough.

• Option 6.1A:	Based on Economic Forecasts
• Option 6.1B:	Based on past take up rates

• Option 6.1C:	A balance between the Economic Forecasts and the past take up rates
• Option 6.1D:	A level above those suggested by either forecasts or past take up rates to increase job opportunities within the Borough
• Option 6.1E:	Provide an increased level of employment land for higher skilled jobs e.g. office development or research and laboratories or advanced manufacturing to increase job opportunities in these areas

6.2 – Location of Employment Land

- 4.6 The location of employment land can be key in attracting employers and can be particularly important in ensuring that local people can access jobs.

• Option 6.2A:	Focused around key transport routes
• Option 6.2B:	Redevelopment of existing or previous employment area
• Option 6.2C:	Expanding the existing employment areas
• Option 6.2D:	Greenfield sites on the edge of Runcorn, Widnes and Hale

6.3 – Protection of existing Employment Land

- 4.7 In order to maintain an appropriate portfolio of sites in Halton, a precautionary approach could be taken to ensure that sites are not developed for other uses where they are considered essential to meeting the economic priorities of the Borough. The need to retain a site could be informed by how a site could contribute to meeting projected requirements, as well as any specific demand for development demonstrated by market signals in specific areas of the Borough.

4.8

• Option 6.3A:	Protection ⁶ of existing Employment Land
• Option 6.3B:	No Protection of existing Employment Land
• Option 6.3C:	Protection ⁶ of a particular area(s) of Employment Land
• Option 6.3D:	Protection ⁶ of a particular type(s) of Employment Land

Housing

7.1 – Number of dwellings

- 4.9 The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) has identified the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) as 466 dwellings each year with a proposed distribution north and south of the river.

• Option 7.1A:	To use the OAN as the housing requirement
• Option 7.1B:	To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough. [and meet other LA's housing need]

⁶ Protection will not occur where evidence has been provided that there is no reasonable prospect of the site being used for employment purposes.

• Option 7.1C:	To have a housing requirement lower than the OAN to allow for constraints to development in the Borough including Green Belt and the levels of contamination in certain areas
• Option 7.1D:	To retain the Core Strategy housing requirement (an average of 552dwgs each year)

7.2: Gypsies and Travellers

4.10 National planning policy requires the Council to address the specific accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers by setting pitch targets for gypsies and travellers which addresses the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs. The Council will be expected to identify and update a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of sites against the targets.

• Option 7.2A:	Extend existing sites
• Option 7.2B:	Locate sites close to existing services
• Option 7.2C:	Locate sites close to travelling routes

7.3 – Other forms of housing

4.11 The Local Plan must also consider the specific needs of older people and other vulnerable groups and set out an approach to deal with demand and the need to provide suitable accommodation. Following the national trend, Halton is forecast to see considerable growth in the proportion of older people and older person households. Some older households may require specialist housing solutions.

• Option 7.3A:	Require all sites allocated for housing or including housing, to provide a proportion of housing for specialist accommodation.
• Option 7.3B:	Require all sites allocated for housing to include a proportion of dwellings that meet the lifetime homes standards.
• Option 7.3C:	Allocate sites for specialist accommodation.
• Option 7.3D:	Identify criteria for sites that could be used for specialist accommodation.

Town, Districts and Local Centres

9.1 – Provision & Capacity

4.12 The Retail Study will identify the retail capacity; work on this is currently ongoing.

• Option 9.1A:	To allocate land to meet the capacity identified
• Option 9.1B:	To provide a criteria to guide development to meet the capacity identified
• Option 9.1C:	To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres

9.2 - Thresholds for Retail Impact Assessment

4.13 National planning policy requires us to set policies for the consideration of proposals for main town centre uses which cannot be accommodated in or adjacent to town centres. It requires impact tests to be carried out for all town centre development proposed outside of town centres and not in accordance with a development plan. If a

local threshold for this impact test is not set then the NPPF suggests a 2,500 sq.m threshold. As development should be appropriate in terms of scale and nature to the centre in which it is located, the Retail Study will consider this issue for Halton and will provide potential thresholds.

• Option 9.2A:	Apply the Threshold proposed in the retail study
• Option 9.2B:	Apply different Thresholds for each town / same thresholds for each town
• Option 9.2C:	Apply same thresholds for each town
• Option 9.2A:	Do not include a Threshold and instead rely on NPPF

9.3 - Evening Economy

4.14 Uses such as bars and pubs, restaurants and cafes and take-away are important in creating vibrant town centres.

• Option 9.3A:	Establish quarters in the town centres where appropriate food and drink uses would be encouraged
• Option 9.3B:	Apply threshold limits to manage the clustering of these uses in the primary shopping areas / in Halton's Centres
• Option 9.3C:	Do not restrict the location of evening economy uses such as bars and pubs, restaurants and cafes and take-aways

9.4 – Other Town Centre Uses

4.15 The main uses in Halton centres are retail based, however, it is likely that the shopping role of the centres will change in the future in line with national trends.

• Option 9.4A:	Create open spaces and places to socialise
• Option 9.4B:	Increase residential development in the town centres
• Option 9.4C:	Encourage non-retail uses into town centres
• Option 9.4D:	Encourage non-retail uses in to the town centres everywhere except within the Primary Shopping Area

Stage B3 & B4: Evaluate the likely effects of the Local Plan and Alternatives and consider ways of Mitigating Adverse Effects

- 5.1 The PPG states that *‘the sustainability appraisal should predict and evaluate the effects of the . . . reasonable alternatives and should clearly identify the significant positive and negative effects of each alternative’*.
- 5.2 The alternatives highlighted within the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (DALP) Scoping Document did not include a preferred option, leaving the detail to be determined at the next stage of preparing a plan. However, the Council still appraised each of the options and provided commentary as appropriate to explain the assessment made.
- 5.3 The assessment was made by comparing each of the options to the objectives set out in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework, which was based on the environmental, economic and social characteristics of the Borough. Each of the alternatives for each of the policies was assessed against the same criteria. These appraisals are set out Tables 5.1 to 5.9 below.
- 5.4 The appraisal helped to identify areas that might want to be taken into consideration when the policies were being prepared and allocations identified as part of the preparation of the Revised Core Strategy policies and DALP Draft Document.
- 5.5 Following the consultation on the DALP, the SA Scoping and SA the Council have taken all the comments into consideration and have used these along with the results of the SA and other supporting documents such as the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA), the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to determine the preferred options to take forward within the Revised Core Strategy policies and DALP Draft Document.
- 5.6 The SA and the production of the Revised Core Strategy policies and DALP will continue to be an iterative process until the document has been adopted, with the policies, proposals and allocation being revised to take account of the appraisal findings and with SA Reports being produced to support each stage of consultation on the Revised Core Strategy policies and DALP.

Key	
++	Significant positive effect likely
+	Minor positive effect likely
0	Negligible effect likely
-	Minor negative effect likely
--	Significant negative effect likely
+/-	Mixed effect likely
?	Likely effect uncertain
N/A	Policy is not relevant to the SA Objective

Table 5.1: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.1 - Amount of Employment Land Provided

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.1A: Based on Economic Forecasts				Option 6.1B: Based on past take up rates				Option 6.1C: A balance between the Economic Forecasts and the past take up rates				Option 6.1D: A level above those suggested by either forecasts or past take up rates to increase job opportunities within the Borough				Option 6.1E: Provide an increased level of employment land for higher skilled jobs to increase job opportunities in these areas			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
1. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes and buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the economic forecasts.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the past take up rates.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the balance figure.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although as the amount	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although as the amount provided is larger

Table 5.1: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.1 - Amount of Employment Land Provided

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	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
archaeological value																provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.				it has the potential to have a greater impact.
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the economic forecasts.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the past take up rates.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the balance figure.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the economic forecasts.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the past take up rates.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the balance figure.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this

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	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
and to sustainably manage water resources																proposed in this option. Although as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.				option. Although as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.
4. To promote adaptation to Halton's changing climate	0	0	0	The impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).	0	0	0	The impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).	0	0	0	The impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).	0	0	0	The impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).	0	0	0	The impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the economic forecasts.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the past take up rates.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the balance figure.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although

Table 5.1: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.1 - Amount of Employment Land Provided

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	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
as surface water and groundwater																option. Although as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.				as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources	+	+	+	Policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.	+	+	+	Policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.	+	+	+	Policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.	+	+	+	Policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.	+	+	+	Policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.
7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the economic forecasts.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the past take up rates.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the balance figure.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although as the amount

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	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
																as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.				provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.
8. To improve air quality in Halton	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the economic forecasts. Locating development close to public transport nodes and residential areas could help to reduce travel and therefore improve air quality.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the past take up rates. Locating development close to public transport nodes and residential areas could help to reduce travel and therefore improve air quality.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the balance figure. Locating development close to public transport nodes and residential areas could help to reduce travel and therefore improve air quality.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact. Locating development close to public transport nodes and residential areas could help to reduce travel and therefore improve air quality.

Table 5.1: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.1 - Amount of Employment Land Provided

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	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	
11. To improve access to services and facilities in	?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the	?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of	?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of	?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the	?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of

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	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
Halton				location of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.				employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.				employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.				location of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.				employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.
12. To improve physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Halton	+	+	+	Increased employment opportunities can help to improve people's well-being. Proposed policies will also aim to promote design that encourages activity and reduces crime.	+	+	+	Increased employment opportunities can help to improve people's well-being. In the medium to long term a level of employment above the forecasts is likely to lead to increased opportunity and choice. Proposed policies will also aim to promote design that encourages activity and reduces crime.	+	++	++	Increased employment opportunities can help to improve people's well-being. In the medium to long term a level of employment above the forecasts is likely to lead to increased opportunity and choice. Proposed policies will also aim to promote design that encourages activity and reduces crime.	+	++	++	Increased employment opportunities can help to improve people's well-being. In the medium to long term a level of employment above the forecasts is likely to lead to increased opportunity and choice. Proposed policies will also aim to promote design that encourages activity and	+	++	++	Increased employment opportunities can help to improve people's well-being. In the medium to long term a level of employment above the forecasts is likely to lead to increased opportunity and choice. Proposed policies will also aim to promote design that encourages activity and

Table 5.1: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.1 - Amount of Employment Land Provided

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	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
																reduces crime. However, there will be limits to these benefits as over-provision may increase commuting and need to travel which could have detrimental impacts.				reduces crime. However, there will be limits to these benefits as over-provision may increase commuting and need to travel which could have detrimental impacts.
13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for life long learning				Improvements to education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.				Improvements to education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.				Improvements to education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.				Improvements to education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.				Improvements to education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.
14. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and	++	++	++	Employment development will contribute to the economy of the	+	+	+	Employment development will contribute to the economy of the	++	++	++	Employment development will contribute to the economy of the	++	++	++	Employment development will contribute to the economy of the	++	++	++	Employment development will contribute to the economy of the

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SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.1A: Based on Economic Forecasts				Option 6.1B: Based on past take up rates				Option 6.1C: A balance between the Economic Forecasts and the past take up rates				Option 6.1D: A level above those suggested by either forecasts or past take up rates to increase job opportunities within the Borough				Option 6.1E: Provide an increased level of employment land for higher skilled jobs to increase job opportunities in these areas			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth				Borough.				Borough.				Borough.				Borough, with a higher level of employment likely to foster more growth.				Borough, with a higher level of employment likely to foster more growth.
15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	
17.To improve the choice and use of sustainable transport in	?	?	?		?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the past take	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the balance	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land allocation to meet the

Table 5.1: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.1 - Amount of Employment Land Provided

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.1A: Based on Economic Forecasts				Option 6.1B: Based on past take up rates				Option 6.1C: A balance between the Economic Forecasts and the past take up rates				Option 6.1D: A level above those suggested by either forecasts or past take up rates to increase job opportunities within the Borough				Option 6.1E: Provide an increased level of employment land for higher skilled jobs to increase job opportunities in these areas			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
Halton and reduce the need to travel								up rates.				figure.				the increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.				increased level of employment proposed in this option. Although as the amount provided is larger it has the potential to have a greater impact.

Table 5.2: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.2 – Location of Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.2A: Focused around key transport routes				Option 6.2B: Redevelopment of existing or previous employment area				Option 6.2C: Expanding the existing employment areas				Option 6.2D: Greenfield sites on the edge of Runcorn, Widnes and Hale			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
1. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes and buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and archaeological	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the transport routes in relation to the assets listed for protection and enhancement.	+	+	+	Redevelopment of existing sites is likely to continue to protect assets, however, it may not help to enhance or manage.	?	?	?	This would depend on the existing employment areas chosen to expand and whereabouts the expansion occurs.	?	?	?	This would depend on the greenfield sites selected for development.

Table 5.2: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.2 – Location of Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.2A: Focused around key transport routes				Option 6.2B: Redevelopment of existing or previous employment area				Option 6.2C: Expanding the existing employment areas				Option 6.2D: Greenfield sites on the edge of Runcorn, Widnes and Hale			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
value																
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the transport routes	+	+	+	Redevelopment of existing sites is likely to continue to protect assets, however, it may not help to enhance or manage.	?	?	?	This would depend on the existing employment areas chosen to expand and whereabouts the expansion occurs.	?	?	?	This would depend on the greenfield sites selected for development.
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources	?	?	?	Sustainable abstraction will depend on the exact locations chosen for development. However, Policy HE10 on Water Management will help to ensure that all development sustainably manage water resources.	?	?	?	Sustainable abstraction will depend on the exact locations chosen for development. However, Policy HE10 on Water Management will help to ensure that all development sustainably manage water resources.	?	?	?	Sustainable abstraction will depend on the exact locations chosen for development. However, Policy HE10 on Water Management will help to ensure that all development sustainably manage water resources.	?	?	?	Sustainable abstraction will depend on the exact locations chosen for development. However, Policy HE10 on Water Management will help to ensure that all development sustainably manage water resources.
4. To promote adaptation to Halton's changing climate	?	?	?	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).	?	?	?	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).	?	?	?	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).	?	?	?	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).

Table 5.2: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.2 – Location of Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.2A: Focused around key transport routes				Option 6.2B: Redevelopment of existing or previous employment area				Option 6.2C: Expanding the existing employment areas				Option 6.2D: Greenfield sites on the edge of Runcorn, Widnes and Hale			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such as surface water and groundwater	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the transport routes	?	?	+	Redevelopment of the existing employment areas is likely to lead to reduced flood risks, however, this could still be affected by the density and layout of any new development.	?	?	?	This would depend on the existing employment areas chosen to expand and whereabouts the expansion occurs.	?	?	?	This would depend on the greenfield sites selected for development.
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources	+	+	+	SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.	+	+	+	SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.	+	+	+	SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.	+	+	+	SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.
7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the transport routes.	++	++	++	Redevelopment will use previously land and reduce the need to develop on greenfield or agricultural land.	?	?	?	This would depend on the existing employment areas chosen to expand and whereabouts the expansion occurs.	-	-	-	This is option could see agricultural land developed, and would not encourage the development of brownfield sites.
8. To improve air quality in Halton	?	?	?	Locating development close to transport routes could encourage public transport uses, however, it may also encourage travelling by car.	+	+	+	Air quality may be improved through encouraged usage of public transport, redevelopment of existing sites would see the existing public transport links used and potentially	+	+	+	Air quality may be improved through encouraged usage of public transport, expansion of existing sites would see the existing public transport links used and potentially	-	-	-	Air quality may be improved through encouraged usage of public transport; this option may require the creation of new public transport links. It is also likely as this would be outside of

Table 5.2: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.2 – Location of Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.2A: Focused around key transport routes				Option 6.2B: Redevelopment of existing or previous employment area				Option 6.2C: Expanding the existing employment areas				Option 6.2D: Greenfield sites on the edge of Runcorn, Widnes and Hale			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
								strengthened.				strengthened.				the existing urban area that there would be longer journeys required.
9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	
11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton	++	++	++	Focusing employment development around transport routes will improve access to employment opportunities.	?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of employment development and the	?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of employment development and the	?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of employment development and the

Table 5.2: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.2 – Location of Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.2A: Focused around key transport routes				Option 6.2B: Redevelopment of existing or previous employment area				Option 6.2C: Expanding the existing employment areas				Option 6.2D: Greenfield sites on the edge of Runcorn, Widnes and Hale			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
								skills and training opportunities it may provide.				skills and training opportunities it may provide.				skills and training opportunities it may provide.
12. To improve physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Halton	0	0	0	Policies will seek to ensure that all development is designed to reduce crime and to increase activity and well being.	0	0	0	Policies will seek to ensure that all development is designed to reduce crime and to increase activity and well being.	0	0	0	Policies will seek to ensure that all development is designed to reduce crime and to increase activity and well being.	0	0	0	Policies will seek to ensure that all development is designed to reduce crime and to increase activity and well being.
13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for life long learning	?	?	?	Improvements to education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.	?	?	?	Improvements to education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.	?	?	?	Improvements to education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.	?	?	?	Improvements to education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.
14. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth	++	++	++	Employment development will contribute to the economy of the Borough.	++	++	++	Employment development will contribute to the economy of the Borough.	++	++	++	Employment development will contribute to the economy of the Borough.	++	++	++	Employment development will contribute to the economy of the Borough.

Table 5.2: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.2 – Location of Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.2A: Focused around key transport routes					Option 6.2B: Redevelopment of existing or previous employment area					Option 6.2C: Expanding the existing employment areas					Option 6.2D: Greenfield sites on the edge of Runcorn, Widnes and Hale			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
17. To improve the choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Locating development close to transport routes could encourage public transport uses and improvement to services, however, it may also encourage travelling by car.		+	+	+	Redevelopment of existing sites would see the existing public transport links used and potentially strengthened.		+	+	+	Expansion of existing sites would see the existing public transport links used and potentially strengthened.		-	-	-	This option may require the creation of new public transport links. It is also likely as this would be outside of the existing urban area that there would be longer journeys required.

Table 5.3: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.3 - Protection of existing Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.3A: Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3B: No Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3C: Protection of a particular area(s) of Employment Land					Option 6.3D: Protection of a particular type(s) of Employment Land			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment

Table 5.3: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.3 - Protection of existing Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.3A: Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3B: No Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3C: Protection of a particular area(s) of Employment Land					Option 6.3D: Protection of a particular type(s) of Employment Land			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
1. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes and buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and archaeological value	0	0	0	Protecting existing employment land is likely to have a negligible impact on the protection, enhancement or management of these assets.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land and the use and design of the site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	0	0	0	Protecting existing employment land is likely to have a negligible additional impact on the protection, enhancement or management of biodiversity.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land and the use and design of the site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources	0	0	0	Protecting existing employment land is likely to have a negligible additional impact on water quality.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land and the use and design of the site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.
4. To promote adaptation to	0	0	0	The impact of new development on		0	0	0	The impact of new development on		0	0	0	The impact of new development on		0	0	0	The impact of new development on

Table 5.3: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.3 - Protection of existing Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.3A: Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3B: No Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3C: Protection of a particular area(s) of Employment Land					Option 6.3D: Protection of a particular type(s) of Employment Land			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
Halton's changing climate				climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).					climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).					climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).					climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design (including those promoted within Policy HE10).
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such as surface water and groundwater	0	0	0	Protecting existing employment land is likely to have a negligible additional impact on flood risk.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land and the use and design of the site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources	+	+	+	Policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.		+	+	+	Policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.		+	+	+	Policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.		+	+	+	Policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.
7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton	0	0	0	Protecting existing employment land is likely to have a negligible effect on land quality.		+/-	+/-	+/-	Not protecting employment land and instead seeing it reused for other purposes such as housing could lead to less of this development on		+/-	+/-	+/-	Not protecting all employment land and instead seeing some of it reused for other purposes such as housing could lead to less of this development on		+/-	+/-	+/-	Not protecting all employment land and instead seeing some of it reused for other purposes such as housing could lead to less of this development on

Table 5.3: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.3 - Protection of existing Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.3A: Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3B: No Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3C: Protection of a particular area(s) of Employment Land					Option 6.3D: Protection of a particular type(s) of Employment Land			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
									greenfield sites. However, it could mean more employment development going on to greenfield sites instead.					greenfield sites. However, it could mean more employment development going on to greenfield sites instead.					greenfield sites. However, it could mean more employment development going on to greenfield sites instead.
8. To improve air quality in Halton	0	0	0	Protecting existing employment land is likely to have a negligible additional impact on air quality.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land and the use and design of the site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.		?	?	?	This will depend on the location of the existing employment land that is not protected and the use and design of a site when it is redeveloped.
9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates	?	?	?	Policies within Waste Plan and the Core Strategy seek to minimise waste within new developments, this may be at lower levels than the existing employment development, however, this is dependent on the existing and new employment uses.		?	?	?	Policies within Waste Plan and the Core Strategy seek to minimise waste within new developments, this may be at lower levels than the existing employment development, however, this is dependent on the existing and new uses.		?	?	?	Policies within Waste Plan and the Core Strategy seek to minimise waste within new developments, this may be at lower levels than the existing employment development, however, this is dependent on the existing and new uses.		?	?	?	Policies within Waste Plan and the Core Strategy seek to minimise waste within new developments, this may be at lower levels than the existing employment development, however, this is dependent on the existing and new uses.

Table 5.3: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.3 - Protection of existing Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.3A: Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3B: No Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3C: Protection of a particular area(s) of Employment Land					Option 6.3D: Protection of a particular type(s) of Employment Land			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton	?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it provides or new development could provide.		?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it provides or new development could provide.		?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it provides or new development could provide.		?	?	?	Access to services and facilities will be dependent on the location of employment development and the skills and training opportunities it provides or new development could provide.
12. To improve physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
13. To improve	?	?	?	Improvements to		?	?	?	Improvements to		?	?	?	Improvements to		?	?	?	Improvements to

Table 5.3: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.3 - Protection of existing Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.3A: Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3B: No Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3C: Protection of a particular area(s) of Employment Land					Option 6.3D: Protection of a particular type(s) of Employment Land			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for life long learning				education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development existing and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.					education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development existing and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.					education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development existing and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.					education, skills and qualifications will be dependent on the type of employment development existing and the skills and training opportunities it may provide.
14. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth	+	+	+	Protecting existing employment land for employment purposes is likely to contribute to a strong economy, providing the existing employment land is appropriately located and can be used for viable employment purposes.		+/-	+/-	+/-	Allowing employment land to be used for alternate purposes could lead to sites that are no longer suitable for employment being put to other uses and therefore supporting the economy. However, it could lead to a lack of employment land available for future development and this will need to be monitored.		+/-	+/-	+/-	Allowing employment land to be used for alternate purposes in a certain area could lead to sites that are no longer suitable for employment being put to other uses and therefore supporting the economy. However, it could lead to a lack of employment land in that area available for future development and this will need to be monitored.		+/-	+/-	+/-	Allowing a particular type of employment land to be used for alternate purposes could lead to sites that are no longer suitable for employment being put to other uses and therefore supporting the economy. However, it could lead to a lack of employment land available for future development and this will need to be monitored.
15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	

Table 5.3: Supporting Halton's Economy 6.3 - Protection of existing Employment Land

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 6.3A: Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3B: No Protection of existing Employment Land					Option 6.3C: Protection of a particular area(s) of Employment Land					Option 6.3D: Protection of a particular type(s) of Employment Land			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
17. To improve the choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land to be protected.		?	?	?	This would depend on the employment land to be redeveloped and the alternate uses proposed.		?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land protected and the employment land to be redeveloped and the uses proposed.		?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the employment land protected and the employment land to be redeveloped and the uses proposed.

Table 5.4: Housing 7.1 – Number of Dwellings

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.1A: To use the OAN (466 dwgs each year) as the housing requirement					Option 7.1B: To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough.					Option 7.1C: To have a housing requirement lower than the OAN to allow for constraints to development					Option 7.1D: To retain the Core Strategy housing requirement (an average of 552dwgs each year)			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
1. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes and	-	-	-	New housing development in areas of cultural heritage can have either positive or		-	-	-	New housing development in areas of cultural heritage can have either positive or		-	-	-	New housing development in areas of cultural heritage can have either positive or		-	-	-	New housing development in areas of cultural heritage can have either positive or

Table 5.4: Housing 7.1 – Number of Dwellings

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.1A: To use the OAN (466 dwgs each year) as the housing requirement				Option 7.1B: To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough.				Option 7.1C: To have a housing requirement lower than the OAN to allow for constraints to development				Option 7.1D: To retain the Core Strategy housing requirement (an average of 552dwgs each year)			
	S	M	L		S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and archaeological value				negative effects depending on how new development respects the cultural heritage present. Some new housing will also be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting the landscape.				negative effects depending on how new development respects the cultural heritage present. Some new housing will also be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting the landscape.				negative effects depending on how new development respects the cultural heritage present. Some new housing will also be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting the landscape.				negative effects depending on how new development respects the cultural heritage present. Some new housing will also be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting the landscape.
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	--	--	--	Using the OAN housing requirement will involve a large amount of new development, some on greenfield land; This will inevitably lead to a negative effect on biodiversity, flora and fauna.	--	--	--	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have similar impact as option 7.1A.	--	--	--	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have similar impact as option 7.1A.	--	--	--	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have similar impact as option 7.1A.
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources	-	-	-	An increase in housing provision will increase demand on water resources in the borough.	-	-	-	An increase in housing provision will increase demand on water resources in the borough.	-	-	-	An increase in housing provision will increase demand on water resources in the borough.	-	-	-	An increase in housing provision will increase demand on water resources in the borough.

Table 5.4: Housing 7.1 – Number of Dwellings

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.1A: To use the OAN (466 dwgs each year) as the housing requirement				Option 7.1B: To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough.				Option 7.1C: To have a housing requirement lower than the OAN to allow for constraints to development				Option 7.1D: To retain the Core Strategy housing requirement (an average of 552dwgs each year)			
	S	M	L		S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
4. To promote adaptation to Halton's changing climate	0	0	0	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.	0	0	0	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.	0	0	0	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.	0	0	0	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such as surface water and groundwater	-	-	-	An increase in housing development that lie within flood zones 2 and 3 has to be considered as having a negative effect. However, the definitive impact of new development on flooding and climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.	-	-	-	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have similar impact as option 7.1A.	-	-	-	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have similar impact as option 7.1A.	-	-	-	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have similar impact as option 7.1A.
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources	+	+	+	All new housing developments will contribute positively in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built environment.	+	+	+	All options involve housing development that will contribute positively in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built environment.	+	+	+	All options involve housing development that will contribute positively in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built environment.	+	+	+	All options involve housing development that will contribute positively in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built environment.

Table 5.4: Housing 7.1 – Number of Dwellings

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.1A: To use the OAN (466 dwgs each year) as the housing requirement				Option 7.1B: To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough.				Option 7.1C: To have a housing requirement lower than the OAN to allow for constraints to development				Option 7.1D: To retain the Core Strategy housing requirement (an average of 552dwgs each year)			
	S	M	L		S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the sites allocated. However if the Council were to allocate some brownfield sites, and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land this could assist in the improvement of land quality in Halton.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the sites allocated. However if the Council were to allocate some brownfield sites, and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land this could assist in the improvement of land quality in Halton. It is noted that the higher the housing figure the more greenfield and agricultural land that is going to need to be developed.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the sites allocated. However if the Council were to allocate some brownfield sites, and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land this could assist in the improvement of land quality in Halton. It is noted that the lower the housing figure the less greenfield and agricultural land that is going to need to be developed.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the sites allocated. However if the Council were to allocate some brownfield sites, and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land this could assist in the improvement of land quality in Halton. It is noted that the higher the housing figure the more greenfield and agricultural land that is going to need to be developed.
8. To improve air quality in Halton	--	--	--	Increased domestic population will likely lead to increased car usage, having a negative effect on air quality.	--	--	--	Increased domestic population will likely lead to increased car usage, having a negative effect on air quality.	--	--	--	Increased domestic population will likely lead to increased car usage, having a negative effect on air quality.	--	--	--	Increased domestic population will likely lead to increased car usage, having a negative effect on air quality.
9. To minimise	--	--	--	An increase in housing	--	--	--	An increase in housing	--	--	--	An increase in housing	--	--	--	An increase in housing

Table 5.4: Housing 7.1 – Number of Dwellings

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.1A: To use the OAN (466 dwgs each year) as the housing requirement				Option 7.1B: To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough.				Option 7.1C: To have a housing requirement lower than the OAN to allow for constraints to development				Option 7.1D: To retain the Core Strategy housing requirement (an average of 552dwgs each year)			
	S	M	L		S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates				provision within Halton will lead to an increase in the levels of domestic waste.				provision within Halton will lead to an increase in the levels of domestic waste.				provision within Halton will lead to an increase in the levels of domestic waste.				provision within Halton will lead to an increase in the levels of domestic waste.
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton	++	++	++	An increase in housing provision in Halton will have a very positive effect in relation to choice and quality.	++	++	++	An increase in housing provision in Halton will have a very positive effect in relation to choice and quality.	+	+	+	An increase in housing provision in Halton will have a positive effect in relation to choice and quality, however, as this is at a level lower than the OAN it is not expected to provide for all of the objectively assessed need within Halton.	++	++	++	An increase in housing provision in Halton will have a very positive effect in relation to choice and quality.
11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton	++	++	++	Increased housing provision in the most sustainable locations will have a positive impact on the accessibility to services and facilities.	++	++	++	Increased housing provision in the most sustainable locations will have a positive impact on the accessibility to services and facilities.	++	++	++	Increased housing provision in the most sustainable locations will have a positive impact on the accessibility to services and facilities.	++	++	++	Increased housing provision in the most sustainable locations will have a positive impact on the accessibility to services and facilities.
12. To improve physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce	++	++	++	The provision of housing in accordance with the OAN will bring more choice of housing	++	++	++	To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age	++	++	++	All options will result in an increased population if delivered and so all will have similar result	++	++	++	All options will result in an increased population if delivered and so all will have similar result

Table 5.4: Housing 7.1 – Number of Dwellings

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.1A: To use the OAN (466 dwgs each year) as the housing requirement				Option 7.1B: To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough.				Option 7.1C: To have a housing requirement lower than the OAN to allow for constraints to development				Option 7.1D: To retain the Core Strategy housing requirement (an average of 552dwgs each year)			
	S	M	L		S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
health inequalities in Halton				and aid social inclusiveness.				people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough. [and meet other LA's housing need] will bring more choice of housing and aid social inclusiveness.				as option 7.1A.				as option 7.1A.
13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for life long learning	?	?	?	Housing developments could provide opportunities to employ and train local people in construction related jobs.	?	?	?	Housing developments could provide opportunities to employ and train local people in construction related jobs.	?	?	?	Housing developments could provide opportunities to employ and train local people in construction related jobs.	?	?	?	Housing developments could provide opportunities to employ and train local people in construction related jobs.
14. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth	+	+	+	The provision of housing in accordance with the OAN could have a positive effect on supporting a strong and diverse local economy by providing an increase in provision and choice of housing for employers and employees.	+	++	++	The provision of housing in accordance with the OAN could have a very positive effect on supporting a strong and diverse local economy by providing an increase in provision and choice of housing for employers and employees, and by potentially allowing for	+	+	0	The provision of housing could have a positive effect in the short term as sites are developed, however as the housing requirement is lower than the OAN it may mean in the longer term that there is more scarcity of opportunities for housing development and that	+	+	+	The provision of housing in accordance with the OAN could have a positive effect on supporting a strong and diverse local economy by providing an increase in provision and choice of housing for employers and employees.

Table 5.4: Housing 7.1 – Number of Dwellings

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.1A: To use the OAN (466 dwgs each year) as the housing requirement				Option 7.1B: To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough.				Option 7.1C: To have a housing requirement lower than the OAN to allow for constraints to development				Option 7.1D: To retain the Core Strategy housing requirement (an average of 552dwgs each year)			
	S	M	L		S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
								an increase in working age people in the Borough.				the impact on the economy may be less positive than other options.				
15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry	+	+	+	Increased housing development will lead to an increase in Halton's population. This will have a positive impact on the sustainability of the tourism and leisure industry in Halton.	+	+	+	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have a similar impact as option 7.1A.	+	+	+	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have a similar impact as option 7.1A.	+	+	+	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have a similar impact as option 7.1A.
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough	++	++	++	The provision of increased housing would have a positive effect on maintaining and enhancing the vitality and viability of town and village centres as it will lead to an increase in Halton's population.	++	++	++	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have similar impact as option 7.1A.	++	++	++	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have similar impact as option 7.1A.	++	++	++	All options involve large amounts of new development and so all will have similar impact as option 7.1A.
17.To improve the	-	-	-	Any increase in new	-	-	-	Any increase in new	-	-	-	Any increase in new	-	-	-	This option will have a

Table 5.4: Housing 7.1 – Number of Dwellings

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.1A: To use the OAN (466 dwgs each year) as the housing requirement				Option 7.1B: To have a housing requirement higher than the OAN to allow for an increase in working age people in the Borough and to increase the levels of affordability in the Borough.				Option 7.1C: To have a housing requirement lower than the OAN to allow for constraints to development				Option 7.1D: To retain the Core Strategy housing requirement (an average of 552dwgs each year)			
	S	M	L		S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel				housing development will inevitably lead to increased pressure on the transport network and likely increase car usage.				housing development will inevitably lead to increased pressure on the transport network and likely increase in car usage. However this option would have the most negative impact due to the larger numbers of new housing.				housing development will inevitably lead to increased pressure on the transport network and likely increase in car usage. However this option would have the least negative impact due to the reduction in the number of new housing developments.				similar impact at option 7.1A however the impact will be slightly greater due to the quantum of development.

Table 5.5 Housing 7.2 - Gypsies and Travellers

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.2A: Extend existing sites				Option 7.2B: Locate sites close to existing services				Option 7.2C: Locate sites close to travelling routes			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
1. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes and buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and archaeological value	?	?	?	Development in areas of cultural heritage can have either positive or negative effects depending on how new development respects the cultural heritage present. Some pitch or plot provision will also be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting the landscape.	?	?	?	This policy option will have the same impact in areas of cultural heritage, landscapes and sites of historic cultural or archaeological value as option 7.2A.	?	?	?	This policy option will have the same impact in areas of cultural heritage, landscapes and sites of historic cultural or archaeological value as option 7.2A.

Table 5.5 Housing 7.2 - Gypsies and Travellers

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.2A: Extend existing sites					Option 7.2B: Locate sites close to existing services					Option 7.2C: Locate sites close to travelling routes			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	--	--	--	The development of additional permanent provision (plots and or pitches) will involve a large amount of new development, some on greenfield land. This will inevitably lead to a negative effect on biodiversity, flora and fauna.		--	--	--	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		--	--	--	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources	-	-	-	Any increase in provision will increase demand for water resources.		-	-	-	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		-	-	-	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
4. To promote adaptation to Halton's changing climate	0	0	0	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.		0	0	0	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.		0	0	0	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such as surface water and groundwater	?	?	?	All developments that lie within flood zones 2 and 3 has to be considered as having a negative effect. However, the definitive impact of new development on flooding and climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures.		?	?	?	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		?	?	?	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the	+	++	++	All new pitch or plot development will contribute positively in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built		++	++	++	All new pitch or plot development will contribute positively in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built		++	++	++	All new pitch or plot development will contribute positively in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built

Table 5.5 Housing 7.2 - Gypsies and Travellers

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.2A: Extend existing sites					Option 7.2B: Locate sites close to existing services					Option 7.2C: Locate sites close to travelling routes			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
proportion of energy use from renewable sources				environment.					environment.					environment.
7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton	-	-	-	New pitch or plot provision will also be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting the landscape and best and most versatile agricultural land.		-	-	-	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		-	-	-	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
8. To improve air quality in Halton	--	--	--	Any increase in new provision will inevitably lead to increased pressure on the transport network and likely increase car usage.		--	--	--	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		--	--	--	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates	--	--	--	An increase in plot or pitch provision within Halton will lead to an increase in the levels of domestic waste.		--	--	--	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		--	--	--	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton	+	++	++	An increase in housing provision in Halton will have a very positive effect in relation to choice and quality.		++	++	++	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		++	++	++	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton	+	+	+	The improvement of access to services and facilities in Halton will have a positive effect on the increased population by the expansion of existing sites.		++	++	++	Locating new provision close to existing services will have a most positive effect on the this objective		+	+	+	This option will have a similar impact to option 7.2A.
12. To improve	+	++	++	The additional provision of new plots		++	++	++	All options propose development and		++	++	++	All options propose development and

Table 5.5 Housing 7.2 - Gypsies and Travellers

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.2A: Extend existing sites					Option 7.2B: Locate sites close to existing services					Option 7.2C: Locate sites close to travelling routes			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Halton	+			and pitches will bring more choice of sites and aid social inclusiveness.					would have a similar impact to option 7.2A					would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for life long learning	+	++	++	Locating new pitch and plot provision close to existing educational facilities and opportunities for life- long learning will have positive effect on this sector of Halton's communities.		++	++	++	Locating new pitch and plot provision close to existing educational facilities and opportunities for life-long learning will have positive effect on this sector of Halton's communities.		++	++	++	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
14. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth	+	+	+	The provision of additional supply of pitches and plots will have a positive effect on the diversity of the local economy.		+	+	+	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		+	+	+	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry	+	+	+	Increased plot and pitch development will lead to an increase in Halton's population. This will have a positive impact on the sustainability of the tourism and leisure industry in Halton.		+	+	+	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		+	+	+	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough	+	++	++	Increased plot and pitch development will lead to an increase in Halton's population. This will have a positive impact on the vitality and viability of town and village centres in Halton.		++	++	++	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A		++	++	++	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.2A
17. To improve the	--	--	--	Increasing the provision of pitches will		--	--	--	All options propose development and		--	--	--	All options propose development and

Table 5.5 Housing 7.2 - Gypsies and Travellers

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.2A: Extend existing sites					Option 7.2B: Locate sites close to existing services					Option 7.2C: Locate sites close to travelling routes			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel				have a negative effect on reducing the need to travel.					would have a similar impact to option 7.2A					would have a similar impact to option 7.2A

Table 5.6 Housing 7.3 – Other forms of housing

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.3A: Require all sites allocated for housing or including housing, to provide a proportion of housing for specialist accommodation.					Option 7.3B: Require all sites allocated for housing to include a proportion of dwellings that meet the lifetime homes standards.					Option 7.3C: Allocate sites for specialist accommodation.					Option 7.3D: Identify criteria for sites			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
1. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes and buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and archaeological value	-	-	-	All new housing developments in areas of cultural heritage can have either positive or negative effects depending on how new development respects the cultural heritage present. Some new housing will also be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting the		-	-	-	All new housing developments in areas of cultural heritage can have either positive or negative effects depending on how new development respects the cultural heritage present. Some new housing will also be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting the		-	-	-	All new housing developments in areas of cultural heritage can have either positive or negative effects depending on how new development respects the cultural heritage present. Some new housing will also be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting the		++	++	++	Should the policy criteria include the protection, enhancement and management of landscapes, and buildings of historic cultural and archaeological value, this option would have a very positive effect.

Table 5.6 Housing 7.3 – Other forms of housing

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.3A: Require all sites allocated for housing or including housing, to provide a proportion of housing for specialist accommodation.				Option 7.3B: Require all sites allocated for housing to include a proportion of dwellings that meet the lifetime homes standards.				Option 7.3C: Allocate sites for specialist accommodation.				Option 7.3D: Identify criteria for sites			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
				landscape.				landscape.				landscape.				
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	-	-	-	Some new housing will be on greenfield sites, therefore negatively impacting biodiversity in Halton. The extent to which will depend upon the quantum of new development on greenfield sites.	-	-	-	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.3A	-	-	-	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.3A	++	++	++	Should the policy criteria include the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, this policy option would have a very positive effect.
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources	?	?	?	All new development will have an impact on the water resources in Halton. The level of impact will depend upon the quantum of development proposed. Therefore the outcome for this policy option is unknown.	?	?	?	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.3A	?	?	?	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.3A	++	++	++	Should the policy criteria include a criterion for the sustainable management of water resources, this policy option would have a very positive effect.

Table 5.6 Housing 7.3 – Other forms of housing

Table 5.6 Housing 7.3 – Other forms of housing																			
SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.3A: Require all sites allocated for housing or including housing, to provide a proportion of housing for specialist accommodation.					Option 7.3B: Require all sites allocated for housing to include a proportion of dwellings that meet the lifetime homes standards.					Option 7.3C: Allocate sites for specialist accommodation.					Option 7.3D: Identify criteria for sites			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
4. To promote adaptation to Halton’s changing climate	0	0	0	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.		0	0	0	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.3A		0	0	0	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.3A		++	++	++	Should the policy criteria include a criterion for adaptation to Halton's changing climate, this policy option would have a very positive effect.
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such as surface water and groundwater	-	-	-	An increase in housing provision that lie within flood zones 2 and 3 has to be considered as having a negative effect. However, the definitive impact of new development on flooding and climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design.		-	-	-	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.3A		-	-	-	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.3A		-	-	-	All options propose development and would have a similar impact to option 7.3A
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment,	++	++	++	All new housing developments will contribute positively		++	++	++	All new housing developments will contribute positively		++	++	++	All new housing developments will contribute positively		++	++	++	All new housing developments will contribute positively

Table 5.6 Housing 7.3 – Other forms of housing

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.3A: Require all sites allocated for housing or including housing, to provide a proportion of housing for specialist accommodation.				Option 7.3B: Require all sites allocated for housing to include a proportion of dwellings that meet the lifetime homes standards.				Option 7.3C: Allocate sites for specialist accommodation.				Option 7.3D: Identify criteria for sites			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources				in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built environment.				in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built environment.				in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built environment.				in the promotion of energy efficiency in the built environment.
7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the sites allocated. However if the Council were to allocate some brownfield sites, and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land this could assist in the improvement of land quality in Halton.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the sites allocated. However if the Council were to allocate some brownfield sites, and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land this could assist in the improvement of land quality in Halton.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the sites allocated. However if the Council were to allocate some brownfield sites, and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land this could assist in the improvement of land quality in Halton.	?	?	?	This would depend on the location of the sites developed. The Council could identify criteria to protect and improve land quality.
8. To improve air quality in Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	
9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments.	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments.

Table 5.6 Housing 7.3 – Other forms of housing

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.3A: Require all sites allocated for housing or including housing, to provide a proportion of housing for specialist accommodation.				Option 7.3B: Require all sites allocated for housing to include a proportion of dwellings that meet the lifetime homes standards.				Option 7.3C: Allocate sites for specialist accommodation.				Option 7.3D: Identify criteria for sites			
	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment	S	M	L	Comment
				However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.				However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.				However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.				However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton	+	+	+	This option would help to provide an appropriate range of housing for the community of Halton.	+	+	+	This option would help to provide an appropriate range of housing for the community of Halton.	+	+	+	This option would help to provide an appropriate range of housing for the community of Halton.	?	?	?	This is dependent on the criteria leading to the delivery of any sites. However, the criteria could look to ensure that affordable homes are provided.
11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton	?	?	?	This would be dependent on the location of the sites allocated in relation to the services and facilities. It is recommended that sites are allocated with access to services and facilities or that access is improved as part of the development.	?	?	?	This would be dependent on the location of the sites allocated in relation to the services and facilities. It is recommended that sites are allocated with access to services and facilities or that access is improved as part of the development.	?	?	?	This would be dependent on the location of the sites allocated in relation to the services and facilities. It is recommended that sites are allocated with access to services and facilities or that access is improved as part of the development.	?	?	?	This would be dependent on the location of the sites developed; however, the criteria developed could require the sites to have access to services and facilities.
12. To improve	+	++	++	Ensuring that there	+	++	++	Ensuring that there	+	++	++	Ensuring that there	?	?	?	This may not lead to

Table 5.6 Housing 7.3 – Other forms of housing

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.3A: Require all sites allocated for housing or including housing, to provide a proportion of housing for specialist accommodation.					Option 7.3B: Require all sites allocated for housing to include a proportion of dwellings that meet the lifetime homes standards.					Option 7.3C: Allocate sites for specialist accommodation.					Option 7.3D: Identify criteria for sites			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Halton				are sites available for specialist housing can help to support those with the need for these types of housing. Improving their health and well-being.					are sites available for lifetime homes can help to support those with the need for these types of housing. Improving their health and well-being and reducing the need for them to move at some point in the future.					are sites available for specialist housing can help to support those with the need for these types of housing. Improving their health and well-being.					the delivery of specialist or lifetime homes, as sites may not be identified that meets the criteria.
13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for life-long learning	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
14. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
15. Support the development of the	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	

Table 5.6 Housing 7.3 – Other forms of housing

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 7.3A: Require all sites allocated for housing or including housing, to provide a proportion of housing for specialist accommodation.					Option 7.3B: Require all sites allocated for housing to include a proportion of dwellings that meet the lifetime homes standards.					Option 7.3C: Allocate sites for specialist accommodation.					Option 7.3D: Identify criteria for sites			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
sustainable leisure and tourism industry																			
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
17. To improve the choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel	?	?	?	This will be dependent on the location of the sites allocated. It is recommended that sites are identified that could reduce dependency on cars.		?	?	?	This will be dependent on the location of the sites allocated. It is recommended that sites are identified that could reduce dependency on cars.		?	?	?	This will be dependent on the location of the sites allocated. It is recommended that sites are identified that could reduce dependency on cars.		?	?	?	This would be dependent on the location of the sites developed; however, the criteria developed could require the sites to reduce the need to travel.

Table 5.7 Town, Districts and Local Centres 9.1 – Provision & Capacity

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.1A: To allocate land to meet the capacity identified					Option 9.1B: To provide a criteria to guide development to meet the capacity identified					Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment

Table 5.7 Town, Districts and Local Centres 9.1 – Provision & Capacity

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.1A: To allocate land to meet the capacity identified					Option 9.1B: To provide a criteria to guide development to meet the capacity identified					Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
1. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes and buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and archaeological value	?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.		?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are developed. If a criteria is used this would need to identify areas to protect, enhance and manage.		?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.		?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are developed. If a criteria is used this would need to identify areas to protect, enhance and manage.		?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources	?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.		?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are developed. If a criteria is used this would need to identify areas to protect, enhance and manage.		?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.
4. To promote adaptation to Halton's changing climate	?	?	?	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design		?	?	?	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design		?	?	?	The definitive impact of new development on climatic factors can be offset by mitigation measures and the promotion of good design

Table 5.7 Town, Districts and Local Centres 9.1 – Provision & Capacity

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.1A: To allocate land to meet the capacity identified				Option 9.1B: To provide a criteria to guide development to meet the capacity identified	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres
	S	M	L	Comment					
				(including those promoted within Policy HE10).					(including those promoted within Policy HE10).
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such as surface water and groundwater	?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.	?	?	?		The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources	+	+	+	Proposed policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.	+	+	+		Proposed policies SD4 and SD9 will ensure that all development has regard to increased energy efficiency and use of renewables.
7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton	?	?	?	The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.	?	?	?		The impact will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required.
8. To improve air quality in Halton	?	?	?	The impact on air quality and the number of journeys will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and	?	?	?		The impact on air quality and the number of journeys will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially

Table 5.7 Town, Districts and Local Centres 9.1 – Provision & Capacity

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.1A: To allocate land to meet the capacity identified				Option 9.1B: To provide a criteria to guide development to meet the capacity identified	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres
	S	M	L	Comment					
				potentially identifying mitigation measures if required. The Council are also likely to try to ensure that sites are allocated within or adjacent to existing centres which should allow for combined journeys.					identifying mitigation measures if required. The Council are also likely to try to ensure that sites are allocated within or adjacent to existing centres which should allow for combined journeys.
9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.	-	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton	+	+	+	Providing appropriate retail development in suitable locations can help to support town centres including local services.	+	+	+	+	Providing appropriate retail development in suitable locations can help to support town centres including local services.
12. To improve physical and mental health and well-being of	+	+	+	Providing appropriate retail development in suitable locations can help to provide more accessible opportunities for local people	+	+	+	+	Providing appropriate retail development in suitable locations can help to provide more accessible opportunities for local people

Table 5.7 Town, Districts and Local Centres 9.1 – Provision & Capacity

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.1A: To allocate land to meet the capacity identified				Option 9.1B: To provide a criteria to guide development to meet the capacity identified	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres	Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres
	S	M	L	Comment					
people and reduce health inequalities in Halton				improving health and well-being.					improving health and well-being.
13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for life long learning	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		
14. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth	+	+	+	Protecting the vibrancy of town centres can help to support the economy of the Borough.	+	+	+		Protecting the vibrancy of town centres can help to support the economy of the Borough.
15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry	++	++	++	Protecting the vibrancy of town centres can help to support the leisure and tourism industry in the town centre and edge of centre locations.	++	++	++		Protecting the vibrancy of town centres can help to support the leisure and tourism industry in the town centre and edge of centre locations.
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough	+	++	++	Allocating sites for retail development to meet the required capacity is likely to help to enhance the vitality and viability of the town and district centres.	+	++	++	+	Allocating sites for retail development to more than meet the required capacity is likely to help to enhance the vitality and viability of the town and district centres; however it will need to be measure to ensure that there is not an impact on the existing

Table 5.7 Town, Districts and Local Centres 9.1 – Provision & Capacity

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.1A: To allocate land to meet the capacity identified					Option 9.1B: To provide a criteria to guide development to meet the capacity identified					Option 9.1C: To allocate land over and above the capacity identified to encourage retail growth in Halton's centres			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
														uses.
17.To improve the choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel	?	?	?	The impact on sustainable travel and the number of journeys will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required. The Council are also likely to try to ensure that sites are allocated within or adjacent to existing centres which should allow for combined journeys.		?	?	?	The impact on sustainable travel will be dependent on where the sites are developed. If a criteria is used this would need to identify the need to reduce the number of journeys made by car and promote public transport.		?	?	?	The impact on sustainable travel and the number of journeys will be dependent on where the sites are allocated. However, the Council will be able to determine the impact before allocating the site, and potentially identifying mitigation measures if required. The Council are also likely to try to ensure that sites are allocated within or adjacent to existing centres which should allow for combined journeys.

Table 5.8 Town, District and Local Centres 9.2 - Thresholds for Retail Impact Assessment

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.2A: Apply the Threshold proposed in the retail study					Option 9.2B: Apply different Thresholds for each town					Option 9.2C: Apply same thresholds for each town					Option 9.2D: Do not include a Threshold and instead rely on NPPF			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
1. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	

Table 5.8 Town, District and Local Centres 9.2 - Thresholds for Retail Impact Assessment

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.2A: Apply the Threshold proposed in the retail study					Option 9.2B: Apply different Thresholds for each town					Option 9.2C: Apply same thresholds for each town					Option 9.2D: Do not include a Threshold and instead rely on NPPF			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
and buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and archaeological value																			
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
4. To promote adaptation to Halton's changing climate	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	

Table 5.8 Town, District and Local Centres 9.2 - Thresholds for Retail Impact Assessment

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.2A: Apply the Threshold proposed in the retail study					Option 9.2B: Apply different Thresholds for each town					Option 9.2C: Apply same thresholds for each town					Option 9.2D: Do not include a Threshold and instead rely on NPPF			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
as surface water and groundwater																			
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
7. To protect and improve land quality in Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
8. To improve air quality in Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	

Table 5.8 Town, District and Local Centres 9.2 - Thresholds for Retail Impact Assessment

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.2A: Apply the Threshold proposed in the retail study					Option 9.2B: Apply different Thresholds for each town					Option 9.2C: Apply same thresholds for each town					Option 9.2D: Do not include a Threshold and instead rely on NPPF			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
Halton																			
11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton	+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre.		+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre.		+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre.		+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre.
12. To improve physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Halton	+	+	+	Providing appropriate retail development in suitable locations without a detrimental impact on other existing uses can help to support town centres including local services.		+	+	+	Providing appropriate retail development in suitable locations without a detrimental impact on other existing uses can help to support town centres including local services.		+	+	+	Providing appropriate retail development in suitable locations without a detrimental impact on other existing uses can help to support town centres including local services.		+	+	+	Providing appropriate retail development in suitable locations without a detrimental impact on other existing uses can help to support town centres including local services.
13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for life-long learning	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
14. To support a strong, diverse,	+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and		+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and		+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and		+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and

Table 5.8 Town, District and Local Centres 9.2 - Thresholds for Retail Impact Assessment

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.2A: Apply the Threshold proposed in the retail study					Option 9.2B: Apply different Thresholds for each town					Option 9.2C: Apply same thresholds for each town					Option 9.2D: Do not include a Threshold and instead rely on NPPF			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth				associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre this will help to support the local economy.					associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre this will help to support the local economy.					associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre this will help to support the local economy.					associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre this will help to support the local economy.
15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry	+	+	+	Protecting the vibrancy of town centres can help to support the leisure and tourism industry in the town centre and edge of centre locations.		+	+	+	Protecting the vibrancy of town centres can help to support the leisure and tourism industry in the town centre and edge of centre locations.		+	+	+	Protecting the vibrancy of town centres can help to support the leisure and tourism industry in the town centre and edge of centre locations.		+	+	+	Protecting the vibrancy of town centres can help to support the leisure and tourism industry in the town centre and edge of centre locations.
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and village centres in the Borough	+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre, thereby protecting the vibrancy of town centres and helping		+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre, thereby protecting the vibrancy of town centres and helping		+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre, thereby protecting the vibrancy of town centres and helping		+	+	+	The retail policies, thresholds and associated impacts tests will ensure that development takes place in appropriate locations in relation to the size and scale of the centre, thereby protecting the vibrancy of town centres and helping

Table 5.8 Town, District and Local Centres 9.2 - Thresholds for Retail Impact Assessment

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.2A: Apply the Threshold proposed in the retail study					Option 9.2B: Apply different Thresholds for each town					Option 9.2C: Apply same thresholds for each town					Option 9.2D: Do not include a Threshold and instead rely on NPPF			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
				local centres meet the local need.					local centres meet the local need.					local centres meet the local need.					local centres meet the local need.
17.To improve the choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Appropriate retail development in suitable locations is likely to help to reduce the need to travel by ensuring that town centres are vibrant and local centres provide for local needs.		+	+	+	Appropriate retail development in suitable locations is likely to help to reduce the need to travel by ensuring that town centres are vibrant and local centres provide for local needs.		+	+	+	Appropriate retail development in suitable locations is likely to help to reduce the need to travel by ensuring that town centres are vibrant and local centres provide for local needs.		+	+	+	Appropriate retail development in suitable locations is likely to help to reduce the need to travel by ensuring that town centres are vibrant and local centres provide for local needs.

Table 5.9 Town, District and Local Centres 9.3 - Evening Economy

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.3A: Establish quarters in the town centres where appropriate food and drink uses would be encouraged					Option 9.3B: Apply threshold limits to manage the clustering of these uses in the primary shopping areas / in Halton's Centres					Option 9.3C: Do not restrict the location of evening economy uses such as bars and pubs, restaurants and cafes and take-aways			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
1. To protect, conserve, enhance and manage places, landscapes and buildings (including their setting) of historic, cultural and	?	?	?	It is likely that these quarters would be established in the existing town centres, so the impact is likely to be similar to that already seen. Policies within the Core Strategy and DALP would still look to protect this value.		?	?	?	It is unlikely that applying thresholds would have an impact on the historic, cultural and archaeological value. Policies within the Core Strategy and DALP would still look to protect this value.		?	?	?	It is unlikely that lifting restrictions on the location of evening economy uses would have an impact on the historic, cultural and archaeological value over and above that already seen. Policies within the Core Strategy and DALP would still look

Table 5.9 Town, District and Local Centres 9.3 - Evening Economy

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.3A: Establish quarters in the town centres where appropriate food and drink uses would be encouraged					Option 9.3B: Apply threshold limits to manage the clustering of these uses in the primary shopping areas / in Halton's Centres					Option 9.3C: Do not restrict the location of evening economy uses such as bars and pubs, restaurants and cafes and take-aways			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
archaeological value														to protect this value.
2. To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
4. To promote adaptation to Halton's changing climate	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change and from other sources such as surface water and groundwater	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
6. Increase energy efficiency in the built environment, and the proportion of energy use from renewable sources	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
7. To protect and	?	?	?	It is likely that these quarters would		N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	

Table 5.9 Town, District and Local Centres 9.3 - Evening Economy

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.3A: Establish quarters in the town centres where appropriate food and drink uses would be encouraged					Option 9.3B: Apply threshold limits to manage the clustering of these uses in the primary shopping areas / in Halton's Centres					Option 9.3C: Do not restrict the location of evening economy uses such as bars and pubs, restaurants and cafes and take-aways			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
improve land quality in Halton				be established in the existing town centres, so the impact is likely to be similar to that already seen. Policies within the Core Strategy and DALP would still look to protect land quality.										
8. To improve air quality in Halton	+/-	+/-	+/-	This option may concentrate uses that include flues in one area and thus have a potential impact on air quality in this area.		+/-	+/-	+/-	This option may spread uses that include flues in across the town centre and thus have a potential impact on air quality across this area.		+/-	+/-	+/-	This option may spread uses that include flues in across the town centre and thus have a potential impact on air quality across this area.
9. To minimise production of waste and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates	-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.		-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.		-	-	-	Policies within the Waste Plan and the Core Strategy already seek to minimise waste within new developments. However, it is expected that all new development will still generate some waste.
10. To improve access to a range of good quality and affordable housing that meets the needs of the community of Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
11. To improve access to services and facilities in Halton	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
12. To improve	0	0	0	Policies within the Core Strategy		0	0	0	Policies within the Core Strategy		0	0	0	Policies within the Core Strategy

Table 5.9 Town, District and Local Centres 9.3 - Evening Economy

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.3A: Establish quarters in the town centres where appropriate food and drink uses would be encouraged					Option 9.3B: Apply threshold limits to manage the clustering of these uses in the primary shopping areas / in Halton's Centres					Option 9.3C: Do not restrict the location of evening economy uses such as bars and pubs, restaurants and cafes and take-aways			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Halton				and DALP will seek to ensure appropriate design is used to reduce crime, whilst the SPD on Hot Food Takeaways provides guidance on appropriate locations for these developments. Focusing developments in one area is not expected to have any greater impact.					and DALP will seek to ensure appropriate design is used to reduce crime, whilst the SPD on Hot Food Takeaways provides guidance on appropriate locations for these developments. Using thresholds to disperse developments is not expected to have any greater impact.					and DALP will seek to ensure appropriate design is used to reduce crime, whilst the SPD on Hot Food Takeaways provides guidance on appropriate locations for these developments. Removing restrictions within the town centre is not expected to have any greater impact.
13. To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough and provide opportunities for life long learning	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
14. To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	
15. Support the development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry	+	+	+	Evening economy uses are likely to support the leisure and tourism industry.		+	+	+	Evening economy uses are likely to support the leisure and tourism industry.		+	+	+	Evening economy uses are likely to support the leisure and tourism industry.
16. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town	+	+	+	Creating quarters is likely to help to maintain the vitality of the town centres.		+	+	+	Using thresholds is likely to help to main the vitality of the town centres.		++	++	++	Not restricting the location of these uses within the town centres is likely to maintain the vitality of the

Table 5.9 Town, District and Local Centres 9.3 - Evening Economy

SA Objective (high level objective)	Option 9.3A: Establish quarters in the town centres where appropriate food and drink uses would be encouraged					Option 9.3B: Apply threshold limits to manage the clustering of these uses in the primary shopping areas / in Halton's Centres					Option 9.3C: Do not restrict the location of evening economy uses such as bars and pubs, restaurants and cafes and take-aways			
	S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment		S	M	L	Comment
and village centres in the Borough														town centres and may help to reduce the vacancies in the centres.
17.To improve the choice and use of sustainable transport in Halton and reduce the need to travel	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A	

Methodology

- 6.1 This report has been undertaken on the basis of a “whole plan” assessment. This means that the combined effect of all of the policies taken together will be assessed in terms of their impact on each of the topic areas contained within the report and listed in Table 7.1. This approach is considered to be more holistic, with only the policies that are likely to have a significant effect on SA Objective(s) within a particular topic area being assessed in detail.

Policy and Topic Impact

- 6.2 A Policy and Topic Impact Table was created and used to screen out policies which have little or no effect on a particular topic or objective. This allowed the assessment to focus on those policies with a significant effect, and to a lesser degree the policies with a less significant effect.

Topic Areas

- 6.3 Following on from this each of the Topic areas was looked at in more detail. Set out below is a short description of the main components of the topic based assessments.
- i. **Introduction** – The topic is introduced with a brief overview
 - ii. **Context** – This is linked to the review of policy and baseline information collated in the SA Scoping Report.
 - iii. **Appraisal of Local Plan policies** – This builds on the assessment undertaken in the Policy and Topic Impact Table. The assessment is narrative in nature, and looks at policies in combination, rather than in silo's. Considering those policies which are highlighted as have an effect, in a cumulative and synergistic manner, including the long / medium / short term effects and whether the policies have any effects specifically on certain spatial areas.
 - iv. **Summary of Impacts** - This provides a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the topic area.
 - v. **Mitigation and Enhancement** – this section will highlight the changes required to mitigate and enhance the effects of that are highlighted in the appraisal.

Impact magnitude

- 6.4 Impacts are assessed by combining judgements about susceptibility to the type of change arising from the specific proposal with judgements about the value attached to the receptor.
- 6.5 The appraisal considers the degree to which an area can accommodate change without detrimental effects on known receptors (identified in the baseline) and the degree to which individual receptors will be affected by the change. This is determined by considering factors included in Annex II of the SEA Directive:
- Probability
 - Duration;
 - Frequency; and
 - Reversibility.

- 6.6 SA and SEA are concerned with likely significant effects. As such, if an effect is considered improbable, it will not be considered in assessment. It is considered that most effects cannot be predicted with absolute certainty, as many impacts depend on the design of development and may be subject to mitigation.

Limitations

- 6.7 Sustainability appraisal is a tool for predicting potential significant effects. The actual effects of the policies may be different from those identified. Prediction of effects is made using an evidence based approach and incorporates a judgement.
- 6.8 The appraisal of the potential sites has been undertaken without design or layout information at this stage, which may lead to alternative impacts, to those currently identified.
- 6.9 Judgements on policies, designations and allocations have all been based on information available at the current time. It is recognised that as further information is gathered the assessments may be subject to change.

Policy and Topic Impact

- 7.1 The Policy and Topic Impact Table (Table 7.1 below) is used to screen out those policies which have little or no effect on a particular topic or objective. This allows the assessment to focus on those policies with a significant effect, and to a lesser degree the policies with a less significant effect.

Key		
Primary Effect		Effects that are caused by activities which are an integral part of the Local Plan (policies, designations or allocations). These effects can be both positive and negative.
Secondary Effect		Effects that are due to activities that are not a specific part of the Local Plan, but are indirectly related. These effects can be both positive and negative.
Little or no Effect		

Table 7.1 Policy and Topic Impact

Policy Title	Topic Area										
	Biodiversity	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
Core Strategy (Retained Policies)											
CS2: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development											
CS7: Infrastructure Provision											
CS12: Housing Mix											
CS16: The Mersey Gateway Project											
CS17: Liverpool John Lennon Airport											

Table 7.1 Policy and Topic Impact											
Policy Title	Topic Area										
	Biodiversity	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
CS18: High Quality Design											
CS19: Sustainable Development and Climate Change											
CS20: Natural and Historic Environment											
CS21: Green Infrastructure											
CS22: Health and Well-Being											
CS23: Managing Pollution and Risk											
CS24: Waste											
CS25: Minerals											
Core Strategy (Revised Policies)											
CS(R)1: Halton's Spatial Strategy											
CS(R)3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities											
CS(R)4: Employment Land Supply and Locational Priorities											

Table 7.1 Policy and Topic Impact											
Policy Title	Topic Area										
	Biodiversity	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
CS(R)5: A Network of Centres											
CS(R)6: Green Belt											
CS(R)13: Affordable Housing											
CS(R)14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople											
CS(R)15: Sustainable Transport											
CS(R)17: Expansion of LJLA											
Economic Development											
ED1: Employment Allocations											
ED2: Employment Development											
ED3: Complementary Services and Facilities within Employment Areas											
Residential Development											
RD1: Residential Development Allocations											
RD2: Gypsy and Travellers											

Table 7.1 Policy and Topic Impact											
Policy Title	Topic Area										
	Biodiversity	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
(Allocations)											
RD3: Dwelling Alterations, Extensions, Conversions and Replacement Dwellings											
RD4: Open Space Provision for Residential Development											
RD5: Specialist Housing											
Connectivity											
C1: Transport Network and Accessibility											
C2: Parking Standards											
C3: Delivery of Telecommunications Infrastructure											
C4: Operation of Liverpool John Lennon Airport											
Halton's Centres											
HC1: Vital and Viable Centres											
HC2: Allocations within Halton's Centres											

Table 7.1 Policy and Topic Impact											
Policy Title	Topic Area										
	Biodiversity	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
HC3: Primary Shopping Areas and Frontages											
HC4: Shop Fronts, Signage and Advertising											
HC5: Commercial Leisure Development and Cultural Facilities											
HC6: Community Facilities (including Health Facilities)											
HC7: Visitor Attractions											
HC8: Food and Drink											
HC9: Mixed Use Areas											
Halton's Environment											
HE1: Natural Environment											
HE2: Heritage Assets and the Historic Environment											
HE3: Halton's Waterways and Waterfronts											
HE4: Green Infrastructure											
HE5: Trees and Landscaping											

Table 7.1 Policy and Topic Impact											
Policy Title	Topic Area										
	Biodiversity	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
HE6: Green Space and Outdoor Sports Provision											
HE7: Pollution and Nuisance											
HE8: Contaminated Land											
HE9: Water Management and Flood Risk											
HE10: Minerals Allocations											
HE11: Minerals											
General Requirements											
GR1: Design of Development											
GR2: Amenity											
GR3: Boundary Fences and Walls											
GR4: Temporary Buildings											
GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy											
Halton's Green Belt											
GBTemp: Green Belt Release Allocations											

Table 7.1 Policy and Topic Impact											
Policy Title	Topic Area										
	Biodiversity	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
GB1: Control of Development in the Green Belt											
GB2: Safeguarded Land											
Key Areas of Change											
KA1: Halebank and Ditton Corridor											
KA2: South Widnes											
KA3: West Runcorn											
KA4: East Runcorn											
KA5: North East Widnes											
KA6: North West Widens											

Biodiversity

Introduction

- 8.1 Biodiversity is the term given to the diversity of life on Earth. This includes the plant (flora) and animal (fauna) species that make up our wildlife and the habitats in which they live. It also includes micro-organisms and bacteria. As well as being important in its own right, we value biodiversity because of the ecosystem services it provides, such as flood defence and clean water; and the contribution that biodiversity makes to our wellbeing and sense of place.
- 8.2 The main threats to both local and global biodiversity are associated with human activities causing habitat loss/damage, loss of biodiversity, loss of protected species, disturbance to and pollution of ecosystems, risk to unprotected habitats and the impact of climate change. Many species-populations are being reduced and fragmented below viable sizes. Conserving biodiversity is a global, long-term challenge and requires global, long-term solutions that start at the local level. The neglect of habitats can also have a detrimental impact on their ecological value.
- 8.3 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- CS(R)1: Halton's Spatial Strategy
 - CS(R)3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)4: Employment Land Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)6: Green Belt
 - CS(R)14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
 - ED1: Employment Allocations
 - RD1: Residential Development Allocations
 - RD2: Gypsy and Travellers (Allocations)
 - RD5: Specialist Housing
 - HC2: Allocations within Halton's Centres
 - HE1: Natural Environment
 - HE3: Halton's Waterways and Waterfronts
 - HE4: Green Infrastructure
 - HE5: Trees and Landscaping
 - GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy
 - GBTemp: Green Belt Release Allocations

Context

- 8.4 The key sustainability objectives and messages from the context review are:
- Protect and improve our natural environment
 - Minimise impacts on biodiversity, with net gains in biodiversity to be provided wherever possible
 - Guide development to the best locations
 - Enable development to enhance natural networks
 - Promote biodiversity conservation and enhancement

- Include policies for the conservation and enhancement of designated sites and provide criteria against which developments affecting designated sites will be addressed
 - Protect, conserve and enhance local wildlife and the quality of the natural environment in Halton
- 8.5 Sites of biodiversity interest provide a number of functions beyond the protection of biodiversity. They provide areas of landscape beauty that attract many recreational and leisure users. Many of these sites attract leisure users from outside of the Borough and provide an important part of the local economy. Human use and climate change provide threats to the Borough's sites of interest and the maintenance of the high quality of site.
- 8.6 The key sustainability issues identified in the baseline and context review are as follows:
- There is a general overriding requirement to conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in the Borough.
 - The Borough contains one site with European designations. Threats to this site include climate change, coastal and estuarine flooding and increased leisure use. Assessment under the amended Habitats Regulations (Appropriate Assessment) will identify some of the potential effects of the Halton Planning Policy Framework on the site.
 - The majority of the Borough's SSSIs sites are in a good condition. There is a need for the Halton Local Plan to seek to avoid any detrimental impacts upon SSSI sites as a result of the policy and allocations contained within these, and seek to improve their condition where this is possible through the planning system.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

- 8.7 Overall the Local Plan policies are envisaged to have a positive impact on the biodiversity topic area. In particular retained policy CS2 (Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development) and policies HE1 (Natural Environment), HE4 (Green Infrastructure) and HE5 (Trees and Landscaping) which set out the guiding principles and detailed policies in relation to protecting key areas of biodiversity value in Halton.
- 8.8 The main effect that the Local Plan policies could have on the key biodiversity, flora and fauna assets in Halton arise from the level of development proposed and the allocations made to meet these needs.
- 8.9 As part of the Assessment of Sites used to help to determine the appropriate sites to allocate in the Local Plan, a Sustainability Appraisal was undertaken, this has identified where sites may cause an impact on Biodiversity. Where the potential for a significant impact on Biodiversity was identified as part of the site assessments these sites have not been taken forward for development; the sites have been amended to allow for the biodiversity value to be retained or mitigation measures have been, identified as part of the site allocation process.

Summary of Impacts

8.10 Table 8.1 provides a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Biodiversity topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 8.1: Summary of Impacts		
Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	It is possible that the level of development proposed may lead to pressures on the biodiversity in the Borough. However, it is considered that the proposed locations of development have taken into consideration the biodiversity value of the sites and have as far as possible avoided the sites of importance. It is also considered that policies such as the Natural Environment policy will help to protect biodiversity and support improvements where possible.	The cumulative impact of the other policies such as the LCR Ecological Network is likely to be positive.
Medium (2020-2030)		It is considered that as the LCR Ecological Network policy beds in and is more widely used across the Liverpool City Region that the impacts are likely to get increasingly positive.
Long (2030+)		
Areas likely to be significantly affected	Areas likely to be significantly affected are the Upper Mersey Estuary (due to the number of biodiversity designations in and around the area) and the reuse of brownfield sites in both Runcorn and Widnes due to increased infrastructure, housing and employment provision.	
Permanent vs. Temporary	Most of the impacts will be temporary as new habitats and areas of green infrastructure are created although there may be instances of habitat loss due to new development that will inevitably be permanent.	
Secondary	New development can have a number of secondary effects on biodiversity, through a reduction in air, water and soil quality, loss of habitat, increased disturbance and recreational pressure. Factors other than the Local Plan will have a major bearing on the biodiversity baseline, including decisions made at the planning application stages.	
Proposed Policy Amendments	There have been no proposed amendments to the wording of the Local Plan policy at this time. However, there have been some amendments to the proposed Site Allocations. In relation to site allocations, the Council have considered the sustainability appraisals undertaken on the potential sites, this has led	

	to amendments to sites at: • Daresbury Park which have been amended to avoid the SSSI at Red Brow Cutting; • Manor Park to avoid Pitts Heath Wood Local Wildlife Site; and • Castlefields to avoid Priory Meadows Local Wildlife Site. • Palacefields to avoid The Glen Local Wildlife Site and an area of Ancient Woodland. This should help to reduce the potential for impact in these areas. It has also lead to further requirements being included within the Development Brief for Sandymoor Local Centre which requires the adjacent Sandymoor Wood (protected Local Wildlife Site) to be physically protected, and states that there will be a minimum 15 metre standoff between the edge of the tree canopy and any buildings, and the retention of the Sandymoor SPD which also set out a stand-off distance to existing trees.
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Mitigation and Enhancement

- 8.11 Where it has not been possible to completely avoid sites which may have a biological value, the negative impacts associated with the locations of development will need to be mitigated. This could be achieved through the Natural Environment policy or if necessary further detail in relation to the particular site allocation.
- 8.12 It is possible to enhance the positive effects by ensuring that policies relating to the Green Belt and the development of greenfield sites help to retain areas of biodiversity value. It is also considered that the Liverpool City Regional Ecological Network and Nature Improvement Areas scheme will have potential to lead to enhancements in the Borough and the wider area.

Water Quality and Resources

Introduction

- 9.1 In the UK, access to clean water is generally taken for granted, yet large quantities are used for domestic purposes, for cooling, rinsing and cleaning in industry, and for irrigation in agriculture. Such activities place a heavy burden on water resources in terms of both quality and quantity. Water resources include precipitation, surface water (lakes, rivers, etc.), soil (near-surface) water and groundwater. Sustainable and effective planning and management of water resources is essential.
- 9.2 The Borough is home to a number of river systems and watercourses including the River Mersey, River Weaver, Sankey (St. Helen's) Canal, Bridgewater Canal and the Trent and Mersey Canal. All watercourses in Halton eventually drain into the River Mersey.
- 9.3 Rivers are an important part of the Borough's environment. They support amphibians, fish and many plant species as well as a variety of invertebrates, which are fundamental in food chains. Rivers can also form important links between otherwise fragmented habitats acting as wildlife corridors. Rivers are also a source of water for drinking, domestic, agricultural and industrial use. They can also provide an important recreational resource.
- 9.4 The west part of the Runcorn Peninsula is comprised of combinations of Chester Pebble Beds, Wilmslow Sandstone and Helsby Sandstone of the Sherwood Sandstone Group. Each of these formations are classified as major aquifers by the Environment Agency due to their highly permeable and porous nature and ability to transmit groundwater.
- 9.5 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Water Quality and Resources topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- HE1: Natural Environment
 - HE3: Halton's Waterways and Waterfronts
 - HE7: Pollution and Nuisance
 - HE9: Water Management and Flood Risk
 - GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

Context

- 9.6 The key sustainability objectives and messages from the context review are:
- Reduce pressure on water resources
 - Improve water quality
 - Avoidance of pollution
 - The sustainable use of water and water conservation are key objectives
 - Encourage water efficiency measures at the demand side and improve flood risk management

- Ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development away from areas of highest risk
- 9.7 Ensuring that households, business, agriculture and the environment all have enough water available to thrive and prosper is a key sustainability issue.
- 9.8 It is essential that Halton's Planning Policy Framework provides protection for both groundwater and surface waters. This should cover the quantity of water resources, ensuring that proposed developments have adequate supply without adversely affecting existing users and ecological features that are supported by watercourses and wetlands. More natural watercourses not only benefit wildlife and provide recreation opportunities, but can also help to reduce flood risk. Wetland features can also be created to play a role in reducing surface runoff as part of sustainable drainage systems. The demand for water needs to be tackled at every stage of development and prioritised, along with putting water supply and wastewater infrastructure in place ahead of planned growth.
- 9.9 Halton has a significant amount of land that is presently in use or is derelict and potentially contaminated due to historical industrial use. A key sustainability issue relates to planned and accidental discharges of contaminants from these sites to the environment through liquid routes. The Local Plan should consider interactions between water quality, water flow and flood risk (flood risk is covered in Chapter 6 of this report).
- 9.10 The key sustainability issues arising from the baseline assessment for water quality and resources in Halton are:
- The need to improve the quality of the Borough's river, estuarine and coastal and groundwater quality particularly the biological quality of rivers and ecological standard of estuaries and coasts in Halton;
 - The need to ensure efficient use and management of water: addressing a potential increase in demand;
 - Providing a sustainable water supply to all households and businesses within capacity of resources;
 - The need to reduce unsustainable agricultural practices particularly in Nitrate Vulnerable Zones;
 - Ensure Water Framework Directive issues and principles are incorporated into the SA
 - Framework and site selection methods; and
 - Protecting the environment: action may need to be taken where water use from existing water resources has a detrimental impact on the water environment either due to 'excessive' abstractions or by 'poor quality' effluent returns and diffuse pollution.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

- 9.11 Overall the Local Plan policies are envisaged to have a positive impact on the water quality and resources topic area. In particular policies HE9 (Water Management and Flood Risk), HE7 (Pollution and Nuisance) and HE3 (Halton's Waterways and

Waterfronts) which set out the detailed policies for the Local Plan in relation to water quality and resources in Halton. It is also noted that retained Policy CS23 (Managing Pollution and Risk) highlights how development proposals should not exacerbate water pollution and should aim to minimise it. And that Policy CS7 (Infrastructure Provision) incorporates measures to ensure that development proposals are supported by appropriate levels of infrastructure, including water supply and treatment infrastructure which supports efficient use and management of water resources.

- 9.12 The main effect that the Local Plan policies could have on water quality and resources in Halton arise from the level of development proposed and the allocations made to meet these needs.
- 9.13 As part of the Assessment of Sites used to help to determine the appropriate sites to allocate in the Local Plan, a Sustainability Appraisal was undertaken, this has identified where sites may cause an impact on Water Quality and Resources. No sites were identified as having a significantly negative effect. A number of sites were identified as having potential for a minor negative impact, due to their proximity to a water body or to a groundwater source protection zone. However, it is considered that policy within the Local Plan such as HE3: Halton's Waterways and Waterfronts and HE9: Water Management and Flood Risk will help to reduce these potential impacts to an acceptable level.

Summary of Impacts

- 9.14 Table 9.1 provides a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Water Quality and Resources topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 9.1: Summary of Impacts

Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	The level of development proposed is likely to put increasing pressure on the provision of water and the treatment of waste water. This may	Other plans such as the North West River Basin Management Plan, the Mersey Estuary Management Plan and

Medium (2020-2030)	impact on the water resources in the Borough and wider. However, the Council will continue to work with the appropriate stakeholders to ensure that the appropriate measures are put in place. Policies such as those on Water Management should help to ensure that water and drainage are managed sustainably.	the Mid-Mersey Park should all contribute to the improvement of the Water Quality and Resources in the Borough.
Long (2030+)		
Areas likely to be significantly affected	The whole Borough is affected by the availability of water resources and so careful management is required over all timescales. The areas likely to suffer from over abstraction are likely to be outside the Borough in the River Dee catchment and the Lake District.	
Permanent vs. Temporary	Development and the water resources required to service that development are likely to be permanent.	
Secondary	High quality design has the capacity to impact positively on the enhancement of water quality and efficient use of water resources. Consideration of the context for the development in terms of local habitat and biodiversity can impact upon water quality through wild plants that cleanse and oxygenate the water. Negative effects in relation to the use of land resources (e.g. increased hard standing areas or pollution of ground water through industrial development), climate change and flood risk may have indirect effects on water quality and resources as run off could lead to pollution of the Borough's waterways and groundwater system.	
Proposed Policy Amendments	The wording of Policy HE3: Halton's Waterways and Waterfronts has been previously amended to include reference to the objectives of the Water Framework Directive and the relevant River Basin Management Plans at the suggestion of a consultee. This is considered to have helped the sustainability impact of this policy.	

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 9.15 Through the use of the appropriate policies eg HE1, HE3, HE7 and particularly HE9 (Water Management and Flood Risk) it should be possible to mitigate the negative effects of the levels of proposed development.
- 9.16 Policies to manage pollution and ensure appropriate consideration is given to water quality and resources through the use of the appropriate policies should help to enhance the positive effects.

Soil and Land Resources

Introduction

- 10.1 The use of land resources is a key component of sustainable development, the needs of urban development, agriculture, the protection of valued flora and fauna and the provision of open space must be balanced with the protection of geodiversity. Geodiversity is the variety of rocks, fossils, minerals, landforms and soils, along with the natural processes that shape the landscape.
- 10.2 Halton has a number of obstacles to new development locating within the Borough. This includes the number of Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) sites. These are sites where there is a possibility of major accidents which could result in major loss of life or damage to the environment. These sites are sources of local employment but the storage and use of chemicals can have a blighting effect on certain kinds of development in the area.
- 10.3 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Soil and Land Resources topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- CS(R)1: Halton's Spatial Strategy
 - CS(R)3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)4: Employment Land Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)5: A Network of Centres
 - CS(R)6: Green Belt
 - CS(R)14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
 - ED1: Employment Allocations
 - RD1: Residential Development Allocations
 - RD2: Gypsy and Travellers (Allocations)
 - RD4: Open Space Provision for Residential Development
 - RD5: Specialist Housing
 - HC2: Allocations within Halton's Centres
 - HE1: Natural Environment
 - HE4: Green Infrastructure
 - HE5: Trees and Landscaping
 - HE6: Open Space and Outdoor Sports Provision
 - HE7: Pollution and Nuisance
 - HE8: Contaminated Land
 - HE10: Minerals Allocations
 - HE11: Minerals
 - GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy
 - GBTemp: Green Belt Release Allocations

Context

- 10.4 The key sustainability objectives and messages from the context review are:
- Protect and enhance soils
 - Encourage the effective use of land through the reuse of land which has been previously developed

- Deal with legacy of contamination
- Ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without using processes or methods which could harm human health and the environment
- 50% of waste from households to be recycled by 2020
- 75% of municipal waste is recovered by 2020

10.5 The key sustainability issues identified in the baseline and context review are as follows:

- There is a need to ensure that the percentage of household waste which is recycled increases.
- There is a need to ensure that the amount of derelict land and buildings that are incapable of beneficial use without treatment continues to be reduced.
- The Borough is one of the most chemically contaminated in Britain and there is a need to ensure that as much of the contaminated land is brought back into use as possible.
- High quality agricultural land in the Borough (Grades 1 and 2) should be protected where possible.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

10.6 Overall the Local Plan policies are envisaged to have a positive impact on the soil and land resources topic area. In particular retained policy CS2 (Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development) and policies HE1 (Natural Environment), HE4 (Green Infrastructure), HE5 (Trees and Landscaping), HE6 (Open Space and Outdoor Sports Provision), HE7 (Pollution and Nuisance) and HE8 (Contaminated Land) which set out the guiding principles and detailed policies for the Local Plan in relation to soil and land resources in Halton.

10.7 The main effect that the Local Plan policies could have on the soil and land resources in Halton arise from the level of development proposed.

10.8 It is acknowledged that development on greenfield and Green Belt land is necessary in order to deliver economic and social benefits throughout Halton and policy CS(R)1 (Halton's Spatial Strategy) outlines the importance of prioritising the re-use of previously developed land.

10.9 Retained Core Strategy Policies CS23 (Managing Pollution and Risk) and Policy CS25 (Minerals) are expected to retain their positive approach to soil and land resources.

10.10 Site allocations as far as possible have been directed to brownfield sites, sites with lower agricultural grades and sites where the contamination could be mitigated by development. This has minimised the level of impact that the sites will have on soil and land resources.

Summary of Impacts

10.11 Table 10.1 provides a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Soil and Land Resources topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 10.1: Summary of Impacts

Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020) & Medium (2020-2030)	The plan continues to focus on the re-use and remediation of previously developed land and efforts to bring this back into use. However, due to the level of development needed within the Borough, there is still a requirement for greenfield and Green Belt development. This could result in negative impacts on the soil and land resources within the Borough. The impacts are likely to be mitigated through the use of policies in relation to Open Space Provision, the Natural Environment, Green Infrastructure, Trees and Landscaping, Open Space and Outdoor Sports Provision and Contaminated Land.	Halton's Urban Renewal is a key theme of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan. Tackling contaminated land and focusing regeneration on areas of previously developed land is a primary objective of many Council plans and strategies and also wider sub-regional documents.
Long (2030+)	In the longer term the location of growth will require innovative thinking, as the portfolio of previously developed land gets increasingly smaller due to redevelopment, pressure on greenfield and Green Belt sites will increase.	There is a similar situation to that found in Halton across the sub-region with many authorities now looking at greenfield and Green Belt developments.
Areas likely to be significantly affected	Previously developed land within the urban areas is mostly likely to see the positive significant effects from this policy. However, the areas of greenfield and Green Belt land allocated for development are those that are likely to see the negative effects.	
Permanent vs. Temporary	The impacts are generally considered to be permanent developments.	
Secondary	There may be secondary impacts from policies that look to restrict development in the Green Belt or policies in relation to dwelling alterations, extensions and conversions, which could both reduce impacts although from differing approaches to development. Outside of the Local Plan other secondary impacts may be felt from	

	the return of land following the development of the Mersey Gateway Bridge or the removal of unnecessary transport infrastructure following completion of the Bridge.
Proposed Policy Amendments	Previous amendments to policy have been implemented to ensure any impacts are mitigated.

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 10.12 Policies such as HE7: Pollution and Nuisance and HE8: Contaminated Land will seek to mitigate some of the negative impacts of development looking to avoid pollution and contamination in the first instance.
- 10.13 Whilst policies in relation to open space, greenspace, and the natural environment should help to enhance the positive elements of the Borough's land resources.

Air Quality

Introduction

- 11.1 In previous years Halton acquired a poor reputation for air quality. It has been home to the chemical industry and this combined with burning coal led to high levels of pollutants. Over recent years changes in legislation and local industry has led to improved quality of the air in Halton.
- 11.2 The main causes of poor air quality today are from traffic Carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NOX), volatile organic compounds (VOC) and small particles (PM10), all of which are among the pollutants emitted from vehicle exhausts.
- 11.3 In recent years there has been a growing body of evidence to suggest that poor air quality may have a cumulative effect, which may be chronic for sensitive individuals.
- 11.4 When air pollution is present in high concentrations it can cause various health effects ranging from irritation of the eyes, nose and throat to the worsening of lung and heart diseases. In addition to impacts on human health, annual levels of nitrogen oxides (mainly from traffic) and sulphur dioxide (mainly from industry) could impact on the protection of vegetation and ecosystems. Air pollutants can also lead to the soiling and corrosion of buildings.
- 11.5 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the air quality topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
 - CS(R)15: Sustainable Transport
 - HE7: Pollution and Nuisance
 - GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

Context

- 11.6 The key sustainability objectives and messages from the context review are:
 - Avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment
 - Maintain air quality where good and improve it in other cases
 - Make sure that everyone can enjoy a level of ambient air quality in public spaces, which poses no significant risk to health or quality of life
 - Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas is consistent with the Local Air Quality Action Plan
 - New and existing developments should be prevented from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or adversely affected by unacceptable levels of air pollution
- 11.7 The main sustainability issue identified in the baseline and context review is that:
 - Concentrations of all pollutants required to be monitored as part of the NAQS should be below the objectives set out in the NAQS and below values at which adverse health effects are likely to occur.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

- 11.8 The main effect that the Local Plan policies could have on the air quality in Halton is likely to arise from the level of development proposed. It is likely that an increase in resident and working populations will lead to increased levels of transport and traffic movements. In turn this is likely to lead to increases in the CO₂ emissions, which will impact on the air quality in the Borough.
- 11.9 However, the Local Plan seeks to address these issues through policies CS(R)15 (Sustainable Transport), HE7 (Pollution and Nuisance) and GR5 (Renewable and Low Carbon Energy). Whilst retained policy CS23 (Managing Pollution and Risk) is expected to continue to have a positive effect on air quality.

Summary of Impacts

- 11.10 Table 11.1 provides a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Air Quality topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 11.1 Summary of Impacts

Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	Increased transport movements, levels of development and economic productivity could result in potentially negative impacts on air quality. However, this could be mitigated by other policies in the Local Plan, including those supporting Low Carbon and those seeking to reduce travel and reduce air pollution.	The Council's Local Air Quality Management duties will be important in practically assessing the impacts of development on local air quality over the plan period. Similarly, the Local Transport Plan and the LCR A Transport Plan for Growth document have an important role in ensuring that transport-related schemes, projects and plans have regard to impacts on local air quality and that these are managed and mitigated. Overall, these plans and activities, along with the Core Strategy, should ensure that sustainability in terms of air quality should not be negatively affected.
Medium (2020-2030)		

Long (2030+)	New technologies are likely to assist in the reduction of the need to travel and the levels of air pollution created by transport, development and business.	Emerging plans, programmes and strategies, including likely continuation of air quality management at the local level, will be extremely likely to effectively continue the emphasis on protecting air quality.
Areas likely to be significantly affected	Areas most likely to be affected in terms of air quality are those close to transport routes, particularly routes used by freight transportation vehicles or where there are issues with congestion.	
Permanent vs. Temporary	Development that occurs is likely to be permanent, as will the need for residents to travel, however changes to technology may mean that the impacts are of a more temporary nature. At present it is not possible to determine whether any impacts on air quality, positive or negative, over the plan period will have a temporary or permanent impact on the environment or health.	
Secondary	Impacts on air quality can have impacts on health levels, as a reduction in particulates will ensure that the air is healthy to breathe. Transportation is also closely related to air quality and encouraging the use of sustainable modes, including walking and cycling, will also impact on local air quality through the reduction in pollution and emissions from private vehicles. The levels of development proposed are also likely to have an impact on the air quality, with higher levels of development potentially leading to more air quality issues. The expansion of Liverpool John Lennon Airport (C4) could potentially increase carbon emissions from aircraft movements and from land-based transport to and from the airport. This will have a negative impact on the air quality sustainability topic area. However, the policy highlights how any negative impacts associated with the operation and expansion of the airport will be addressed through measures to alleviate/reduce impacts on air quality. Whilst policies in relation to the natural and green environment may also assist in alleviating air quality issues.	
Proposed Policy Amendments	It is not proposed to amend the policy at this time.	

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 11.11 Local Plan policies seek to encourage people to travel by the most sustainable transport methods and where possible to reduce the need to travel at all, through the provision of appropriate services and opportunities for employment, leisure and living. This is expected to provide opportunities to positively impact on air quality within the Borough. These opportunities are likely to be further enhanced and supported by the Liverpool City Region's emphasis on the low carbon economy and low carbon transportation and by the Local Plan policy on Renewables and Low Carbon Energy.

Climatic Factors and Flooding

Introduction

- 12.1 Climate change is recognised as one of the most serious and important challenges facing the UK. Climate change issues are to be addressed at national, regional and local levels. This chapter sets out the sustainability context and baseline in regards to climatic factors. This will include emissions, effects and adaptation where data is identified.
- 12.2 In recent decades evidence has accumulated to demonstrate that an unprecedented rise in global temperatures has occurred over the last century or so. Scientific consensus attributes this change to emissions of greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide from combustion of fossil fuels for energy generation or transport. The major contributing factor to increased greenhouse gases and climate change is human activity.
- 12.3 Other greenhouse gases present in the atmosphere include methane from fossil fuels and landfill waste, nitrous oxide from fertilisers and industrial processes, chlorofluorocarbons and hydro-chlorofluorocarbons from coolants and sulphur hexafluoride from dielectric fluid. These are found in far smaller quantities than carbon dioxide but have greater global warming potential.
- 12.4 The impacts of a changing climate would include changes in the availability and quality of water resources, damage to native habitats and migration or extinction of native plants and animals. Infrastructure and buildings could be damaged more frequently by storms. It is likely that there will be significant impacts on the economy, particularly in the long term. Agriculture especially could be forced to adapt, with new crops replacing traditional varieties. Unfamiliar diseases might become commonplace in a warmer climate, and patterns of mortality would change with, for instance, fewer premature deaths in winter from cold but probably more deaths from higher temperatures in the summer.
- 12.5 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Climatic Factors and Flooding topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- CS(R)15: Sustainable Transport
 - HE4: Green Infrastructure
 - HE9: Water Management and Flood Risk
 - GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

Context

- 12.6 The key sustainability objectives and messages from the context review are:
- Reduce energy use, increase the efficiency of energy used and increase renewable and low carbon energy generation
 - Ensure that all developments follow sustainable design principles in terms of the function and layout of new development and buildings

- Take a holistic approach to managing flood risk and consider the interrelationship between development and water management
- 12.7 The Scoping material has identified a number of sustainability issues that will need to be considered in the assessment. These are summarised as the following:
- A changing climate of increased temperatures and precipitation will have a number of effects for land use planning. Increased temperatures may result in increased demands for cooling and air conditioning within buildings and hence increasing energy use in a negative cycle. Increased precipitation will increase the number of properties and people at risk from flooding as coastal and river flood risk is likely to increase.
 - There will be a need to continue the amount of renewable and low carbon energy produced within the Borough in order to reduce the impacts of the changing climate. Due to its estuarine location and the number of brooks which run into the Mersey Estuary in Halton, there are areas of Halton that are low lying and have been identified by the Environment Agency as being at risk from flooding. Some of these areas are amongst the most important nature areas in Halton.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

- 12.8 The balance of housing / employment growth has implications for commuting patterns, from a climate change perspective, there is a need to minimise commuting by car, as this will have a major bearing on per capita carbon emissions. The Local Plan identifies the importance of locating new development in appropriate locations to minimise the need to travel between homes and employment, shopping, and community facilities. It also emphasises the need to ensure development is located close to public transport links to encourage a modal shift from a reliance on the private car. Both these measures are expected to contribute positively towards reducing greenhouse emissions generated by new development.
- 12.9 The residential, commercial and industrial development that is proposed in the Local Plan will inevitably contribute to increasing carbon emissions throughout Halton over the plan period. However, there are measures within the retained Core Strategy policies particularly within policies CS1 (Sustainable Development Principles) and CS19 (Sustainable Development and Climate Change), that will assist to deliver sensitive development in the context of guarding against climate change. Policy GRI (Design of Development) also looks for proposals to demonstrate how sustainable design and construction methods will be incorporated to achieve resource efficiency and resilience to climate change.
- 12.10 In terms of reducing flood risk in the Borough, retained policy CS23 (Managing Pollution and Flood Risk) incorporates measures that highlight the importance of managing flood risk in the Borough when delivering new development. Whilst Policy HE9 (Water Management and Flood Risk) provides the more detailed measures to be taken into account when determining planning applications.
- 12.11 As part of the Assessment of Sites used to help to determine the appropriate sites to allocate in the Local Plan, a Sustainability Appraisal was undertaken, this has identified where sites may cause an impact on Climatic Factors and Flooding. The Council have

tried to avoid placing any sensitive developments in areas subject to flooding and have looked to maintain mitigation areas e.g. the area identified within the Core Strategy as a balancing pond.

Summary of Impacts

12.12 Table 12.1 provides a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Climatic Factors and Flooding topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 12.1: Summary of Impacts		
Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	The residential, commercial and industrial development that is proposed in the Local Plan will inevitably contribute to increasing carbon emissions throughout Halton over the plan period. However, there are numerous measures within the Plan that will help ensure that new development is delivered in the context of guarding against climate change. The Plan also includes policy to reduce the risk of flooding in the Borough.	A number of other plans within the area are expected to influence climatic factors and flooding within the areas including the LCR Sustainable Energy Action Plan 2012; LCR Low Carbon Action Plan – Delivering Economic Growth 2011-15; Electric Vehicle Strategy for the Liverpool City Region 2014-2024; and other Local Plans across the city region.
Medium (2020-2030)		
Long (2030+)	It is likely that over the plan period the increasing number of businesses, homes and potential residents, may lead to a greater level of impacts. However, over this time frame it is also expected that there will be technological improvements to vehicles and businesses and that there will be increasing levels of energy efficiency and use of renewables and low carbon.	As with the Local Plan policies it is expected that the growth in residential and economic development will create impacts on the climate, however, it is expected that these will be mitigated by other policies and plans.
Areas likely to be significantly affected	All areas in Halton are likely to benefit from the combined impacts of the policies. The areas where future growth and development is anticipated in the Borough will also be particularly affected.	
Permanent vs.	The majority of impacts relating to climatic factors and flooding will be	

Temporary	permanent, especially in terms of reducing carbon emissions; ensuring developments are adaptable to climatic shifts and locating development away from flood risk.
Secondary	A reduction in air quality or an increase in travel (especially by car) throughout Halton could make the local effects of climate change even worse. The policies in relation to the natural and green environment could also impact on climate change and flood risk. Given the positive nature of the current policies on these elements it is likely that this would be a positive secondary impact.
Proposed Policy Amendments	It is not proposed to amend the policy at this time.

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 12.13 The overall level of growth anticipated in Halton will potentially have a negative effect on the Borough's ability to: adapt to a changing climate; and to manage flood risk. However, there are measures included within the Core Strategy policies that will assist to mitigate negative impacts.

Cultural Heritage and Landscape

Introduction

- 13.1 The historic environment broadly covers a wide range of heritage assets, including assets with statutory protection and those that are locally valuable and important to the character of Halton, for example elements of Runcorn New Town or buildings within the historic villages that have been incorporated within the urban area as the towns have grown.
- 13.2 Cultural heritage can be considered⁷ to include the following:
- Monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;
 - Groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science; and
 - Sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and man, and areas including archaeological sites, which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view.
- 13.3 Landscapes can be areas designated for natural beauty and/or ambience but can also be 'ordinary' places that are not given statutory protection. Urban landscapes also have an important role to play in affecting the quality of people's lives, therefore acknowledging and enhancing 'townscapes' is also important.
- 13.4 Different landscapes have differing landscape characters. The Landscape Character Network⁸ define landscape character as 'a distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse. Essentially it is the landscape character of an area that gives it its distinctive and unique feel.
- 13.5 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Cultural Heritage and Landscape topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- CS(R)6: Green Belt
 - HC5: Commercial Leisure Developments and Cultural Facilities
 - HC7: Visitor Attractions
 - HE1: Natural Environment
 - HE2: Heritage Assets and the Historic Environment

⁷ UNESCO (1972) Convention Concerning The Protection Of The World Cultural And Natural Heritage, Article 1 Available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/> accessed on the 22nd December 2008

⁸ Landscape Character Network Available at: <http://www.landscapecharacter.org.uk/lca> Accessed on the 22nd December 2008

- HE4: Green Infrastructure
- HE5: Trees and Landscaping
- HE6: Open Space and Outdoor Sports Provision
- GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

Context

- 13.6 The key sustainability objectives and messages from the context review are:
- To maintain, and where appropriate enhance, the character and distinctiveness of the built environment
 - To protect, conserve and manage heritage assets
 - To promote landscape protection, management and planning
 - To create an accessible historic environment that everyone can identify and engage with
 - To respect the character of all landscapes and townscapes
- 13.7 The key sustainability issues, problems and constraints for the Halton Borough with regards to Cultural Heritage and Landscape are:
- There are 10 conservation areas, 7 scheduled monuments and 125 Listed Buildings designated for their archaeological and architectural value within the Borough.
 - There are 1,484.09 hectares of open space within the Halton Borough that has a Green Flag award.
 - The Borough has many distinct Landscapes that raise the profile of protecting and enhancing existing features of interest. The integrity of sites should not be impacted upon through planning decisions.
 - Pressure from new development not in keeping with the character of the area may pose a risk to designated areas.
 - Conservation and enhancement of the countryside.
 - Enhancement of local landscape (and townscape) character and quality, and local distinctiveness.
 - The necessity to provide, conserve and maintain access to green and open spaces; and rights of way.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

- 13.8 Overall the Local Plan policies are envisaged to have a positive impact on the Cultural Heritage and Landscape topic area. In particular retained policies CS2 (Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development), CS18 (High Quality Design) and CS20 (Halton's Natural and Historic Environment) and policies HC5 (Commercial Leisure Developments and Cultural Facilities), HC7 (Visitor Attractions), HE2 (Heritage Assets and the Historic Environment), HE4 (Green Infrastructure), H5 (Trees and Landscaping) and HE6 (Open Space and Outdoor Sports Provision) which set out the guiding principles and detailed policies for the Local Plan in relation to Cultural Heritage and Landscape in Halton.
- 13.9 The main effect that the Local Plan policies could have on the Cultural Heritage and Landscape in Halton arise from location of development for example the release of sites in the Green Belt. Although these impacts are likely to be limited by the use of the above policies.

- 13.10 As part of the Assessment of Sites used to help to determine the appropriate sites to allocate in the Local Plan, a Sustainability Appraisal was undertaken, this has identified where sites may cause an impact on cultural heritage and landscape. No sites have been identified as having the potential for a significant negative effect; however, some have been identified in relation to their potential heritage value or landscape value as having the potential for some minor negative impacts. The assumption is made that these impacts will be mitigated to some extent by the other policies contained within the Local Plan and within national policy and guidance.

Summary of Impacts

- 13.11 Table 13.1 provide a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Cultural Heritage and Landscape topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 13.1: Summary of Impacts		
Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	Policies within the Local Plan will protect and enhance features of historical and archaeological importance which contribute to the cultural and tourism offer of the Borough. The high quality landscapes and townscapes in the Borough, especially those that contribute to local distinctiveness will be protected and enhanced.	There is expected to be a positive impact from the combination of the Local Plan and other plans and programmes.
Medium (2020-2030)	The importance of protecting, enhancing and managing places, landscapes and buildings of historic, cultural and archaeological value is well recognised and these features will be well managed into the longer term.	Emerging plans, programmes and strategies recognise the value of proactive management of key features.
Long (2030+)		
Areas likely to be significantly affected	The Core Strategy and the Local Plan recognise the importance of the setting for Halton. This includes the estuary, rivers and canals; the historic, cultural and archaeological heritage; and the diversity of landscape from agricultural to wild heath land, to the industrial landscape, and the evolution of settlement in Halton. The impact will be Borough-wide.	

Permanent vs. Temporary	Changes to the cultural aspects, heritage and landscape of the Borough are likely to be permanent.
Secondary	The locations of development have potential to impact on Cultural Heritage and Landscape, along with the design of these developments, these aspects of policy will need to be considered when determining applications. Development in the vicinity of areas of heritage and landscape value could have negative secondary effects through the indirect effects caused by additional traffic / congestion and reduction in air quality (pollutants can cause damage to building structures). Furthermore, any negative effect from climate change or increased flooding may pose an increased risk to heritage and landscape assets within Halton.
Proposed Policy Amendments	It is not proposed to amend the policy at this time.

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 13.12 It is considered that there are sufficient positive policies and protective policies in relation to Cultural Heritage and Landscape to mitigate for the negative impacts of the location of development and infrastructure.
- 13.13 It is expected that policies such as HE2: Heritage Assets and the Historic Environment and HE5: Trees and Landscaping will help to contribute to the enhancement of the cultural heritage and landscape.

Population and Human Health

Introduction

- 14.1 Planning for good health is high on the agenda, in light of the 'Marmot Review' of health inequalities in England, which concluded that there is 'overwhelming evidence that health and environmental inequalities are inexorably linked and that poor environments contribute significantly to poor health and health inequalities'.
- 14.2 Health is a fundamental contributor to the quality of life and well-being of people living in Halton. The provision of health-related facilities and ensuring inclusive access to facilities such as GPs, Dentists, Hospitals and Nursing Homes will be an important factor in improving the quality of life in Halton. The purpose of this chapter is to capture information on these issues and describe the trends prevalent within the Borough.
- 14.3 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Population and Human Health topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- CS(R)3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)13: Affordable Housing
 - CS(R)14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People
 - CS(R)15: Sustainable Transport
 - RD1: Residential Development Allocations
 - RD2: Gypsy and Travellers (Allocations)
 - RD5: Specialist Housing
 - HC6: Community Facilities (Including Health Facilities)
 - HE6: Open Space and Outdoor Sports Provision
 - HE7: Pollution and Nuisance

Context

- 14.4 The following are the key messages from the context review:
- Avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health.
 - Maintain and, where appropriate, improve air quality.
 - Reduce health inequalities.
 - Promote independence of older people and vulnerable groups.
 - Increase physical activity and access to open space.
- 14.5 The key sustainability issues arising from the baseline assessment for population and human health in Halton are:
- The increase in the number of older people into the Borough is an issue. An ageing population will have economic implications for the Borough as fewer members of the population will be economically active.
 - The need to improve the health and life expectancy of people living in Halton.
 - Increase accessibility to open space in Borough, particularly the number of residences in Halton within 300 metres of a 2ha greenspace.

- The necessity to provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure for its wide ranging contribution to biodiversity, geodiversity as a recreation resource for the benefit of the health and well-being of residents, and as a means of mitigation against the effects of climate change.
- Obesity and poor health in children and adults.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

- 14.6 Overall the Local Plan policies are envisaged to have a minor positive impact on the Population and Human Health topic area. CS(R)5 (Sustainable Transport) seeks improvements to health by encouraging walking, cycling and a reduction in private car use which could help to improve local air quality. This is also supported in Policy C1 (Transport Network and Accessibility). Whilst policy GR1 (Design of Development) looks to create sustainable and safe public spaces, which can help to encourage walking and cycling as well as improving well-being. Policies aimed at improving open spaces, leisure and recreational facilities and green infrastructure also support improvements to health and well-being in the Borough, along with policies seeking to retain community facilities.
- 14.7 As part of the Assessment of Sites used to help to determine the appropriate sites to allocate in the Local Plan, a Sustainability Appraisal was undertaken, this has identified where sites may cause an impact on Population and Human Health. No sites were identified as having a significant negative effect, however, there may be opportunities for sites where minor impacts have been identified to make improvements or to mitigate the impacts. This would be in line with the proposed policies identified above, and could include improvements to transport and accessibility, to the design and layout of development or through the provision of services, facilities and open space.
- 14.8 The Local Plan has also continued to designate green space within the urban areas and to promote appropriate provision within new development. This will help to enhance the positive impacts.

Summary of Impacts

- 14.9 Table 14.1 provide a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Population and Human Health topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 14.1: Summary of Impacts

Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	Over the plan period, the Local Plan should have an overall	The role of the National Health Service, Clinical Commissioning

Medium (2020-2030)	positive impact on health in the Borough. With a more prosperous, sustainable population living a better quality of life in the Borough, in line with the vision for the Borough.	Groups, Public Health England and other agencies, and their plans, will be particularly important in ensuring that the Local Plan has the desired effect of addressing localised health issues.
Long (2030+)		
Areas likely to be significantly affected	All parts of the Borough should benefit from health improvements in terms of improved environments and opportunities for lifestyle changes.	
Permanent vs. Temporary	Facilities to improve health are likely to be permanent. However, changes to lifestyle may not be permanent, whilst illnesses prevalent in the Borough may change over time.	
Secondary	Population and human health is explicitly linked to other areas of sustainability, including those relating to the physical environment (air quality, housing provision, open spaces, sustainable transportation) and to the social environment (employment and local economy, education and skills, and social inclusion).	
Proposed Policy Amendments	It is expected that policies in relation to the sites may be amended throughout the Local Plan process and into the planning application process to determine the most appropriate design, layout and provision for sustainable development.	

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 14.10 It is expected that the negative impacts of the developments proposed will be mitigated through the use of policies in both local and national documents.
- 14.11 Whilst policies in relation to open space provision and the natural environment will help to enhance the positive impacts.

Social Inclusiveness including Skills and Education

Introduction

- 15.1 Social Exclusion can occur when an individual or an area suffers from a combination of linked problems. These problems could include unemployment, poor skills, low income, poor housing, high crime, bad health and family breakdown. Social Exclusion can also be more than poverty. It is often about individuals having the personal capacity, self-confidence and aspirations to make the most of the opportunities, choices and options available to them.
- 15.2 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Social Inclusiveness topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- CS(R)1: Halton's Spatial Strategy
 - CS(R)3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)4: Employment Land Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)5: A Network of Centres
 - CS(R)13: Affordable Housing
 - CS(R)14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
 - ED2: Employment Development
 - C3: Delivery of Telecommunications Infrastructure

Context

- 15.3 The key messages from the context review are:
- Ensure that adequate physical and community infrastructure is provided to support growth and development.
 - Ensure that local communities have access to adequate healthcare facilities.
 - Support locally developed and evidence based community regeneration.
 - Improve digital connectivity.
 - Reduce deprivation, particularly for most deprived wards.
 - Improve training and education opportunities.
 - Increase and skills and qualifications of the local community.
 - Reduce crime and fear of crime.
- 15.3 The Scoping material has identified a number of sustainability issues that will need to be considered in the assessment. These are summarised as the following:
- The Borough of Halton performs poorly in terms of overall deprivation.
 - Crime and personal safety is an issue in the Borough of Halton as well a fear of crime amongst its inhabitants.
 - In general, houses within the Borough are unaffordable to first time buyers.
 - There is a lack of skills and education amongst the population of Halton, which restricts their ability to access to local jobs.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

- 15.4 Overall the Local Plan policies are envisaged to have a positive impact on the Social Inclusiveness topic area. In particular policies CS(R)1 (Halton's Spatial Strategy), CS(R)5 (a Network of Centres) and CS(R)13 (Affordable Housing) which set out the guiding principles for the Local Plan in relation to Social Inclusiveness in Halton. They will help to ensure that development is supported by appropriate social infrastructure. Increasing access to housing and employment will also help to improve social inclusiveness. Whilst policy ED2 (Employment Development) seeks to negotiate benefits for local communities through training and recruitment of local people. And policy CS(R)13 (Affordable Housing) seeks the provision of affordable and supported housing which can increase social integration through mixed communities. The telecommunications policy will help to improve digital connectivity across the Borough.
- 15.5 Retained policies CS2 (Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development) and CS7 (Infrastructure Provision) are also likely to have a positive impact. Ensuring that development occurs in appropriate locations served by appropriate infrastructure.
- 15.6 Site allocations within the Local Plan include those for new local centres to support the provision of appropriate services and facilities for local communities. Whilst the site assessments have included consideration of the proximity of the site to existing facilities, and they have identified where additional provision may be appropriate.

Summary of Impacts

- 15.7 Table 15.1 provide a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Social Inclusiveness topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 15.1: Summary of Impacts

Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	The Local Plan should have a positive impact on the sustainability topic of social inclusiveness. It should help to ensure that an appropriate level of housing is provided and that appropriate amounts of land are made available for employment development. It should help to ensure that suitable amounts of retail are provided and that local centres are protected. It should ensure that community facilities are retained.	Over the Plan Period it is likely that other plans, programmes and strategies which relate to improving social inclusion in the Borough will strengthen the positive impact of the Local Plan in terms of social inclusiveness.
Medium (2020-2030)		
Long (2030+)		

	Over the plan period levels of deprivation in the Borough should improve especially in relation to health and employment deprivation.	
Areas likely to be significantly affected	All areas in Halton will be affected positively by the Local Plan in relation to increasing social inclusion. This should be particularly noticeable in the Borough's wards that currently exhibit social exclusion and high levels of deprivation.	
Permanent vs. Temporary	Ensuring Halton's communities can sustainably access community services and facilities including health, education and training should have a permanent positive impact for social inclusiveness in Halton. However, this will also be dependent on individuals choosing to access these services and facilities which may result in a more temporary impact.	
Secondary	Social inclusion can be related to a number of other topic areas including health, sustainable transport, urban design, education, employment and housing provision.	
Proposed Policy Amendments	It is not proposed to amend the policy at this time.	

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 15.8 The positive impacts can be strengthened by ensuring that the appropriate policies are implemented and monitored. Ensuring that appropriate social infrastructure is provided and that employment opportunities and access to training is supported.

Local Economy and Employment

Introduction

- 16.1 The performance of the economy has a fundamental bearing on the achievement of sustainable development. The economy provides employment and generates wealth but can as a result generate adverse effects such as waste or pollution from industry or traffic. A sustainable economy should be seen as a part of the wider social and natural environment and, as far as possible, not adversely affect these wider elements.
- 16.2 Halton is an urban, industrial area whose main businesses are in chemicals, food processing, clothing, metal products and furniture manufacturing. Halton's economic fortunes are closely linked with surrounding areas within the North West of England. Halton is part of the Liverpool City Region - a sub-regional alliance.
- 16.3 The main service sectors in the Borough are retail, financial, public and health administration. Major companies and employers in Halton include Halton Borough Council, the NHS, Community Integrated Care, O2, Atos Origin, De Vere, Yokogawa, Ineos Chlor, Home Retail Group and DHL.
- 16.4 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Local Economy and Employment topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- CS(R)1: Halton's Spatial Strategy
 - CS(R)4: Employment Land Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)5: A Network of Centres
 - ED1: Employment Allocations
 - ED2: Employment Development
 - ED3: Complementary Services and Facilities within Employment Areas

Context

- 16.5 The following are the key messages from the context review:
- Support economic growth and regeneration
 - Support diversification of the industrial base
 - Improve education and skills
 - Ensure vitality and viability of town centres.
 - Attract visitors and tourists.
- 16.6 The key sustainability issues arising from the baseline assessment for economic development in Halton are:
- The need to expand the economy- Halton's economy is relatively small by national standards, with low shares of GVA and employment.
 - Jobs will need to be provided for the increased population.
 - Employment deprivation - there are four wards – Halton Lea, Norton South and Windmill Hill (in Runcorn) and Riverside (in Widnes) - where unemployment is significantly higher than the Borough average and the national average

- There is a need to build on the tourism offer in Halton in order to attract a higher volume of tourists from all tourist visits to Merseyside.
- The need to revitalise the Town Centres.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

- 16.7 Planning policy can support inward investment and new business formation through the supply of land allocated for employment development.
- 16.8 The overall effect of the plan on local economy and employment is positive. The draft Document identifies approximately 130ha of land for employment development. New development would have a positive impact on the employment topic. The Local Plan develops the broad concept of the option of a mix of a brownfield focus and urban extension, which will include development accommodated on greenfield and Green Belt sites.
- 16.9 Ensuring the vibrancy and strength of Halton's economy, coupled with sustaining the attractiveness of the Borough's centres have been identified as ongoing aims over the entire plan period. The levels of development proposed and the identification of the site allocations will assist in the delivery of new employment opportunities within the Borough. Indirectly, this is also likely to have a positive effect on the sense of well-being amongst the residents of Halton. It is also expected that the more detailed policies in relation to employment development and complementary services will also help to ensure the vibrancy and quality of the local employment areas.
- 16.10 Retained Policy CS7: Infrastructure Provision is also likely to strengthen the economy and aid the regeneration of the Borough. In particular, the policy ensures that sufficient services and infrastructure will be in place to meet the needs of employment and housing growth this will have a positive impact on delivering sustainable economic growth.
- 16.11 Whilst indirectly, the provision of an appropriate level of good quality homes is also likely to help to support the local economy by providing a good choice of homes for employees.
- 16.12 Policy CS (R)5: A Network of Centres for Halton promotes Widnes Town Centre and Halton Lea Town Centre as the main focal points for growth and development, supported by the Runcorn Old Town centre. Improved and more accessible town centres within the Borough will be more likely to attract investment, stimulating the local economy and generating further employment opportunities.

Summary of Impacts

- 16.13 Table 16.1 provides a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Local Economy and Employment topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive	Minor Positive	Negligible or No	Minor Negative	Significant Negative	Mixed effect	Likely effect

Effect Likely	Effect Likely	Effect	Effect Likely	Effect Likely	likely	uncertain
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Table 16.1: Summary of Impacts

Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	The overall effect of the plan on local economy and employment is positive. The provision of a wide range of employment opportunities should have positive indirect effects on the vitality of communities. Policies encourage sustainable transport and require new developments to contribute to providing an integrated sustainable transport network and improved walking and cycling facilities within the Borough. Providing better transport links to the Borough's employment areas will improve access for the Borough's residents.	Employment, learning and skills in Halton are a key focus for the Halton's Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The Local Plan is aligned to deliver all of the benefits that the spatial planning process can contribute to the attainment of the specified goals of the SCS. The Local Plan continues to implement the policy and guidance of the national, regional and sub-regional levels.
Medium (2020-2030)		
Long (2030+)		
Areas likely to be significantly affected	The whole Borough is likely to be impacted by these policies, although there may be greater impacts on areas with concentrations of new employment or increased access opportunities to employment areas.	
Permanent vs. Temporary	The development of employment land is considered a permanent change. The development of employment and other commercial development on previously developed land will help to encourage urban renaissance and is likely to have a permanent impact. The success of the Borough's economy is tied to that of the UK economy as a whole, and as such, there will be other spatial planning issues in relation to the local economy and employment that will evolve over the Plan period and beyond, which will mean that some affects become temporary. This includes changing economic, environmental and social conditions and circumstances.	
Secondary	Secondary effects will be on the health and well-being of Halton's communities. Policies to protect employment land will ensure that jobs remain in the Borough. Local jobs combined with local training opportunities are	

	likely to help tackle worklessness.
Proposed Policy Amendments	It is not proposed to amend the policy at this time.

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 16.14 Overall, the Local Plan is envisaged to have a positive impact on the local economy and employment, particularly in the medium to long-term when the policy measures will have had time to take effect and provide conditions for the economic growth required to generate the level and range of employment opportunities which will meet the needs of the Borough.

Housing

Introduction

- 17.1 Access to shelter and the need for a home are fundamental human requirements and as such provision of sufficient good quality housing is also a crucial component of a sustainable community. The housing needs of a community vary greatly and different people have different housing demands, which also change over their lifetime. The need to provide a variety of dwelling types and sizes is therefore crucial. Therefore, in order to ensure the development of sustainable communities in Halton, the Local Plan must ensure the availability of sufficient housing to meet identified needs, in terms of housing quantity, location, quality, affordability and choice.
- 17.2 Within the Borough there is a total of 55,900 dwellings⁹. This is largely made up of detached, semi-detached and terraced housing and bungalows.
- 17.3 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Housing topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- CS(R)1: Halton's Spatial Strategy
 - CS(R)3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)13: Affordable Housing
 - CS(R)14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
 - RD1: Residential Development Allocations
 - RD2: Gypsy and Traveller (Allocations)
 - RD3: Dwelling Alterations, Extensions, Conversions and Replacement Dwellings
 - RD5: Specialist Housing

Context

- 17.4 The following are the key messages from the context review:
- Objectively identify and then meet housing needs.
 - Support the creation of a mixed and balanced housing market.
 - Ensure that the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People are met.
 - Provide affordable housing to help meet identified needs.
 - Ensure all new house building moves towards the highest level of sustainability.
- 17.5 The supply and type of housing across Halton is a key issue in terms of promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability throughout the Borough.
- 17.6 The housing market itself has a crucial role to play in encouraging and supporting economic growth. Without the right types of homes in the right places, Halton will not be able to retain or attract residents and investors.

⁹ CLG Dwelling Stock 2014 (<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-dwellingstock-including-vacants>)

17.7 The key sustainability issues arising from the baseline assessment for housing in Halton are:

- The population is ageing more rapidly than other parts of the region due to the 'new town' effect. Demand for supported housing and services for older people are likely to grow dramatically. Demand for sheltered housing options is expected to grow over the next few years.
- There is a mismatch between supply and demand.
- There is a growing demand for accommodation for smaller, older person households.
- The property type profile in Halton is fairly varied and as such meets the needs of a wide range of population groups but with a low level of flats and a high level of terraced properties.
- Provision for lifetime homes is essential in order to meet the needs of an ageing population.
- The baseline review has indicated the need for Halton to provide 25 Gypsies and Traveller accommodation needs (pitches) between 2013 and 2028.
- Baseline data on energy efficiency of homes is lacking. Energy efficiency is a crucial element of future homes and as such, improvement to existing homes should be encouraged. Baseline data should be sought in the short term.
- The prevailing economic and housing market conditions are impacting on housing growth and regeneration in the short and medium term in the Borough. As well as the downturn in the housing market and severe reduction in speculative commercial and residential building, investment in business assets and development has also been affected.

17.8 However, the need to increase the supply and quality of housing has not diminished. The Borough's long-term strategic goals need to remain the same, in the longer term the aim should be to provide a balanced housing offer that supports economic growth, strengthens economic inclusion and ensures new supply is appropriate to the local markets, by ensuring that the location, type, design, size and tenure are right and that existing stock is used effectively. A stable, balanced housing market and a strong, viable economy go hand in hand and both are needed to create communities where people want to live.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

17.9 The supply and type of housing provided across Halton is a key issue in terms of promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability throughout the Borough.

17.10 The housing market itself has a crucial role to play in encouraging and supporting economic growth. Without the right types of homes in the right places, Halton will not be able to retain or attract residents and investors. The coordination of housing provision with investment in employment and community services within the Local Plan should ensure that settlements meet the needs of their communities.

17.11 The Local Plan housing policies focus upon ensuring that the Borough delivers an overall balanced housing stock that meets the needs of new and existing residents. It seeks to provide an appropriate level of housing growth and promotes a balanced

housing offer through ensuring a mix of tenure and type in sustainable locations to meet the needs of new and existing residents. This includes specialist housing, affordable housing and sites to meet the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

- 17.12 The development of new homes is likely to have a positive effect on meeting local housing needs and on the local economy through providing employment in the construction industry.
- 17.13 The location of new housing development affects the landscape, the future of settlements, population, the services and facilities that are required by residents and the viability of these. Therefore, the development of new homes could have a negative environmental impact (potentially on sites of biodiversity importance, key land resources, water quality and air quality) and impacts on landscapes in the Borough. These impacts will need to be mitigated through the use of other policies within the Local Plan, such as HE1 (Natural Environment), HE7 (Pollution and Nuisance), HE5 (Trees and Landscaping) and retained policies such as CS18 (High Quality Design), CS19 (Sustainable Development and Climate Change), CS20 (Natural and Historic Environment) and CS23 (Managing Pollution and Risk).
- 17.14 Retained Policy CS12: Housing Mix states that housing proposals of 10 dwellings or more will be required to provide an appropriate mix of housing on site. The final mix is not stated, and will be negotiated with the developer on the basis of a housing needs assessment in the latest Strategic Housing Market Assessment. This continued flexible approach should ensure that specific housing needs of particular groups are met through the appropriate provision of specialist and supported housing, in order to address deficiencies in the existing housing stock.

Summary of Impacts

- 17.15 Table 17.1 provides a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Housing topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 17.1: Summary of Impacts		
Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	The Local Plan policies perform very well against the housing objective, as the policies should result in an increase to the supply of housing (including affordable housing) within the borough, whilst also creating	The in combination effects of the multiple plans are likely to be positive.
Medium (2020-2030)		
Long (2030+)		In the longer term the policies should continue to allow for sufficient growth to

	mixed and balanced communities. Overall the preferred policy options will have positive impacts on the relevant areas of sustainability.	be accommodated in line with other national and sub-national plans.
Areas likely to be significantly affected	All parts of the Borough will benefit from increased housing quantity, quality, affordability and choice. The areas that are likely to be significantly affected are those that are seeing the greatest levels of development eg North Widnes and East Runcorn.	
Permanent vs. Temporary	The development of housing land is expected to be permanent.	
Secondary	There are positive social and economic effects, mainly related to the provision of more affordable housing, low carbon, sustainable, and adaptable housing, and a more diverse mix of house types. Other secondary impacts include the relation between housing and employment, where the construction of housing will provide employment and the need to house employees. There could also potentially be secondary impacts of housing on some ecosystem services including water quality, quality of biodiversity sites and air quality.	
Proposed Policy Amendments	It is not proposed to amend the policy at this time.	

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 17.16 By meeting existing and proposed housing needs while maximising the efficient use of land, respecting the identity of settlements and reducing the need to travel, the Local Plan is envisaged to have a positive impact on housing within the Borough. This may be enhanced through the monitoring of the policy to ensure that it is implemented appropriately and delivering as expected.

Transportation

Introduction

- 18.1 Sustainable transport is key to the wider sustainable development agenda. An efficient transport network is a pre-requisite of a successful, modern economy. A safe and accessible transport network helps fulfil societal objectives, while a low pollution transport network is essential to safeguard the environment and climate. Reconciling these, often conflicting, requirements is at the heart of the planning process.
- 18.2 The M62 and M56 motorways pass north and south of the Borough with connections via A562/A5300 and A557 to the M62 and the A557 to the M56. Additionally, there are two railway stations in Widnes, both on the Liverpool and Manchester Line.
- 18.3 Table 7.1 indicates that the following policies relevant to the Transportation topic area are considered to have a Primary Effect and should be appraised in the most detail:
- CS(R)1: Halton's Spatial Strategy
 - CS(R)3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities
 - CS(R)6: Green Belt
 - CS(R)15: Sustainable Transport
 - CS (R)17 Expansion of Liverpool John Lennon Airport:
 - C1: Transport Network and Accessibility
 - C2: Parking Standards

Context

- 18.4 The key messages from the context review are:
- Seek to make maximum use of the most accessible sites, such as those in town centres and others which are, or will be, close to major transport interchanges.
 - Promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling and reduce the need to travel, especially by car.
 - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.
 - Secure a shift towards the use of more sustainable modes of transport and secure safe and efficient access between residential areas and key destinations including schools, employment, shops and other services.
 - Reduce the adverse impacts of transport, in terms of safety hazards, climate change, environmental degradation, residential amenity and social exclusion.
- 18.5 The baseline data identifies the following as key sustainability issues:
- Bus and rail services in Halton need to become more sustainable and to encourage people to use these modes of transport in preference to the car, especially to get to work.
 - The number of people who do not have access to a car in the Borough is high in comparison to national levels. This is particularly a problem in Windmill Hill, Castlefields, Appleton, Riverside and Grange.

Appraisal of Local Plan Policies

- 18.6 All new development has to be accessible and creates changes in transport and movement patterns; therefore any policy proposing new development will have at least a “less significant” effect. Other policies concern transportation, movement and access proposals themselves and will clearly have a “significant” effect.
- 18.7 The sustainability of the Borough’s transport network is a central concern of the policy approaches, with the focus on encouraging sustainable transport modes such as walking and cycling and public transport.
- 18.8 Policies CS(R)15 (Sustainable Transport), CI (Transport Network and Accessibility), C2 (Parking Standards), and CS(R)17 (Expansion of Liverpool John Lennon Airport) set out the guiding principles and detailed policies for transportation in the Local Plan, and are all expected to have a positive overall effect on transportation in the Borough.
- 18.9 Policy CS(R)1: Halton’s Spatial Strategy sets the overall context as to where the main areas of new development in Halton will be. Creating an appropriate balance between urban regeneration and greenfield development and focusing additional new residential and employment development primarily in brownfield and urbanised areas near to transport links and key facilities should reduce the need to travel, particularly by private car; this should have a positive impact on transportation.
- 18.10 Policy CS(R)3 states in more accessible locations such as those close to town / neighbourhood facilities or transport interchanges the presumption will be for developments achieving densities of 40dph or greater. The implementation of this policy will ensure that high density residential developments are located in the most sustainable locations, such as the main towns, where they are well served by public transport.
- 18.11 Retained Policy CS7: Infrastructure Provision also seeks to ensure that all new development should be located in the most sustainable location already well served by existing infrastructure, this is likely to bring about positive indirect impacts on the sustainability of transportation. Policy CS7 also provides scope for utilising developer contributions for transportation infrastructure improvements and therefore is sustainable with regards to transportation.
- 18.12 The implementation of Policy CS17: Liverpool John Lennon Airport will increase carbon emissions from aircraft movements and from land-based transport to and from. Negative impacts will be felt by both the environment (sensitive habitats, species) as well as local communities - though increased noise pollution, air pollution, disruption to amenity, and traffic congestion. However the implementation of Policy CS17 should increase the choice of transport modes in the Borough through the support and expansion of airport operations, and will also increase surface access to the airport. The implementation of this policy will have a positive impact on a number of economic objectives. Clearly there are some sustainability conflicts inherent here. However, some of the more negative impacts of Policy CS17 will be mitigated through the more detailed policies to be applied to future developments in this area (Policy C4).

- 18.13 In addition, there is potential for the expansion of Liverpool John Lennon Airport to lead to congestion problems near to the airport. However, the development of the Eastern Access Transport Corridor and the implementation of the Surface Access Strategy should help to address this issue. The policy also seeks to ensure that any negative environmental and social impacts associated with the operation and expansion of airport will be appropriately addressed including measures to reduce or alleviate the impacts on the local and regional transport network.

Summary of Impacts

- 18.14 Table 18.1 provide a summary of the likely impacts arising from the Local Plan policies on the Transportation topic area.

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed effect likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 18.1: Summary of Impacts		
Type of Impact (incl. Short / medium / long term)	Local Plan Policies	Cumulative (other plans)
Short (2014-2020)	The level of development proposed within the Local Plan is likely to put pressure on the transport network, particularly in areas that are already known pinch points. However, policy within the Plan is expected to help to mitigate the impacts. This includes protecting key infrastructure, promoting new infrastructure as appropriate and supporting new development in sustainable locations.	The Local Plan is expected to complement and work alongside the Local Transport Plan (current and future) and the Liverpool City Region Transport Plan for Growth.
Medium (2020-2030)		
Long (2030+)		
Areas likely to be significantly affected	Areas which will be subject to changes in transport infrastructure, like those near to new interchanges or roads, will be significantly affected. Likewise, where transport improvements will be focussed, such as town centres and key areas of change, affects should be positive in terms of increased connectivity.	

Permanent vs. Temporary	The provision of new physical transport infrastructure will represent a permanent improvement, while softer measures, like new bus services or transport planning measures, may be more temporary and can be altered to meet future changes in need.
Secondary	There is also the potential for new housing and economic development over the plan period to place additional pressure on the transport network. Transportation policy is closely related to air quality, green infrastructure, health levels, economic development and town centre viability. A good quality, reliable and efficient transport network with a choice of sustainable travel options can have a positive impact on quality of life.
Proposed Policy Amendments	It is not proposed to amend the policy at this time.

Mitigation and Enhancement

- 18.15 Overall, the negative effects of the Local Plan on transportation are limited to the general effect of new development such as the levels of housing and the expansion of Liverpool John Lennon Airport increasing the burden on the transport network. However, together the policies of the Local Plan are formulated in such a way as to limit this effect by proposing improvements to the transport network that will potentially off-set any negative effect, provided they are implemented.
- 18.16 Behaviour change measures to encourage travel by sustainable modes of transport represent a significant opportunity to address congestion and improve the efficiency of the highway network in the Borough. However, this can not be done through planning policies alone, and will need to be done through joint working with other key stakeholders.

Conclusion

- 19.1 In conclusion the Local Plan is considered to achieve a sustainable balance between making provision for development to meet local needs and the physical and environmental constraints of the area.
- 19.2 Table 12.1 below summarises how all of the Local Plan policies (including those policies from the Core Strategy that have been retained) perform against the SA framework. For each policy, a brief summary is provided:

Key						
Significant Positive Effect Likely	Minor Positive Effect Likely	Negligible or No Effect	Minor Negative Effect Likely	Significant Negative Effect Likely	Mixed Effect Likely	Likely effect uncertain

Table 19.1: Summary SA findings for the Halton Local Plan											
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
Policy											
Revised Core Strategy Policies											
CS(R)1: Halton's Spatial Strategy											
CS(R)3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities											
CS(R)4: Employment Land Supply and Locational Priorities											
CS(R)5: A Network of Centres											
CS(R)6: Green Belt											
CS(R)13: Affordable Housing											

Table 19.1: Summary SA findings for the Halton Local Plan

	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
CS(R)14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople											
CS(R)15: Sustainable Transport											
CS(R)17: Expansion of LJLA											
Economic Development											
ED1: Employment Allocations											
ED2: Employment Development											
ED3: Complementary Services and Facilities within Employment Areas											
Residential Development											
RD1: Residential Development Allocations											
RD2: Gypsy and Travellers (Allocations)											
RD3: Dwelling Alterations, Extensions, Conversions and Replacement Dwellings											
RD4: Open Space Provision for Residential Development											
RD5: Specialist Housing											
Connectivity											
C1: Transport Network and Accessibility											
C2: Parking Standards											
C3: Delivery of Telecommunications Infrastructure											
C4: Operation of Liverpool John Lennon Airport											
Halton's Centres											
HC1: Vital and Viable Centres											
HC2: Allocations within Halton's Centres											

Table 19.1: Summary SA findings for the Halton Local Plan

	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
HC3: Primary Shopping Areas and Frontages											
HC4: Shop Fronts, Signage and Advertising											
HC5: Commercial Leisure Development and Cultural Facilities											
HC6: Community Facilities (including Health Facilities)											
HC7: Visitor Attractions											
HC8: Food and Drink											
HC9: Mixed Use Areas											
Halton's Environment											
HE1: Natural Environment											
HE2: Heritage Assets and the Historic Environment											
HE3: Halton's Waterways and Waterfronts											
HE4: Green Infrastructure											
HE5: Trees and Landscaping											
HE6: Open Space and Outdoor Sports Provision											
HE7: Pollution and Nuisance											
HE8: Contaminated Land											
HE9: Water Management and Flood Risk											
HE10: Minerals Allocations											
HE11: Minerals											
General Requirements											
GR1: Design of Development											
GR2: Amenity											
GR3: Boundary Fences and Walls											

Table 19.1: Summary SA findings for the Halton Local Plan

	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Water Quality and Resources	Soil and Land Resources	Air Quality	Climatic Factors and Flooding	Cultural Heritage and Landscape	Population and Human Health	Social Inclusiveness	Local Economy and Employment	Housing	Transportation
GR4: Temporary Buildings											
GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy											
Halton's Green Belt											
GBTemp: Green Belt Release Allocations											
GB1: Control of Development in the Green Belt											
GB2: Safeguarded Land											

Table 19.2: Summary SA findings for the Halton Local Plan

Policy	SA Outcome
Revised Core Strategy Policies	
CS(R)1: Halton's Spatial Strategy	Overall, the SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although the level of development set out within some of the policies could have negative impacts on some environmental factors, these are sufficiently mitigated by other policy content.
CS(R)3: Housing Supply and Locational Priorities	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although development is likely to have negative impacts on some environmental factors these can be managed / mitigated.
CS(R)4: Employment Land Supply and Locational Priorities	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although development is likely to have negative impacts on some environmental factors these can be managed / mitigated.
CS(R)5: A Network of Centres	This policy has positive benefits for both social and economic criteria.
CS(R)6: Green Belt	Overall, this policy highlights the importance of protecting Green Belt land over the plan period. This will have a positive impact on the relevant SA objectives.
CS(R)13: Affordable Housing	This policy has strong social benefits and negligible environmental impacts.
CS(R)14: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople	This policy should contribute directly to the well-being of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities.
CS(R)15: Sustainable Transport	This policy will have positive benefits on all areas of sustainability (social, economic, environmental).
Economic Development	
ED1: Employment Allocations	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although development is likely to have negative impacts on some environmental factors these can be managed / mitigated.
ED2: Employment Development	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms, particularly in relation to the economic benefits.
ED3: Complementary Services and Facilities within Employment Areas	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms, particularly in relation to the economic benefits.
Residential Development	
RD1: Residential Development Allocations	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although development is likely to have negative impacts on some environmental factors these can be managed / mitigated.
RD2: Gypsy and Travellers (Allocations)	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although development is likely to have negative impacts on some environmental factors these can be managed / mitigated.
RD3: Dwelling Alterations, Extensions, Conversions and Replacement Dwellings	This policy has positive social benefits.
RD4: Open Space Provision for Residential Development	This policy will have strong positive benefits upon environmental and social sustainability criteria.
RD5: Specialist Housing	This policy has positive social benefits.
Connectivity	
C1: Transport Network and Accessibility	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.
C2: Parking Standards	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.
C3: Delivery of Telecommunications Infrastructure	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.
C4: Operation of Liverpool John Lennon Airport	
Halton's Centres	

HC1: Vital and Viable Centres	This policy has positive benefits for both social and economic criteria.
HC2: Allocations within Halton's Centres	This policy has positive benefits for both social and economic criteria.
HC3: Primary Shopping Areas and Frontages	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.
HC4: Shop Fronts, Signage and Advertising	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.
HC5: Commercial Leisure Development and Cultural Facilities	This policy has positive benefits for both social and economic criteria.
HC6: Community Facilities (including Health Facilities)	This policy has strong positive social benefits.
HC7: Visitor Attractions	This policy has positive benefits for both social and economic criteria.
HC8: Food and Drink	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.
HC9: Mixed Use Areas	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although development is likely to have negative impacts on some environmental factors these can be managed / mitigated.
Halton's Environment	
HE1: Natural Environment	This policy will have strong positive environmental benefits.
HE2: Heritage Assets and the Historic Environment	This policy will have strong positive environmental benefits.
HE3: Halton's Waterways and Waterfronts	This policy will have strong positive environmental benefits.
HE4: Green Infrastructure	This policy will have strong positive benefits upon environmental and social sustainability criteria.
HE5: Trees and Landscaping	This policy will have strong positive environmental benefits.
HE6: Open Space and Outdoor Sports Provision	This policy will have strong positive environmental and social benefits.
HE7: Pollution and Nuisance	This policy will have positive impacts on environmental and social factors.
HE8: Contaminated Land	This policy will have strong positive environmental benefits.
HE9: Water Management and Flood Risk	This policy will have strong positive environmental benefits.
HE10: Minerals Allocations	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although development is likely to have negative impacts on some environmental factors these can be managed / mitigated.
HE11: Minerals	Mineral extraction may impact on the cultural heritage and landscape if sites are not restored once extraction has taken place. However, this impact is mitigated to a certain extent by a further measure in the policy, which encourages the use of recycled and secondary aggregates across the Borough to minimise the need for minerals extraction.
General Requirements	
GR1: Design of Development	This policy will have strong positive benefits for environmental, social and economic sustainability factors.
GR2: Amenity	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.
GR3: Boundary Fences and Walls	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.
GR4: Temporary Buildings	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.
GR5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy	This policy will have strong positive benefits for environmental, social and economic sustainability factors.
Halton's Green Belt	
GBTemp: Green Belt Release Allocations	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although development is likely to have negative impacts on some environmental factors these can be managed / mitigated.
GB1: Control of Development in the Green Belt	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms.

GB2: Safeguarded Land	The SA considers this policy to be positive in sustainability terms. Although development is likely to have negative impacts on some environmental factors these can be managed / mitigated.
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- 19.3 Overall, it is considered that the implementation of the Local Plan policies will achieve sustainable growth in Halton. It is considered that the implementation of the Plan will have positive impacts on all of the sustainability objectives and that the majority of the negative impacts identified will be mitigated by the content included within the Plan as a whole.
- 19.4 A list of the sites that have been assessed as part of the Site Assessment process can be found in Appendix B. This list identifies the sites from those that have been assessed where they are potential allocations proposed in the emerging Local Plan. The Site Assessment Technical Report Consultation Draft (December 2017) contains a site assessment and summary of the sustainability appraisal process. This has included a sustainability appraisal and the proformas highlighting the outcomes of the SA.

Stage B5: Propose Measures to Monitor the Significant Effects

- 20.1 The PPG states that *'local planning authorities should monitor the significant environmental effects of implementing the Local Plan'*.
- 20.2 Monitoring these significant environmental effects will enable the Council to identify unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and enable appropriate remedial action.
- 20.3 Questions that should be addressed through the monitoring process include:
 - Whether the Sustainability Appraisal assumptions about the impact of the DALP policies are accurate?
 - Whether the DALP is contributing towards meeting the sustainability objectives?
 - Are there any other effects from the implementation of the DALP that need to be considered?
- 20.4 It is therefore important that a monitoring framework is developed. For practical reasons, and in order to remain consistent, this will be based on the indicators identified in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework (Table 2.1).
- 20.5 Identifying trends within the data associated with these objectives will help measure how well the DALP contributes to sustainable development over the course of the plan, and to highlight any unforeseen adverse effects to enable appropriate remedial action to be taken where possible.

Next Steps

How to comment on the Sustainability Appraisal Report

- 21.1 This Sustainability Appraisal will be subject to a 6 week consultation alongside the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Document. The consultation will take place from the **4th January to 15th February 2018**.
- 21.2 You are invited to comment on the content of this document and to draw the Council's attention to any matters which have not been identified. The consultation period for this Sustainability Appraisal Report runs from: **Thursday 4th January to 5pm Thursday 15th February 2018**. Only comments received during the consultation period will be considered. The Council asks that consultation responses are made via email to forward.planning@halton.gov.uk, where possible, to save time, paper and money.
- 21.3 You will find a copy of each of the relevant the documents online at www.halton.gov.uk/DALP or you can view a paper copy at the Halton Direct Links (HDLs) at Halton Lea, Runcorn; Brook Street, Widnes; and Granville Street, Runcorn or at the Libraries at Runcorn Shopping Centre (formerly known as Halton Lea), Runcorn; Granville Street, Runcorn; Kingsway, Widnes and Ditton, Widnes.

The Next Stages

- 21.4 The Council will continue to work through Stage B of the Sustainability Appraisal as the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan progresses. The production of the Local Plan will continue to be informed by the Sustainability Appraisal and this will be reported on during the next stage of consultation on the Local Plan.
- 21.5 The results of the appraisal will be documented within an SA Report (Stage C of the Guidance) and Consulted upon. The SA Report should accompany the Submission Local Plan document and will require amendment as the plan options are refined and altered through the examination and adoption process (Stage D). The final tasks (Stage E) will be to prepare the sustainability statement as part of adoption statement for the plan which will include final proposed for monitoring of the plan via the Monitoring Report.

Outputs

- 21.6 The Council will be seeking the views of stakeholders and the public on the emerging Local Plan and accompanying SA Reports in due course.

Appendix A: Consultation

Consultee & Organisation	Comment	Response
Colin Morrison Turley	Peel recognises that at this stage of the plan making process, the DALP SA report appraises the <i>reasonable alternatives</i> to deliver the plan objectives and policies with preferred options and sites published in later plan making documents.	Noted. No action required.
	Peel considers that Halton is well placed to be more ambitious in its economic and housing objectives in that it has the ability to capture investment and housing on a regional scale and secure economic growth significantly above local demand. Should policy options be introduced to meet these objectives as per our later representations then the SA Scoring in Table 3.1 will contain additional positive benefits resulting from Objective 4 against the SA framework objectives of Housing and Health & Well-being.	Noted. No action required.
	With regard to Objective 12, Improving Health Inequalities in the Borough, Peel considers it inevitable that the delivery of employment land greater than the local need (Options 6.1D and 6.1E) will lead to much greater benefits than currently identified against Objective 12, particularly when compared against the option of provision against local economic forecasts (Option 6.1A)	It is considered that a level of employment above forecasted tends may lead to more opportunity and choice and could therefore have the potential to improve well-being within the residential population. However, there will be limits to these benefits as over-provision may increase commuting and need to travel which could have detrimental impacts. Therefore this assessment has been revisited and amended as considered appropriate.
	With regard to Objective 14, <i>Supporting a Strong Local Economy</i> , Peel does not agree with the assessment that all policy options will provide the same positive effect. It is self-evident that policy options that seek to provide growth greater than local need (Options 6.1D and 6.1E) must have a greater economic benefit than the provision for local need only. In its current form, this SA scoring fails to convey the obvious significant additional	It is considered that the assessment of the options for Objective 14 already sets out the differentiation between the options with text already highlighting the benefits of employment development and the growth

	benefits to the local economy through ambitious economic policy objectives which seek to exploit Halton's assets	achieved from higher levels. Therefore no further amendments have been considered appropriate.
	The appraisal of these [Location of employment land within Halton] <i>reasonable alternatives</i> by the SA Framework would appear to support this view in that the performance of the different policy options against a range of objectives is entirely dependent on the precise location of the employment land within each option not the option itself. In addition, where scoring is possible, there is no single policy option that scores significantly better through the SA process when compared to other policy options.	Noted. No action required.
	All four policy options [Housing] are deemed to perform strongly against Objective 10 (provision of good quality and affordable housing) yet it is difficult to understand how Policy option 7.1C (provision of housing lower than the OAN) can be judged to have the same positive effect on the delivery of housing as policy option 7.1B which aims to exceed the OAN and deliver greater volumes of housing. On this basis Peel request that this scoring be revisited to recognise that Option 7.1B will make the greatest contribution to housing provision.	It is considered that further variations between the assessments of the options could have been identified. Therefore this assessment has been revisited in light of the comments made and amendments have been made.
	With regards to Objective 14 (supporting a strong and diverse economy) all four policy options [Housing] receive identical positive scoring. Peel considers that this does not accurately reflect the fact that Option 7.1B will contribute to a stronger local economy through the direct creation of employment through housing construction and through the provision of good quality family housing for the additional labour force when compared to Option 7.1C which will provide lower housing than the OAN.	It is considered that further variations between the assessments of the options could have been identified. Therefore this assessment has been revisited in light of the comments made and amendments have been made.
	Peel also considers it important for any future SA work to consider a range of factors when determining the most sustainable locations for housing development which may include the location of employment assets close to housing development to minimise impact on the local highways network.	Noted. No action required.
Emily Hrycan Historic England	The objective included under SA Objective 1 (Table 2.1: The SA Framework) needs to be amended to closely reflect the approach and terminology of the NPPF in terms of setting. Setting makes an important contribution to the significance and understanding of heritage assets and the historic environment and reference to this is missing from this objective.	It is considered that greater reference could have been made to the setting of assets. Therefore this objective has been amended.
	The locally distinctive sub-criteria listed under SA Objective 1 (Table 2.1: The SA Framework) needs to also be amended to closely reflect the approach and terminology of the NPPF in terms of the significance of the historic environment, heritage assets and	It is agreed that the terminology of these sub-criteria may have needed to be reviewed in light of the approach taken in the NPPF.

	their setting. The sub-criteria fail to make reference to this and incorrectly refers to "features of historical and archaeological importance" for example. The lack of reference to the historic environment and heritage assets, means that there is no criteria to ensure that all elements of the historic environment including non-designated and designated assets (and their setting) are protected.	Therefore these criteria have been updated to refer to heritage assets and their settings, and to better reflect the approach of the NPPF.
	The site assessment criteria listed under SA Objective 1 (Table 2.1: The SA Framework) appears to adopt a simplistic view of the proximity (buffers) to a heritage asset and provides uncertainty in terms of reference to potential for impact. Historic England is concerned about the site assessment criteria put forward in the SA Report.	The site assessment criteria has been created to be as simplistic as possible at this stage due to the number of sites that would require assessment in the initial sieve. However, it is agreed that as the process moves forward, more detailed criteria are likely to be needed. Therefore these criteria have been amended to reflect the latest guidance provided by Historic England.
	Indicators for the historic environment can vary at different stages of the assessment process. However, it is important to devise indicators which will clearly demonstrate the impacts of the Plan on the historic environment. Page 11 of our Guidance provides further information on the different types of indicators and Appendix 4 lists some examples. It is suggested that the Scoping Report be expanded to take into account these recommendations.	The indicators provided are generally considered to be appropriate, however, to reflect the guidance provided by Historic England a small number of amendments have been made to the indicators.
	Historic England strongly advises that you engage conservation, archaeology and urban design colleagues at the local and country level to ensure you are aware of all the relevant features of the historic environment and that the historic environment is effectively and efficiently considered as part of the Plan, the allocation of any site and in the preparation of the SEA.	The Council will continue to work with conservation, archaeology and urban design colleagues at the local and country level as appropriate.
Stephen Sayce Environment Agency	SA Objective 3. To maintain and enhance the water quality of Halton's inland, estuarine and coastal water and to sustainably manage water resources. One of the Relevant Indicator of Note is for the length of watercourse of good biological and chemical quality. We would recommend that overall Water Framework Directive classifications and/or element level classifications are used as an indicator of progress for water quality. This would bring in other matters such as geomorphology which are recognised as key issues for water quality improvement.	Amendments have been made to objective 3; further amendments may be made in due course as it becomes apparent what monitoring information may be available in relation to the overall Water Framework Directive classifications.
	SA Objective 5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level	It is considered that the Objective may benefit

	change. This should also consider flood risk from other sources, such as surface water and groundwater flooding.	from the inclusion of other sources of flooding and the SAF has been amended to reflect this.
	SA Objective 5. To reduce flood risk in Halton from rivers, estuaries and sea level change. In terms of the relevant Indicator, in consideration to other forms of flooding 'Number of Planning Applications granted contrary to the advice of the Lead Local Flood Authority' and 'number of approvals incorporating the Lead Flood Authorities advice on flood mitigation guidelines' could also be added reflecting the change of responsibilities following the implementation of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.	It is considered that the indicators for Objective 5 could do with an update to reflect the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Therefore these indicators have been amended to reflect the text proposed.
Kate Wheeler Natural England	Overall Natural England welcomes the detail in the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) scoping report.	Noted. No action required.
	Natural England considers that the environmental SA Objectives, and some of the social and economic objectives could be improved by emphasising the importance of GI and its multifunctional benefits, which would assist in the delivery of a range of SA topic areas, e.g. biodiversity, landscape, health and wellbeing and climate change. This would assist in ensuring that GI is an integral, cross-cutting theme.	The cross-cutting nature of Green Infrastructure is acknowledged. It is considered that greater reference could have been made to Green Infrastructure, and further references have been included within the SAF.
	We welcome recognition of the requirements of the NPPF, including the need to protect and enhance biodiversity, including designated sites, landscape and open space, water quality, air quality and to address climate change. The NPPF also includes requirements to protect and enhance public access and best and most versatile soils.	Noted. No action required.
	There is a brief mention of protected species and this should specifically be included in the SA and Natural England has produced standing advice that you will find helpful, it is available on our website Natural England Standing Advice to help the local planning authorities to better understand the impact of particular developments on protected or BAP species should they be identified as an issue. The standing advice also sets out when, following receipt of survey information, the local planning authority may need to undertake further consultation with Natural England. This will help with Objective 2: To protect, enhance and manage Biodiversity in Halton.	Protected Species have been mentioned within the SAF as part of the Site Assessments, where appropriate further detail in relation to these Protected Species will be sought.
	Natural England recommends the inclusion of a compatibility matrix as the SA progresses, which will help with the assessment of any uncertain and negative impacts showing. This SA is still at an early scoping stage but as it plan progresses there should be	The compatibility matrix will continue to be reviewed as part of the progression of the Local Plan.

	no outstanding uncertain or negative impacts.	
	We recommend the inclusion of the following monitoring indicators. Protected species – Quantified data might include numbers of applications where protected species are considered, numbers with conditions imposed to ensure working practices and works to protect/ enhance protected species, and numbers of planning applications which result in need for protected species licence in order to be carried out . This will indicate that protected species are being given appropriate consideration within the planning system and begin to build up information on their occurrence within the plan area. Updated information following the publication of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 is available from our website. - BAP habitat - created/ managed as result of granting planning permission (monitored via planning obligations) and which meet Biodiversity Action Plan targets. Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) provides a set of benchmarks for ensuring access to places near to where people live. ANGSt can be used as an indicator to monitor the quality of green space and is accessibility. There are also other national standards such as Green Flag for parks and open spaces and the County Park accreditation schemes. Indicators/targets [for landscape character and quality] could be established from assessing changes in landscape character for National Character Areas (as measured by Countryside Quality Counts data).	It is agreed that further monitoring indicators could be included in relation to Protected Species, BAP habitats, greenspace provision and landscape. Therefore additional indicators have been included.
	Natural England welcomes the thorough list of international, national and local review of policies, plans and programmes. It appears to cover all relevant documents. It will be crucial to update this list during the next stage of the SA process to ensure emerging policies, plans and programmes are added to the baseline.	Noted. No action required.

Appendix B: Development Site Options

The table below lists each of the sites that have been considered as potential options for development as part of the Site Assessments.

Key	
	Potential Residential Allocations
	Potential Employment Allocations
	Potential Safeguarded Land
	Potential Retail Allocations
XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	Potential Gypsy and Traveller Allocations

Site Ref	Proposed DALP Allocation	Site_Name, Address, Town		
CS11	Employment	Land between The Office Village, Daresbury Park and Bridgewater Canal	Daresbury	Runcorn
CS11	Employment	Land between Rail Line, Bridgewater Canal and Keckwick Lane South	Keckwick Lane, Daresbury	Runcorn
CS11	Employment	Land between Rail Line, Bridgewater Canal and Delph Lane North	Delph Lane, Daresbury	Runcorn
CS11	Employment	Daresbury Sci Tech	Keckwick Lane, Daresbury	Runcorn
CS11	Employment	Land between Delph Lane and Sci Tech Daresbury	Delph Lane, Daresbury	Runcorn
CS11	Employment	Land between Rail Line, Bridgewater Canal and Keckwick Lane North	Keckwick Lane, Daresbury	Runcorn
CS11	Employment	Land adjacent to the Office Village	Daresbury Park, Daresbury	Runcorn
CS11	Employment	Land between Daresbury Park and Bridgewater Canal	Daresbury Park, Daresbury	Runcorn
E01	Employment	Shell Green	Shell Green	Widnes
E02	Employment	Bennett's Lane Site		Widnes
E03	Employment	Land off Runcorn Dock Road between Weston Point Expressway and Rail Line.	Runcorn Dock Road	Runcorn
E12	Employment	Land to north of Manor Farm Road	Manor Park ii, site	Runcorn
E13	Employment	Land between Astmoor Road and the Busway	Land between Astmoor Road and the Busway	Runcorn
E14	Employment	Land west of Edison Road and Astmoor Road	Astmoor Industrial Estate	Runcorn
E15	Employment	Land East of Edison Road and Astmoor Road	Astmoor Industrial Estate	Runcorn

E16	Employment	Land to the south of Rivington Road	Rivington Road, Whitehouse	Runcorn
E17	Employment	Land between Chester Road and the Rail Line	Chester Road, Whitehouse	Runcorn
E18	Employment	Land to the north of Teva Pharmaceuticals	Chester Road, Whitehouse	Runcorn
E19	Employment	Land between Warrington Rd and Oxmoor Wood	Land between Warrington Rd and Oxmoor Wood	Runcorn
E20	Employment	Land off Blackheath Lane	Manor Park III, Blackheath Lane, Manor Park	Runcorn
E21	Employment	Land north east of Ditton Road	Ditton Road	Widnes
E21	Employment	Land to the West of Ditton Roundabout	Ditton Road	Widnes
E21	Employment	St Michaels Golf Course	Ditton Road	Widnes
E22	Employment	Land north of Ditton Junction	Newstead Road	Widnes
E23	Employment	HBC Fields	Halebank Road	Widnes
E24	Employment	Land north of Six Acre Lane	Six acre Lane, Manor Park	Runcorn
E24	Employment	Land to south of Moss Lane Nursery	Manor Park	Runcorn
E24	Employment	Land to the north and east of Six Acre Lane	Six acre Lane, Manor Park	Runcorn
E24	Employment	Land to the rear of Moss Lane Nursery	Manor Park	Runcorn
E25	Employment	Moss Lane Nursery	Manor Park iv, Moss Lane, Moore	Runcorn
E25	Employment	Land to the south west of Moss Lane	Moss Lane, moore	Runcorn
E26	Employment	Foundry Lane	Foundry Lane, Widnes	Widnes
E26	Employment	Mathieson Road	Widnes	Widnes
E28	Employment	Land off Six Acre Lane	Land off Six Acre Lane	Moore, Runcorn
E29	Employment	Land west of Moore Meadows	Land west of Moore Meadows	Moore, Runcorn
E30	Employment	Land adjacent to J12 of M56	Rocksavage Expressway, Rocksavage	Runcorn
D01	Residential	Land to the west of Chester Road	Chester Road, Daresbury	Runcorn
H01	Residential	Town Lane / Church End site	Town Lane / Church End, Hale	Widnes
H02	Residential	Home Farm (Green Belt)	Hale Road, Hale	Widnes
H03	Residential	Ramsbrook Lane (Green Belt)	Ramsbrook Lane	Widnes
M01	Residential	Land to the rear of Beechmoor and Hollybank	Moore	Runcorn
M02	Residential	Land south of Manor Farm, Runcorn Road	Moore	Runcorn

M03	Residential	Land between rail line and canal to north of A558	Land between rail line and canal to north of A558	Moore, Runcorn
M04	Residential	Land between Canal and Rail line at Moore	Land between Canal and Rail line at Moore	Moore, Runcorn
M05	Residential	Land between rail lines, Moss Lane and Moore Lane	Moss Lane and Moore Lane	Moore, Runcorn
M06	Residential	Land between Moss Lane and Moore Lane	Land between Moss Lane and Moore Lane	Moore, Runcorn
M06	Residential	Land at the rear of Moss Lane Nursery	Land at the rear of Moss Lane Nursery	Runcorn
M07	Residential	Moss Lane Nursery	Moss Lane	Moore, Runcorn
M08	Residential	Land to the east of Runcorn Road	Moore	Runcorn
P01	Residential	Land between Windmill Lane and Chester Road	Land between Windmill Lane and Chester Road	Runcorn
P01	Residential	E-Scape	Hill Top Rd Preston Brook	Runcorn
P02	Residential	Land between Chester Rd and M56 at Preston-on-the-Hill	Preston on the Hill	Runcorn
R01	Residential	Land at Gaunts Way	Land at Gaunts Way	Runcorn
R02	Residential	Land to the east of Kestrel's Way	Halton lea	Runcorn
R03	Residential	Land adjacent to Trinity Methodist Church - Halton Village	Main Street Halton Village	Runcorn
R04	Residential	Land to the west of Stockham Lane	Palacefields Avenue	Runcorn
R05	Residential	Land north of Beechwood Ave., east of Wood Lane and south of A533	Beechwood Avenue, Beechwood	Runcorn
R06	Residential	Land adjacent to Weston Crescent	Heath Road South, Weston	Runcorn
R07	Residential	Former Showroom for The Deck	Mersey Road	Runcorn
R08	Residential	Remainder of The Deck	Remainder of the Deck development	Runcorn
R09	Residential	Former Polar Ford Second Hand Cars Site	Victoria Road	Runcorn
R10	Residential	Land off Bridge Street and busway	Bridge Street	Runcorn
R11	Residential	Land to the rear of Pure Gym	Former Day Nursery (demolished), Okell Street	Runcorn
R12	Residential	Former Riverside College	Campus Drive	Runcorn
R13	Residential	Land off Hankey Street	Hankey Street	Runcorn
R14	Residential	Land to south of Percival Lane	Percival Lane	Runcorn

R15	Residential	Former Polar Ford and surrounds	BP Fuel Station, Former Polar Ford Showroom, Motor Boat Club, and part of the Foundry, Victoria Road	Runcorn
R16	Residential	Land adjacent to Runcorn Station Car Park	Picow Street	Runcorn
R17	Residential	Picow Farm Road Playing Fields	Picow Farm Road	Runcorn
R18	Residential	Land between Runcorn Spur Road and the Bridgewater Expressway	Heath Road	Runcorn
R20	Residential	Paramount Foods	Halton Road	Runcorn
R21	Residential	Land to the rear of the Red Admiral	Boston Avenue	Runcorn
R22	Residential	Land off Birch Road	Birch Road	Runcorn
R24	Residential	Land to the west of Grangeway	Grangeway, Grangeway	Runcorn
R25	Residential	Thorn Road Garages		Runcorn
R26	Residential	St Chads High School Playing Fields	Grangeway	Runcorn
R28	Residential	Land off Coronation Road	Coronation Road, Preston Brook	Runcorn
R29	Residential	Land to the south of Walsingham Drive	Walsingham Drive, Sandymoor	Runcorn
R30	Residential	Land between Keckwick Brook and West Coast Mainline	Sandymoor	Runcorn
R31	Residential	Sandymoor 17A	Sandymoor	Runcorn
R37	Residential	Land to the east of Village Street	Village Street, Sandymoor	Runcorn
R43	Residential	Land to the north of Chester Road and east of Monks Way	Chester Road, Preston Brook	Runcorn
R44	Residential	Highways Agency Depot	Chester Road, Preston Brook	Runcorn
R45	Residential	Panorama Hotel	Land adjacent to Castle Road	Runcorn
R46	Residential	Land to the north of Brookvale Avenue North	Brookvale Avenue north, Brookvale	Runcorn
R47	Residential	Adj. to Woodfalls Farm	Stockham Lane, adj. Woodfalls Farm	Runcorn
R48	Residential	Land Adj. to Woodfalls Farm		Runcorn
R49	Residential	Land surrounding Hanover Court and the Telephone Exchange	Woodhatch / Palacefields Avenue, Brookvale	Runcorn
R50	Residential	The Lord Taverners & land adjacent	Palacefields Avenue, Brookvale	Runcorn
R51	Residential	Former DofE Offices	Castle View House, east Lane	Runcorn
R52	Residential	Land off Southland Mews	Southland Mews, Moughland Lane	Runcorn

R54	Residential	Land off Astmoor Bridge Lane	Astmoor Bridge Lane, Castlefields	Runcorn
R55	Residential	Former Express Dairies Site	Sewell St / Perry St	Runcorn
R56	Residential	Land to north of Manor Farm Road	Manor Farm Road	Runcorn
R57	Residential	Land at The Heath Business and Technical Park	Heath Road South, Weston	Runcorn
R58	Residential	Car Park at The Heath Business and Technical Park	Heath Road South	Runcorn
R59	Residential	89 High Street	High Street	Runcorn
R60	Residential	Paddock adjacent to 38 Clifton Road	Clifton Road	Runcorn
R61	Residential	Land to the south of Old Quay Street and Mason Street	Mason Street, Astmoor	Runcorn
R62	Residential	Former Fletts Gym and Surrey Street Garage	Land at Greenway Rd / Surrey Street	Runcorn
R63	Residential	Victoria House	Holloway	Runcorn
R65	Residential	Former South Bank Public House	Dukesfield	Runcorn
R66	Residential	Site of former Rathbone Institute	Waterloo Road	Runcorn
R68	Residential	Former Jolly Brewer Public House.	The Ridgeway	Runcorn
R69	Residential	Former Job Centre and La Scala	High Street, Runcorn Old Town	Runcorn
R70	Residential	Pavilions	Sandy Lane, Weston Point	Runcorn
R71	Residential	Land south of Beechwood Ave. & north of M56	Beechwood Avenue, Beechwood	Runcorn
R72	Residential	Land to the north of Towers Lane	Land to the north of Towers Lane	Runcorn
R73	Residential	Land between Daresbury Expressway and Manor Park Avenue	Manor Park Avenue, Manor Park	Runcorn
R74	Residential	Land between the expressway and the Bridgewater Canal and to the west of Norton Priory		Runcorn
R77	Residential	Former Dray Public House	Mullion Close, Brookvale	Runcorn
R78	Residential	Land to the south of Stockham Lane	Stockham Lane, Brookvale / Greenhouse Farm	Runcorn
R79	Residential	Land between Stalbridge Drive and West Cost Mainline	Stalbridge Drive, Sandymoor	Runcorn
R80	Residential	Land to the rear of Gaunts Way	Gaunts Way, Hallwood Park	Runcorn
R81	Residential	Land south of hospital	Halton lea	Runcorn

R82	Residential	Land East of Castlefields Avenue	Castlefields Avenue	Runcorn
R83	Residential	Land opposite Heath Park Grove	Highlands Road	Runcorn
R83	Residential	Land to the west of Heath Park Playing Fields	Runcorn Hill	Runcorn
W01	Residential	Land at Tanhouse Lane	Tanhouse Lane	Widnes
W01	Residential	Walmsley Street Site	Nyborgs Plastics	Widnes
W01	Residential	BPI Widnes Films		Widnes
W02	Residential	Derby Road	Former site of Marley Eternit UK Ltd, Derby Road	Widnes
W04	Residential	Land to the north of Old Upton Lane (Green Belt)		Widnes
W04	Residential	Land at 105-113 Old Upton Lane	Old Upton Lane	Widnes
W04	Residential	139 Old Upton Lane	Old Upton Lane	Widnes
W04	Residential	Land east of Rose Farm (Green Belt)	Land east of Rose Farm, Chapel Lane	Widnes
W04	Residential	Land at Rose Farm	Chapel Lane	Widnes
W04	Residential	Land to the north of Old Upton Lane / West of Sandy Lane (Green Belt)	Sandy Lane	Widnes
W04	Residential	Land west of Sandy Lane (Green Belt)	Land west of Sandy Lane	Widnes
W04	Residential	Land north of 30 Chapel Lane (Green Belt)	Land north of 30 Chapel Lane	Widnes
W04	Residential	Land at rear of 99-113 Old Upton Lane (Green Belt)	Land at rear of 99-113 Old Upton Lane	Widnes
W05	Residential	Land at Queensbury Way (Green Belt)		Widnes
W05	Residential	(Green Belt) Land to the East of Sandy Lane	Land to the East of Sandy Lane	Widnes
W05	Residential	Land off Cronton Road / North side of Upton Lane (Green Belt)		Widnes
W06	Residential	Land north of Cronton Lane Widnes	Land north of Cronton Lane Widnes	Widnes
W06	Residential	Land west of 77 Cronton Lane (Green Belt)	Land west of 77 Cronton Lane	Widnes
W07	Residential	Open Space to rear of Pesto	Open Space to rear of Pesto	Widnes
W09	Residential	Land at Mill Green Farm, North of Derby Road (Green Belt)	Land at Mill Green Farm, North of Derby Road	Widnes
W10	Residential	South Lane (Green Belt)	South Lane	Widnes
W11	Residential	(Green Belt) Land at Mill Green Farm, North of Derby Road	Land at Mill Green Farm, North of Derby Road (Green Belt)	Widnes
W11	Residential	Land at Boundary Farm (Green Belt)	Land at Boundary Farm, South Lane	Widnes
W11	Residential	Abbey Farm, South Lane (Plots 46 & 43) Green Belt)	Abbey Farm, South Lane (Plots 46 & 43) (Green Belt)	Widnes

W11	Residential	Land at Pendlebury Farm (Green Belt)	Land at Pendlebury Farm, South Lane	Widnes
W13	Residential	Land at Hale Gate Road, Halebank (Green Belt)	Hale Gate Road, Halebank	Widnes
W13	Residential	(Green Belt)		Widnes
W16	Residential	Land to the north of the Eight Towers Public House	Weates Close	Widnes
W17	Residential	Land to the east of The Eight Towers Public House	Weates Close	Widnes
W18	Residential	Naylor Road	Land off Naylor Road	Widnes
W19	Residential	The Bongs	Land off Houghton Close (The Bongs)	Widnes
W22	Residential	Arley Drive		Widnes
W24	Residential	Land off Potters Lane and Halebank Road (Green Belt)	Land off Potters Lane and Halebank Road	Widnes
W24	Residential	Land to the west of Hale Gate Road (Green Belt)		Widnes
W24	Residential	Land to the west of Hale Gate Road (Green Belt)	Hale Gate Road	Widnes
W24	Residential	Land north of Mill Farm House (Green Belt)	Land north of Mill Farm House, Hale Gate Road	Widnes
W25	Residential	Upton Rocks - Lanark Gardens Site		Widnes
W26	Residential	Land south of Bechers Local Centre		Widnes
W28	Residential	Broseley House	Brosley House, Widnes Road	Widnes
W30	Residential	Opposite Beaconsfield Surgery Site	Opposite Beaconsfield Surgery Site, Peel House Lane (Part Fairfield school site)	Widnes
W31	Residential	Warrington Road Site	Land between Fiddlers Ferry Road and Gorsey Lane	Widnes
W32	Residential	Terrace Road, West Bank		Widnes
W33	Residential	Grizedale Site		Widnes
W34	Residential	Widnes Timber Centre	Foundry Lane Halebank	Widnes
W35	Residential	Cornerhouse Lane Site		Widnes
W36	Residential	Lynton Crescent		Widnes
W37	Residential	Cherry Sutton Site	Cherry Sutton Site	Widnes
W38	Residential	Land to the rear of Appleton Village		Widnes
W39	Residential	The Albert Hotel	160 Albert Road	Widnes
W40	Residential	Derby Road and Mill Lane junction roundabout	Derby Road and mill Lane junction roundabout	Widnes
W41	Residential	Rivendell Garden Centre, Mill Lane	Rivendell Garden Centre, Mill Lane	Widnes
W41	Residential	Land south of Rivendell Garden Centre, Mill Lane	Land south of Rivendell Garden Centre, Mill Lane	Widnes
W42	Residential	Land at Keble Street	Keble Street	Widnes

W43	Residential	The Foundry		Widnes
W44	Residential	Rock Lane Site	Land Adjacent to 20 Rock Lane	Widnes
W45	Residential	Parcels on Halebank Road		Widnes
W46	Residential	Hough Green Scout / Guide Group Site		Widnes
W47	Residential	Land off Harrison Street	Land off Harrison Street (Camerons), Halebank	Widnes
W47	Residential	Gold Triangle Complex	Harrison Street	Widnes
W48	Residential	Land adjacent to Hale Bank Road	Hale Bank Road	Widnes
S01	Safeguarded Land	Land to the west of Barkers Hollow Road	Barkers Hollow Road, Dutton	Runcorn
S02	Safeguarded Land	Land to the east of Chester Road	Chester Road, Daresbury	Runcorn
S03	Safeguarded Land	Land between Keckwick and the Tunnel Top	Land between Keckwick and the Tunnel Top	Runcorn
S04	Safeguarded Land	Land south of Daresbury Lane	Daresbury Lane, Daresbury	Runcorn
S05	Safeguarded land	Land between Canal and Barkers Hollow Road	Land between Canal and Barkers Hollow Road	Runcorn
S06	Safeguarded Land	Land at Halebank	Hale Bank Road	Widnes
S07	Safeguarded Land	land at Preston on the Hill	Preston on the Hill	Runcorn
S08	Safeguarded Land	Field House, Summer Lane	Summer Lane	Runcorn
S09	Safeguarded Land	All Saints Vicarage,	Daresbury Lane	Runcorn
CS11	Retail	Daresbury Local Centre		Runcorn
TC1	Retail	Land to the north of the Brindley (former Brindley Mound)	Leiria Way, Runcorn Old Town	Runcorn
TC2	Retail	Bus Interchange, Car Park and former HDL	High Street, Runcorn Old Town	Runcorn
TC3	Retail	Widnes Retail Park (Phase 2)		Widnes
TC4	Retail	Eternit UK	Eternit UK, Derby Road	Widnes
TC5	Retail	Land east of East Lane	East Lane	Runcorn
TC6	Retail	Land adjacent to Sandymoor Community Centre	Sandymoor	Runcorn
TC7	Retail	TA Base	Crown gate	Runcorn
TC8	Retail	Library, Grosvenor House, Former Magistrates Court, Police Station et al.	Land between Third Avenue and Northway,	Runcorn
TC9	Retail	Albert Square Car Park		Widnes
GT1	Bigfield Lodge (2)		Warrington Road	Runcorn
GT2	Warrington Road Transit Stie		Warrington Road	Runcorn
GT4	Riverview			Widnes
GT5	Bigfield Lodge (1)		Warrington Road	Runcorn
GT6	Land to north of Warrington Road (Western Parcel)		Warrington Road, Manor Park	Runcorn
GT7	Windmill Street		Windmill Street	Runcorn

A proforma has been produced for every one of these site options and each site has been considered for its suitability for development, including a Sustainability Appraisal of the site. Details have been provided within each assessment as to why the site has been recommended for allocation or not. The detailed site appraisal findings can be found in the Local Plan Site Assessments report (www.halton.gov.uk/DALP).

