



# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Final

6<sup>th</sup> June 2013

047042498

Prepared for:  
Telford & Wrekin  
Borough Council

UNITED  
KINGDOM &  
IRELAND



Prepared for



REVISION SCHEDULE					
Rev	Date	Details	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved by
1	17 <sup>th</sup> July 2011	Draft Scoping Report	Paul Tomlinson Associate	Steve Smith Associate	Steve Smith Associate
2	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2011	Draft Scoping Report	Paul Tomlinson Associate	Steve Smith Associate	Steve Smith Associate
3	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	Final Report	Paul Tomlinson Associate	Steve Smith Associate	Steve Smith Associate
4	6 <sup>th</sup> June 2013	Approval of edits following consultee responses.	Paul Tomlinson Associate	Steve Smith Associate	Steve Smith Associate

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## SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT: NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The purpose of the sustainability appraisal process is to appraise the social, environmental and economic effects of a plan from the outset. In doing so it will help ensure that decisions are made that contribute to achieving sustainable development.

### Introduction

This is a non-technical summary of the draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report that helps future plans to be prepared by Telford & Wrekin Council ('the Council') to achieve sustainable development outcomes. Sustainability Appraisal seeks to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation of plans.

Certain plans must undergo a Sustainability Appraisal incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment - that considers the environmental consequences of the plan<sup>1</sup>. Alongside Sustainability Appraisals, preparation of a plan must also involve:

- **Assessment of impacts on European wildlife sites:** A so-called 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' Screening Report would be required.
- **Equalities Impact Assessment:** An Equalities Impact Assessment would need to be undertaken by the Council.

The sustainability appraisal process provides information on the effects of the plan to the local community; contributes to the evidence base and thus aids preparation of the plan.

Five stages comprise the sustainability process:

- **Stage A:** Assemble evidence base and prepare Scoping Report;
- **Stage B:** Appraise plan objectives, options and policies and propose steps to reduce adverse impacts and indicators to monitor the plan's sustainability;
- **Stage C:** Prepare Sustainability Appraisal Report on the process and findings;
- **Stage D:** Consult on the plan and Sustainability Appraisal Report;
- **Stage E:** Monitor implementation and sustainability effects.



There are many European and National requirements and policies in place that promote sustainable development. These deal with subjects such as air quality, wildlife, climate change, landscape, renewable energy, sustainable development, transport, waste and water. The Sustainability Appraisal Report provides a review of these requirements identifying where they are relevant to Telford & Wrekin.

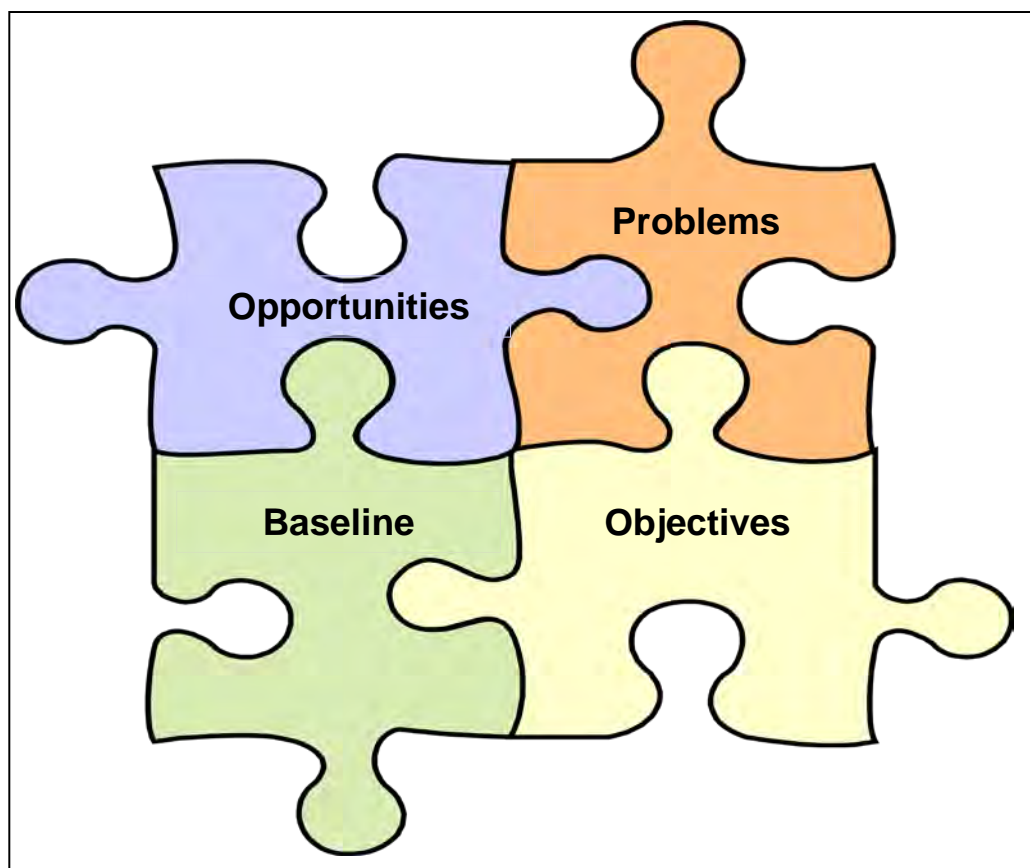
National policies deal with the sustainable development the natural environment, gypsies & travellers, public health, flood and water management, noise and other policies. Again details can be found in the Sustainability Appraisal Report.

<sup>1</sup> European Parliament & Council of the European Union (July, 2001) *Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of certain plans and programmes on the environment* (Official Journal of the European Community – OJ No L197, 21.7.2001, p.30) as implemented by The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SI 2004, no. 1633).

While the need to prepare a Sustainability Appraisal for certain plans is required by regulations, the manner in which they are conducted is flexible provided certain procedural requirements are met. Indeed, the topics to be considered are open for local consideration reflecting the plan being prepared. It is necessary, however for these topics to be justified and a Scoping Report is the means by which this is achieved.

As indicated in the following diagram, the scoping process considers the existing baseline and the future without the plan, explores the sustainability problems and opportunities to arrive at a set of sustainability objectives which are then to be used to check how far the plan delivers sustainable development.

### Representation of the Scoping Process – Stage A



### Structure of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report is set up in the following Parts each with several chapters focusing upon particular topics:

- **Part A:** Scene setting;
- **Part B:** Sustainable economic development;
- **Part C:** Resource management & material assets;
- **Part D:** Sustainable communities;
- **Part E:** Environmental sustainability;
- **Part F:** Conclusions.

Parts B to F represent the sustainability themes that have been identified based upon the regulations and the evidence considered as part of preparing the Scoping Report.

Under each theme a series of topics have been examined such as employment, housing, water supply, waste management etc. Each topic is considered in terms of:

- **Existing situation** – a brief understanding of the current state of play;
- **Future situation** – the future as at 2030 without a plan;
- **Challenges and opportunities** – actions that could be taken;
- **Uncertainties and limitations** – based on gaps in data or forecasts;
- **Scoping opinion** – whether topics are to be considered in future appraisals;
- **Sustainability objectives and indicators** – sustainability objectives to be used to judge the performance of the plan and indicators to monitor its performance.

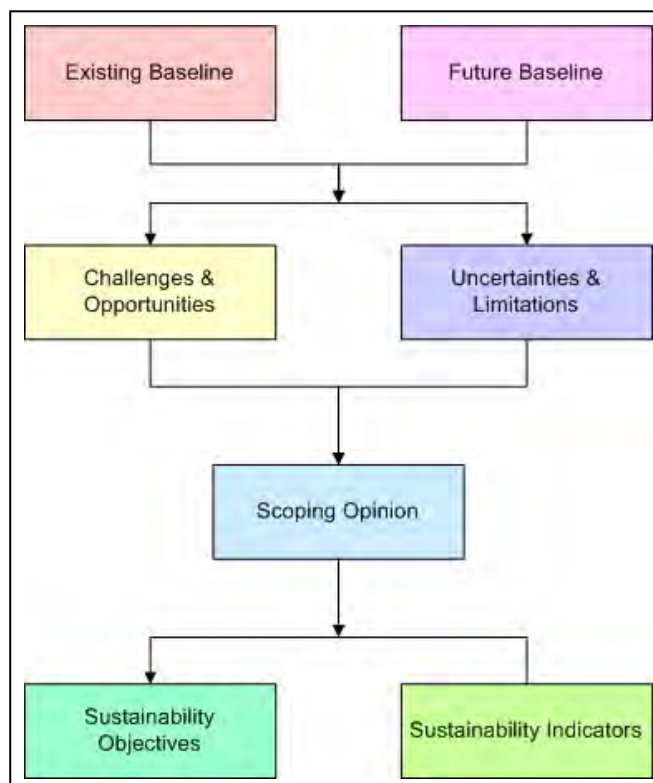
The manner in which these considerations come together to inform the scoping decision, objectives and indicators is illustrated in the adjacent diagram.

The existing situation has been documented by an examination of publicly available documents and datasets such as from the Office of National Statistics. Also examined have been European and National sustainability policies, those for the Telford & Wrekin as well as those for neighbouring authorities.

The future situation is a view on how the various themes might change by target end date for the revised Core Strategy (2030). A series of challenges and opportunities have then been formulated with an accompanying set of uncertainties and limitations.

The scoping decision provides a justified view on which sustainability topic ought to feature in the sustainability appraisal of future plans based on the foregoing information. Where the topic merits inclusion then sustainability objectives and preliminary indicators have been proposed.

As plans and policies would be prepared for different parts of the local authority area, so in addition to authority-wide objectives, separate objectives for Telford, Newport and the Rural Areas have been prepared. Each is briefly reported in this Non-Technical Summary and in the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.



## Part B: Sustainable Economic Development

Telford & Wrekin is rich in contrasts: market towns including Newport and Wellington; old mining communities such as Dawley; the rural area; and the growing communities of Lawley and Lightmoor. It boasts the historical heritage of Ironbridge but also suffers some of the legacy of the new town era with ongoing physical, social and economic regeneration needs. Surrounding Telford are attractive rural communities but which in many cases lack the mixed local economy and housing choices to retain younger members of their communities.

### Existing and Future Situation

- **Employment Profile:** Lower than national and regional proportion of higher skilled employment across but higher levels of plant/machinery and elementary occupations. Changes to the use of MOD land at Donnington may present a series of opportunities and challenges for both employment and housing.
- **Business Profile:** Manufacturing and finance/IT, business activity sectors ahead of regional average.
- **Businesses:** Smallest number of VAT/PAYE employers in region, but greater number of business start-ups.
- **Inward Investors:** Potentially more mobile than locally grown businesses.
- **Gross Value Added:** Growing but at a rate less than the region and that for England (3.7%)
- **Climate Change and Employment:** 30% of employees at high exposure to effects of a low carbon economy particularly those associated with the transport sector but better than the region.
- **Travel to Work:** 26% of jobs taken by in-commuters.
- **Leisure Economy:** Opportunities identified to increase leisure/evening economy use of town centre (e.g. Telford Ice Rink).
- **Employment land:** No particular shortages of commercial development land.
- **Housing:** In need of attention with affordable housing in demand and some 15,100 dwellings failing to meet the Decent Homes Standard (13,000 in the private sector). Some 36.5% of vulnerable households live in the non-decent dwellings. Some 14,900 households (22%) having one or more residents with a disability. Declining help being given for elderly people to live in their own home. Mixture of housing sizes and tenures needed.
- **Safeguarding the local shops:** With increasing dominance of the large retailer, smaller local retailers are under threat not least of which are those in the rural communities. Local fresh food shops in deprived areas can assist in improving public health.



Challenges & Opportunities	
Authority-wide	
Challenges	Opportunities
<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To encourage provision of jobs to prevent Telford becoming a dormitory for the West Midlands conurbation.</li> <li>Help businesses with a low carbon economy, online trading and changes in demographic patterns.</li> <li>Improve training opportunities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Land</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a balance upgrading older sites and new urban and rural sites while keeping Telford &amp; Wrekin's character.</li> </ul> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide affordable houses in a variety of sizes and tenures to meet changing needs.</li> <li>Deliver housing needs for an ageing population.</li> <li>Delivery pitches for the traveller community.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance the gateway to Telford from the railway station.</li> <li>Improve pedestrian mobility.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Land</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote innovative development schemes potentially with low carbon demonstrations.</li> <li>Refurbishment of low quality employment sites.</li> </ul> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified</li> </ul> <p><b>Retail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>
Telford	
Challenges	Opportunities
<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide for regeneration projects and establish Southwater Square for leisure employment.</li> <li>Develop a High Technology Corridor.</li> <li>Encourage close location of housing and jobs and improve bus services to employment sites.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Land</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an accessible thriving economy with a low environmental footprint that provides a distinctive sense of place.</li> </ul> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renew estates and cater for the housing needs of an ageing population.</li> <li>Diversify the housing types.</li> <li>Provide 10 residential pitches for travellers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To achieve a vibrant central urban environment with a high quality public realm.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance the gateway to Telford from the railway station.</li> <li>Improve pedestrian mobility<sup>2</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Land</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve existing public spaces with East Southwater promoted for leisure and recreation uses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide variety of housing types.</li> <li>Enhance the links between Malinslee, Telford Town Centre, Telford Town Park and the Old Park Character Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish improved connections with surrounding areas.</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: The Evening and Night-Time Economy Topic Paper



Newport	
Challenges	Opportunities
<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Land</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address the affordable housing need.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase the accessibility of key services and facilities.</li> <li>• To resist the loss of existing services and facilities.</li> <li>• To enhance and create services and facilities.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop specialist business areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Land</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop specialist industrial estates.</li> </ul> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support Newport's role as a market town.</li> </ul>
Rural Areas	
Challenges	Opportunities
<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate new business with rural qualities.</li> <li>• Encourage broadband to support rural business<sup>3</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Land</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address affordable housing needs and to help maintain the viability of village life.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support improved access for rural areas to established retail centres while supporting the retention of existing rural services.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Land</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deprivation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Retail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> T&W 2011: Sustainable Community Strategy: Our Future, Consultation Draft.

## Scoping

Below the topics that are scoped in or out are presented according to whether they are relevant across the authority or specific to particular local areas.

Sustainability Objectives	Authority-wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas	Reason
Employment					
Economic development	In	In	In	In	• Employment and the ability of the workforce to access it are scoped into appraisals as it is central to a sustainable and healthy community. The diversification of employment opportunities within Telford is key to a more resilient economy.
Ability to access employment	In	In	In	In	
Diversity opportunities	Out	In	In	In	
High technology & professional services	Out	Out	In	Out	• Provision of high technology & professional services employment is needed to meet the evolving needs of Newport.
Economic resilience of rural economy	Out	Out	Out	In	• Given the threats to the rural economy and reliance upon home-workers this aspect ought to be included.
Employment Land					
Industrial employment land	Out	Out	Out	Out	• It was concluded that there were no constraints to the provision of employment and retail land that would merit inclusion in sustainability appraisals. However provision of a supply of land for incubator and small business premises was considered relevant to appraisals for all areas except Telford which was excluded as no shortage was reported.
Retail employment land	Out	Out	Out	Out	
Types of employment units	In	Out	In	In	
Housing					
Affordable housing & provision for Gypsies & Travellers and Travelling	In	In	?	In	• Provision of affordable housing and meeting the needs of Gypsies & Travellers and Travelling Showpeople is necessary to underpin theses communities across all areas except Newport where no evidence of housing issues were found.
Access to jobs, amenity & services	In	In	?	In	
Density of housing	Out	In	?	Out	• The relationship of the lcoation of housing to employment, amenity and services is key to minimising the need to travel and enhancing community development.
Homes for rural communities	Out	Out	Out	In	• The need for diversity in the type, size and tenure of housing is recognised as needing consideration in Telford and possibly in Newport. • Similarly the specific needs of rural housing and economy demand attention.
Retail					
Retail provision	Out	In	?	In	• The importance of retail provision to Telford town centre and to the vitality of rural communities is the basis of scoping this topic into future appraisals. • In the case of Newport, the situation remains to be determined in the context of future plans and policies.

Sustainable Development Objectives & Indicators			
The proposed sustainability objectives are presented below. While authority-wide objectives apply to all areas, for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas specific objectives also apply. The potential indicators are presented in the draft Scoping Report, although the actual indicators would be dependent upon the significant effects arising from the plan being examined.			
Authority-wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas
<b>Employment</b>			
To contribute to regeneration and economic development initiatives with a focus on a low carbon economy.	To diversify employment opportunities.	To promote the growth of high technology and professional services focused businesses.	To enhance the economic resilience of the rural economy.
To reduce difficulties accessing employment, education and training opportunities.	As authority-wide	As authority-wide	As authority-wide
<b>Employment Land</b>			
To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and starter business premises.	Scoped out	To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and small business premises.	To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land.
<b>Housing</b>			
Improve the supply and affordability of accommodation for all groups in areas of greatest need.	To deliver the housing needs across all sections of society.	No sustainability objectives can be defined at present.	To provide for local needs and provision of affordable homes.
Locate housing in areas with good accessibility to employment, services and amenities.	As authority-wide	As authority-wide	As authority-wide
<b>Retail</b>			
Scoped out	To develop the central retail area in a manner that provides a set of attributes capable of attracting and retaining young mobile members of the workforce as well as enhancing the attractiveness of the town to inward investment opportunities.	No objectives or indicators set as Local Retail Facilities has been left open for future plan appraisals to consider.	To help support rural communities through measures that aid the viability of service delivery methods that meet the needs of a rapidly ageing rural population.
Scoped out	To protect and enhance district and local retail offers while enhancing the central retail offer such that local needs are catered for particularly for those retail outlets supporting those areas featuring frequently in the Index of Multiple Deprivation.	-	-

## Part C: Resource Management & Material Assets

This section focuses upon the infrastructure needed to support a healthy population and economy: waste, minerals, energy, water, transport, broadband and community assets such as health care, schools community centres and leisure facilities.

### Existing and Future Situation

- **Reducing the waste generated:** While only about 10% of the waste generated in Telford & Wrekin is defined as municipal waste, the majority is generated through the construction sector and by those providing goods and services. There is a legal and financial imperative to reduce the amount of waste being generated and to divert materials into reuse or recycling. Good progress has been made in terms of the amount of waste generated per household and in the amount recycled, but further improvements are required.
- **Adaptive waste management:** The waste management sector is sensitive to resource materials costs, transport and energy costs as well as new technologies such as anaerobic digestion. Consequently new revenue streams emerge such as for food waste while others may fluctuate in their value. The proposed Town Centre leisure and evening economy potentially increases quantity of food waste to be managed. Domestic waste collection is influenced by the available space for domestic storage.
- **Use of secondary aggregates:** As part of reducing demand for new aggregates and waste disposal, increased use of recycled or secondary aggregates forms part of the sustainable husbandry of natural resources. No information has been obtained on the consumption of construction materials.
- **Increasing energy costs:** Increasing energy costs are likely to cause difficulties for people to access work, education, health and retail areas, particularly for the elderly and those in rural wards. Some 30% of the housing stock constructed between 1965 and 1975 pose problems with energy efficiency. Domestic energy consumption has declined (8.3% for domestic electricity and 25% reduction in domestic gas 2005-2009). About 3,200 (4.7%) households were in fuel poverty in 2008. Energy costs are expected to increase further.
- **Opportunities for renewable energy:** Potential exists for commercial wind and the micro-generation of heat and power. Interventions to address total heat demand could be targeted upon key wards in north Telford.
- **Constrained water supply:** The majority of Telford & Wrekin's water comes from groundwater resources that are over-used. Licences due for renewal will only be approved providing they demonstrate need, are water efficient and environmentally sustainable. Severn Trent Water anticipate reducing demand by water efficiency and reducing leakage rates. Sites of international ecological importance and water quality may constrain supplies.
- **Waste water treatment capacities:** Treatment capacity is generally adequate.
- **Reconfiguration of the transport system:** Car based commuters account for 82% trips to work. Access to work by public transport is improving, but 16.4% of people have difficulty accessing health facilities and 9.4% have difficulty accessing public transport. There are 6,000 inward commuters. Average speed to drop from 35mph to 21 mph by 2016. Needs of the less mobile elderly population is an increasing issue.
- **Broadband as a gateway to new methods of service delivery:** Broadband availability is essential to businesses and increasingly to an array of services that may help reduce the need to travel. For example if accessibility of broadband to rural areas was enhanced then opportunities to address the needs of those with limited mobility may arise.
- **Demographics affecting school needs:** There are increasing pressures on primary schools that will then pass onto secondary schools.
- **Structure of education provision:** Increasing challenges exist for LEA funded schools which with a dispersed provision increases the transport demand, congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. Good

relationships with schools and LEAs in neighbouring areas are needed.

- **Primary and secondary health care facilities:** With new health sector organisations and a Health & Well-being body to be established, the vision of the Health Care Strategy up to 2020 is a key requirement to set out the shape of the future health estate.
- **Sport, leisure and community facilities:** Creation of a network of high quality sport, leisure and community assets to help meet physical activity guidelines.

Challenges & Opportunities	
Authority-wide	
Challenges	Opportunities
<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase domestic waste recycling to 50% in the next 9 years.</li> <li>• Waste storage in housing with little provision.</li> </ul> <b>Mineral Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage decentralised energy networks in existing development.</li> <li>• Site heat suppliers and users close together.</li> </ul> <b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To avoid constraints on development.</li> </ul> <b>Transport Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep vehicles moving during extreme weather.</li> <li>• Improve transport in areas of deprivation.</li> <li>• Maintain use of buses.</li> <li>• Address fear of crime.</li> </ul> <b>Broadband Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Health Care, Schools, Sports, Leisure &amp; Community Centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and enhance community services.</li> <li>• Reversing increasing distances of driving to school.</li> <li>• High level of ageing leisure facilities with inefficient operational costs.</li> <li>• Improvements to increase participation and improve health and well-being of local community needed.</li> </ul>	<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of adequate space for waste management at new commercial premises.</li> <li>• Encourage sustainable construction techniques to reduce quantities of construction and demolition wastes.</li> </ul> <b>Mineral Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise use of recycled aggregates.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver the potential renewable energy technologies.</li> <li>• Regenerate older employment sites with “green energy” theme.</li> </ul> <b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt policies promoting water conservation.</li> </ul> <b>Transport Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve transport and access for all.</li> <li>• Improve road safety.</li> <li>• Promote use of electric vehicles.</li> </ul> <b>Broadband Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote superfast broadband networks.</li> </ul> <b>Health Care, Schools, Sports, Leisure &amp; Community Centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A network of inclusive high quality community and specialist sport and leisure facilities.</li> <li>• Engage with local community to identify needs and programme activities.</li> </ul>

Telford Challenges	Opportunities
<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Mineral Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Transport Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Broadband Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Health Care, Schools, Sports, Leisure &amp; Community Centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>	<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Mineral Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Transport Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Broadband Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Health Care, Schools, Sports, Leisure &amp; Community Centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage effects of secondary school provision by neighbouring authorities.</li> </ul>
Newport Challenges	Opportunities
<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Mineral Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Transport Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Broadband Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Health Care, Schools, Sports, Leisure &amp; Community Centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link new housing and secondary school provision.</li> </ul>	<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Mineral Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As above.</li> </ul> <b>Transport Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Broadband Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Health Care, Schools, Sports, Leisure &amp; Community Centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>
Rural Areas Challenges	Opportunities
<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Mineral Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Transport Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet the needs of rural communities.</li> </ul> <b>Broadband Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Health Care, Schools, Sports, Leisure &amp; Community Centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accessibility and transport links prohibit sustained use of sport and leisure facilities.</li> </ul>	<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul> <b>Mineral Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Transport Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Broadband Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver services using broadband to offset rural access issues.</li> </ul> <b>Health Care, Schools, Sports, Leisure &amp; Community Centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>

## Scoping

Below the topics that are scoped in or out are presented according to whether they are relevant across the authority or specific to particular local areas.

Sustainability Objectives	Authority-wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas	Reason
Waste					
Waste generation	In	In	In	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The three waste topics are scoped into plans that may be prepared for Telford &amp; Wrekin and the urban areas reflecting the strong policy and financial needs to reduce the amount of waste to be disposed.</li><li>• Rural areas are excluded since there was no evidence to suggest that rural waste management generated unique problems beyond those addressed authority-wide.</li></ul>
Recycled materials	In	In	In	Out	
Waste management	In	In	In	Out	
Mineral Resources					
Use of secondary aggregates	In	In	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Given the importance of maximising reuse of materials to reduce the impact from new mining activity as well as avoiding sterilising the future winning of minerals, mineral resources is scoped in at an authority-wide level.</li><li>• As development is centred on Telford so there is potential to consider promoting secondary aggregates, whereas for Newport and the rural areas the scale of development is unlikely to be large enough to make minerals a significant issue for future sustainability appraisals.</li></ul>
Sterilisation of resources	In	Out	Out	Out	
Energy					
Power transmission networks	Out	Out	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• While the capacity of the power supply network is reported to be limited in places and there is a need for renewal for low carbon generation, these are not primarily planning issues. Nevertheless, assisting in the reduction of energy consumption and helping renewable energies are relevant authority-wide and for Telford where specific policies may be prepared.</li><li>• It is not thought that Newport generates issues that would be different from the authority-wide situation hence the scoping out opinion.</li><li>• In the case of rural areas, some renewable energy technologies can have a rural dimension such as wind and biomass and hence this topic has been scoped in.</li></ul>
Energy consumption	In	In	Out	Out	
Renewable energy	In	In	Out	In	



Water Supply					
Water supply	In	In	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Water supply and waste water treatment are scoped into the authority-wide and Telford plans reflecting the volume of water consumed.</li><li>The situation in Newport is uncertain pending a water-cycle study.</li></ul>
Waste water treatment	In	In	In	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>While there could be a waste water treatment issue associated with the proposed new homes in the rural areas, this is a matter to be addressed at the project level and is scoped out.</li></ul>
Transport Infrastructure					
Support employment	In	In	Out	In	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Transport is essential to the operation of modern life with the policies mainly being set through the Local Transport Plan. Nevertheless spatial planning has a role to play at the authority-wide scale and for Telford in particular and hence all of the topics are scoped in.</li><li>No specific issues were identified for Newport hence the scoping out of the topics.</li><li>For rural areas the importance of transport to support rural employment and access to services merit the inclusion of these topics in future appraisals.</li></ul>
Reduce carbon emissions	In	In	Out	Out	
Enhance accessibility	In	In	Out	In	
Health & safety	In	In	Out	Out	
Environmental impacts	In	In	Out	Out	
Broadband Communications					
Community services	?	Out	Out	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Whether future appraisals should consider broadband communications cannot be determined at this stage, since it is the nature of the plan that is needed to inform the decision.</li><li>As broadband in the rural areas is more likely to be challenging, so this is the aspect where planning policy may be more effective.</li></ul>
Health, Schools etc					
Community facilities	In	In	Out	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The implications of plans on the community assets of health care, schools and community centres are unknown, but all are important to the delivery of sustainable communities. For this reason the appraisal of the effects of plans on community assets are scoped in for authority-wide and Telford focused plans.</li><li>No specific issues have been identified for Newport that could not be addressed at a project scale; hence the exclusion of the subject from future plans.</li><li>Provision and access to community facilities is important for rural communities, but the relevance of the issue to rural plans is to be determined once the scope of each plan is understood.</li></ul>



### Sustainable Development Objectives & Indicators

The proposed sustainability objectives are presented below. While authority-wide objectives apply to all areas, for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas specific objectives also apply.

The potential indicators are presented in the draft Scoping Report, although the actual indicators would be dependent upon the significant effects arising from the plan being examined.

Authority-wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas
<b>Waste</b>			
To deliver continued reduction in the quantities of waste being generated and the quantities being disposed of at landfill.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.	Scoped out.
<b>Mineral Resources</b>			
To reduce the quantities of primary aggregate required for building and infrastructure projects by maximising the use of secondary aggregates to allocate sand and gravel sites for future working to contribute towards sub regional apportionments, to protect mineral resources from sterilisation.	As authority-wide.	Scoped out.	Scoped out.
<b>Energy</b>			
Contribute towards the reduction in the use of carbon intensive energy.	As authority-wide.	Scoped out.	As authority-wide.
<b>Water Supply and Waste Water Treatment</b>			
To minimise demand upon water resources (surface and groundwater) and to enable the timely provision of adequate waste water treatment to support increased housing provision.	Deliver significant reductions in water demand from public supplies across development proposals through a combination of water harvesting and water conservation measures.	Scoped out.	Scoped out.
<b>Transport</b>			
To make travel more reliable and efficient, as well as enhance access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.	As authority-wide.	Scoped out.	To allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.
-	To deliver an urban fabric that aids the mobility of all residents within the town and enhances the sense of place and coherence.	-	-
<b>Broadband</b>			
To be determined in relation to the plan.	Scoped out.	Scoped out.	To be determined in relation to the plan.
<b>Health Care, Schools and Community Centres</b>			
Facilitate the timely provision of community facilities to accord with the delivery of new houses.	As authority-wide.	Scoped out.	To be determined in relation to the plan.

## Part D: Sustainable Communities

This section considers population, community deprivation, public health, crime and safety that contribute towards making a sustainable community.

### Existing & Future Situation

- **Population:** Younger than average UK population profile in Telford enhancing workforce population, but older profiles elsewhere with anticipated significant decline in working age populations. Key commercial sectors, such as engineering and public sectors have large number of employees over the age of 45. Some 79,200 of the population are economically active, slightly below that for the regional and national averages.
- **In-migration set to decline:** Recently there has been a net out-migration from Telford & Wrekin placing reliance on natural growth suggesting a population some 23,000 less than the target of 220,000.
- **Decreasing workforce as proportion of the population:** While better than many areas, the proportion of the workforce across Telford & Wrekin is expected to decline with steeper declines facing Newport and the rural areas. Better than national average of workforce with no or limited qualifications. Higher than national average of young people not in work, education or training.
- **Increasingly elderly population:** The large increase in elderly residents will place an increasing demand on housing, health and other services. Older people are expected to make up 48% of the net growth in households by 2026 and housing is required to be built to the Lifetime Homes Standard. Existing housing must also be adapted to meet the needs of the ageing population<sup>4</sup>. Also as dementia and physical disabilities become more common so the need for care homes and hospices is increasing.
- **Dominance of the private car:** Reducing levels of walking, cycling and use of public transport does not help in reducing greenhouse gas emissions nor help in reducing obesity. However rural communities have little alternative. Need to consider mobility needs of the elderly when no longer able to drive. A relative high proportion of the population currently have difficulty accessing health services.
- **Open space and parks etc:** Telford & Wrekin is characterised by abundant green space however there is an imbalance in the distribution of high quality sites across the urban areas with poorer quality sites in Newport. A forecast shortfall in children's teenage and outdoor facilities as well as allotments is set to occur by 2016. Considerable evidence exists to demonstrate the importance of well designed open space to improve public health.
- **Deprivation:** Some areas are in the 10% most deprived nationally and others ranked in the 10% least deprived nationally. There is an increase in the population within deprived areas with 13% (20,600) living in the 10% most deprived areas.
  - Some 38,600 people within Telford & Wrekin are living in the 20% most deprived areas in England. Not surprisingly the number of children dependent on out of work benefits is above the national average.
  - 34,500 people live in areas with 20% most deprived due to crime and disorder.
  - Deprivation extends to education with some 61,600 people considered to experience such deprivation. Several wards feature regularly in the index of multiple deprivation.
  - Health deprivation affects about 5,700 people who are within the top 10% most deprived areas.
- Clear links between lack of participation in sport and physical activity in areas of high deprivation - a contributing factor to health inequalities.
- The health of people in Telford & Wrekin is generally poorer than the average for England. While performing statistically worse across 14 of the 32 indicators it does statistically better for violent crime, physically active children, binge drinking, hospital stays for alcohol related harm, TB and road injuries and deaths. While fewer people die from heart disease and stroke before the age of 75 years in

<sup>4</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Executive Summary

Telford & Wrekin compared to ten years ago, death rates before the age of 75 years are still higher than the national average.

- **Improved life expectancy:** Life expectancy has increased although it remains below the national average (77.4 years for males and 82.2 for females). In six out of 34 electoral wards, the under 18 conception rates are significantly higher than the national average<sup>5</sup>.
- **Need for healthier lifestyles:** Adult obesity incurs a cost to Telford & Wrekin of £42 million per year. The prevalence of childhood obesity amongst 4-5 year olds is significantly higher than the national average and in general people do not eat their “five a day”. Just 20% of adult population engage in thirty minutes of moderate intensity physical exercise three times a week.
- **An elderly population with different needs:** By 2026, the population aged over 65 will have increased by 45% and significantly, people aged 85 and over will have increased by 112% from 2,500 to 5,300 each with a range of specialist services and supported housing needs. There will be a near doubling of those with long term limiting illness aged over 65 and a near doubling in the number of people with dementia by 2026.
- **Improving crime and safety:** Approximately 40% of violent crime is alcohol related with the night-time economy being associated with crime and anti-social behaviour. 42.9 crimes per thousand people in 2009/10 a reduction from the 55.4 crimes per thousand in 2007/08. Better than average for England in terms of road injuries and deaths

Challenges & Opportunities	
Authority-wide	
Challenges	Opportunities
<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential decline in size of working age population.</li> <li>• High concentration of people over the age of 45 in public services and manufacturing.</li> <li>• Increase in size of elderly population.</li> </ul> <b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide higher value employment, address skills/training needs, health inequalities and access to services.</li> </ul> <b>Public Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid adverse health impacts from development.</li> <li>• Responding to issues of climate change, energy and food security, resource depletion and waste management.</li> <li>• Ensuring community and stakeholder engagement in governance, delivery, implementation and management.</li> <li>• Control the availability of unhealthy food outlets.</li> <li>• Address barriers to participation such as transport costs and childcare.</li> </ul> <b>Crime &amp; Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul>	<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regeneration projects to improve a sense of place and design out of crime.</li> </ul> <b>Public Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing a healthy living environment: Housing, accessibility, parks and greenspace.</li> <li>• Promoting and facilitating healthy lifestyles.</li> <li>• Providing good access to health facilities and services.</li> <li>• Improving existing cycle-ways or footpaths.</li> <li>• Develop stronger links with NHS and their Workplace health initiatives.</li> </ul> <b>Crime &amp; Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work closely with West Mercia Police.</li> </ul>
Telford	
Challenges	Opportunities
<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring that the skill levels of the young meet the needs of local employers.</li> </ul> <b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reverse local deprivation.</li> </ul> <b>Public Health</b>	<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote multi-agency engagement with local communities to meet local needs.</li> </ul> <b>Public Health</b>

<sup>5</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2008: Strategic Plan

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design of some estates.</li> </ul> <b>Crime &amp; Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addressing the failures of the Radburn estate layouts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with older adults during regeneration projects.</li> </ul> <b>Crime &amp; Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	
<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential reduction in the working age population unless in-migration occurs.</li> </ul> <b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Public Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver the housing and community needs for the elderly.</li> </ul> <b>Crime &amp; Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>	<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Public Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Crime &amp; Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>	
<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Isolation of ageing populations in the rural areas;</li> <li>A decline in working population;</li> <li>Low levels of younger age groups living in the rural areas.</li> </ul> <b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To cater for a diffuse but potentially increasing amount of rural deprivation.</li> </ul> <b>Public Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Crime &amp; Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>	<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Public Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Crime &amp; Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>

## Scoping

Below the topics that are scoped in or out are presented according to whether they are relevant across the authority or specific to particular local areas.

Sustainability Objectives	Authority-wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas	Reason
Population					
Population profile in balance with employment opportunities	In	In	In	In	• Managing demographic trends are central to planning an helping to deliver sustainable communities where opportunities for employment, housing, education and recreation are in balance with local community needs.
Community Deprivation					
Retain well-educated workforce	In	In	Out	In	• Links between housing, employment and deprivation are a focus for future appraisals recognising that spatially focused strategies are needed. • A low level of deprivation in Newport suggests the scoping out of deprivation, education and rural viability for the town. • The viability of rural communities and access to services is key to sustainable rural communities.
Address cycle of deprivation	In	In	Out	Out	
Viability of rural communities & access to services	Out	Out	Out	In	
Public Health					
Housing the elderly	In	In	In	?	• There are several public health issues where spatial planning can make a contribution. The housing needs of the elderly, mobility and access to services as well as avoidance of fuel poverty are key topics for an ageing population. The other major objective is to address obesity by encouraging physical activity and managing fast food outlets.
Obesity in children	In	In	In	?	
Adult obesity	In	In	In	?	
Mobility & access to services	In	In	In	In	
Fuel poverty	Out	In	Out	Out	
Crime & Safety					
Reported burglary	In	In	Out	Out	• As spatial planning can contribute to reducing crime by designing out the conditions that aid crime, so it has been scoped into the appraisal of authority-wide plans as well as those focused on Telford.
Violence against the person	In	In	?	Out	

### Sustainable Development Objectives & Indicators

The proposed sustainability objectives are presented below. While authority-wide objectives apply to all areas, for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas specific objectives also apply.

The potential indicators are presented in the draft Scoping Report, although the actual indicators would be dependent upon the significant effects arising from the plan being examined.

Authority-wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas
<b>Population</b>			
To achieve a population profile in balance with the employment opportunities that the travel to work area is able to provide.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.
-	-	-	To seek to aid the viability of rural services by managing the distribution of new housing.
<b>Deprivation</b>			
To provide an environment that helps retain well-educated members of the work force.	To reduce the population within the top 10% most deprived areas across each of the separate deprivation themes.	Scoped out	To help maintain the viability of rural communities and their ability to access care services.
Assist in measures to address community deprivation.	-	Scoped out	-
<b>Public Health</b>			
To improve the health and well-being of the population to meet the needs of the vulnerable and ageing population.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.
To create opportunities for the community to reduce levels of obesity	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.
To enable vulnerable people to live independently by supporting local retail and community services minimising the need to travel.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.
<b>Crime &amp; Safety</b>			
To ensure urban design and layout contributes towards reducing the potential for crime.	As authority-wide.	To be determined.	Scoped out

## Part E: Environmental Sustainability

This section considers an array of environmental aspects that contribute toward creating a healthy environment.

### Existing & Future Situation

- **Geological sites & soils:** There are 1200 sites that relate to past potentially contaminative uses across Telford & Wrekin. Of the 26 local geological sites 9 sites were assessed as in good condition in 2010/11. A substantial area of peat found in the Weald Moors contributes to the storage of carbon.
- **Biodiversity has an uncertain future:** With five internationally designated sites within 20km of the Telford & Wrekin boundary, the effects of climate change and water abstraction may cause effects that reduce the amount of water that can be abstracted. Of the eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest, six are either in a favourable or a recovering situation, but Newport Canal is getting worse.
- **Green Infrastructure:** Telford & Wrekin has a wide range of green spaces however there is a shortage of allotments and accessibility to the areas is sometimes an issue.
- **Landscape change:** There is an absence of information on the state of the landscape and how it may change.
- **Two faces to townscape:** There are two faces to the townscape agenda; the first is to create a sense of place and identity to Telford town centre through innovative design that strengthens public thoroughfares. The second is that of recognising the character that can be created by good urban design of both buildings and the public realm.
- **Historic environment:** Ironbridge brings economic and educational benefits, however the car based visitors and unstable geological conditions suggest that enhanced management is required. Elsewhere the status of the seven Conservation Areas and other historic assets, including historic farmsteads are considered not to be experiencing significant development pressures at present.
- **Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions are improving:** No air quality problems exist. While emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> for each resident has been declining 7.8 tonnes slightly less as the UK average of 7.9 tonnes, the rate is not meeting that required for the national targets.
- **Adapting to climate change:** Climate projections indicate that warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers can be expected. They also indicate that the frequency of severe weather events will increase.
- **Noise:** Twelve priority locations along the A442, A518 and M54 require noise action. Tranquil areas are also to be identified.
- **Water quality and flooding at risk:** Nutrient enrichment from runoff and from waste water treatment works is responsible for a reduced water quality across the watercourses. With the prospect of reduced summer flow due to climate change water quality may well decline. Five watercourses have been identified in Telford where flood risk needs to be managed.



Challenges & Opportunities	
Authority-wide	
Challenges	Opportunities
<p><b>Geological Sites &amp; Soils</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure consideration of RIGs at all levels of planning and land use.</li> <li>Encourage the public and interested groups to become aware of and involved in geological conservation.</li> <li>Improve access to exposures and create new geological trails.</li> </ul> <p><b>Biodiversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance habitat connectivity and avoiding new severance.</li> <li>Ensure that there is no net loss of biodiversity.</li> <li>Avoid and offset impacts on habitats and species from development proposals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Green Infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving signage and awareness of natural and semi natural open spaces.</li> <li>Provide two new facilities for young people in the southern and central areas of the town, or address need associated with new residential development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Landscape &amp; Townscape</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect the landscapes of the valley bottoms.</li> <li>Improve settlements with an unsympathetic edge with the countryside.</li> <li>Reduce the amount of highway related signs and street furniture to enhance sense of place.</li> </ul> <p><b>Historic Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assists in maintaining the historic environment.</li> <li>Address challenges at Iron Bridge Gorge WHS.</li> <li>Balance the needs of conservation, access, sustainable growth and needs of residents.</li> <li>Decommission of Eon Power Station by 2015 represents a major development opportunity/ threat within WHS setting.</li> <li>Balance the need for productive use of isolated historic farmsteads with need to enhance the viability of larger rural settlements.</li> </ul> <p><b>Air Quality &amp; Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrate waste management and decentralised energy.</li> <li>Increase density of development to help make district energy viable.</li> </ul> <p><b>Adaptation to Climate Change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased risk of flooding and high summer temperatures.</li> <li>Minimise rainwater runoff.</li> </ul> <p><b>Noise</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and protect quiet urban areas from increasing noise levels.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Geological Sites &amp; Soils</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote improved understanding of geological processes, evolution / past life forms and the effects of earlier cycles of climate change.</li> <li>Promoting the economic / tourism potential of geodiversity assets.</li> </ul> <p><b>Biodiversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance access to green spaces without detrimental effects.</li> <li>Recognise potential ecological value of pitmounds, old quarries and brownfield sites, ponds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Green Infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide new amenity green space in the eastern area should the opportunity arise.</li> <li>Given limited access to Chetwnyd Park, consider new amenity space in the northern area.</li> <li>Convert amenity spaces or natural areas to parks in the south of Newport to address deficiencies in these types of open space.</li> <li>Baddeleys Well natural area to the south of Newport could see combined provision of natural open space and formalised park.</li> <li>Provide natural and semi natural open space on the edge of Newport.</li> <li>Combine natural and semi natural spaces with other types of open space.</li> </ul> <p><b>Landscape &amp; Townscape</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve landscape quality and local distinctiveness through selection and use of materials appropriate to local setting.</li> <li>Protect and enhance green spaces of identified value particularly at Telford Town Park.</li> <li>Sustain ecosystem services, landscape and biodiversity.</li> <li>Reduce light pollution to sensitive areas.</li> <li>Identify where enhanced design could improve sense of place.</li> </ul> <p><b>Historic Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to local distinctiveness and a sense of place.</li> <li>Develop heritage led regeneration opportunities, including tourism, traditional building skills;</li> </ul> <p><b>Air Quality &amp; Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote Code for Sustainable Homes, BREEAM and CEEQUAL assessments.</li> </ul>



<p><b>Water Quality &amp; Flooding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect functional floodplains.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote decentralised energy via new development.</li> <li>• High quality and energy efficiency standards and Improve sustainable transport options.</li> </ul> <p><b>Adaptation to Climate Change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote low carbon renovation of the housing stock.</li> <li>• Design buildings adapted to climate change and show case innovative design features.</li> </ul> <p><b>Noise</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Water Quality &amp; Flooding</b></p> <p>Open culverts and enhance river corridors. Apply sustainable urban drainage principles.</p>
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## Scoping

Below the topics that are scoped in or out are presented according to whether they are relevant across the authority or specific to particular local area.

Sustainability Objectives	Authority-wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas	Reason
Geological Sites					
Geological sites	Out	Out	Out	Out	• Geological issues are more appropriately addressed during consideration of development proposals.
Soils	In	In	In	In	• Protection of peat soils is included given their importance as a carbon store.
Contaminated land	In	In	In	In	• Consideration of contaminated land is scoped in given its occurrence across Telford & Wrekin.
Biodiversity					
Nationally designated sites	In	In	In	In	• Biodiversity across all topics is scoped in given the local authority biodiversity duty although road kills and wildlife disturbance are considered during consent deliberations.
Locally designated sites	In	In	In	In	
Non-designated sites	In	In	In	In	
LDAP habitats and species	In	In	In	In	
Habitat fragmentation	In	In	In	In	
Road kills & wildlife disturbance	Out	Out	Out	Out	
Green Infrastructure					
Parks & gardens	In	In	In	Out	• Green infrastructure and provision of recreation is included due to its ecological services, public health and role in helping to promote inward investment.
Semi-natural areas	In	In	In	Out	
Provision for children	In	In	In	Out	• As not need for specific rural policies was identified, this topic has been scoped out.
Allotments	In	In	In	Out	
Landscape & Townscape					
AONB	In	Out	Out	Out	• While all issues are scoped in for authority wide plans, elsewhere they are scoped out as areas specific policies are unlikely.
Landscape character & quality	In	In	?	In	• Scoping of landscape issues for Newport should be examined when plans are being considered.
Design quality	In	In	Out	Out	• Development activity around Athers Upton indicate that landscape issues should be scoped in for Rural Areas.
Sense of place/distinctiveness	In	In	Out	Out	

Historic Environment					
World Heritage Sites	In	In	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Most topics are appraised in authority-wide plans with the exception of farmsteads which feature in Rural Area Plans.</li><li>• The need to appraise Conservation areas in Telford is to be determined later.</li></ul>
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	In	Out	Out	Out	
Historic parks & gardens	In	Out	Out	Out	
Conservation Areas	In	?	Out	Out	
Listed Buildings	In	Out	Out	Out	
Historic farmsteads	Out	Out	Out	In	
Archaeology	Out	Out	Out	Out	
Air Quality & Greenhouse Gases					
Air quality	Out	Out	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No air quality issues.</li><li>• Reducing greenhouse gases and the potential for spatially focused policies has led to this topic being scoped in.</li><li>• The nature of the Rural Area Plan would determine whether to include greenhouse gas emissions.</li></ul>
Greenhouse gas emissions	In	In	In	?	
Adaptation to Climate Change					
Adaptation/resilience	In	In	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• These topics are appraised for authority-wide and Telford plans as these have the greatest potential for change.</li><li>• Little need for bespoke policies for Newport and the Rural Areas particularly given the likely ability of businesses to exploit low carbon opportunities.</li></ul>
Low carbon employment	In	In	Out	Out	
Environmental Noise					
Elevated noise levels	Out	Out	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elevated noise levels identified for some roads are matters for the Local Transport Plan.</li><li>• Tranquil areas yet to be identified and so could be included in the future.</li></ul>
Tranquil areas	?	Out	Out	Out	
Water Quality					
Surface water quality	Out	Out	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water quality issues are excluded as managed through planning and discharge consents.</li><li>• Managing flood risks are to be appraised given opportunities available for plans to address these issues.</li></ul>
Floodplain development	In	In	In	In	
Attenuation of runoff	In	In	In	Out	
Culvert opening	In	In	In	Out	

### Sustainable Development Objectives & Indicators

The proposed sustainability objectives are presented below. While authority-wide objectives apply to all areas, for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas specific objectives also apply.

The potential indicators are presented in the draft Scoping Report, although the actual indicators would be dependent upon the significant effects arising from the plan being examined.

Authority-wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas
<b>Geological Sites &amp; Soils</b>			
To ensure the protection of the Weald area of peats from development and human activities so that their carbon storage value is not degraded	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide	As authority-wide
-	To maximise the productive potential of the land assets within Telford.	-	-
<b>Biodiversity</b>			
To enhance the ecological connectivity of non-designated ecological sites and enhance LBAP priority habitats and species.	As authority-wide.	To ensure that there are no significant effects upon the Aqualate Mere as part of the Midlands Meres and Mosses Phase 2 Ramsar site.	Scoped out
<b>Green Infrastructure</b>			
To deliver green infrastructure making Telford & Wrekin an attractive place and contributes to the health and wellbeing of the local population.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.	Scoped out.
<b>Landscape &amp; Townscape</b>			
To protect and enhance the landscape effects of development.	To protect, enhance and retain areas which perform strategic landscape functions as well as aid promotion of public health and adaptation to climate change.	Scoped out.	To deliver new housing in a manner that protects and enhances landscape quality.
-	To create a dynamic and inspiring townscape that helps design out crime, and creates a sense of place and local pride.	-	-
<b>Historic Environment</b>			
To enhance, conserve and protect heritage assets and their settings.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.	To aid the sustainable use of historic farmsteads.
<b>Air Quality &amp; Greenhouse Gases</b>			
To reduce annual CO <sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% from 1990 levels, by 2050 (36% by 2026).	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.	To be determined

Adaptation to Climate Change			
To deliver a built environment that is well adapted to cope with the changing weather conditions that are forecast.		Scoped out	Scoped out
	To assist in the development of economic activities so Telford is well placed to adapt to and exploit a low carbon environment.	Scoped out	Scoped out
Noise			
Scoped out	Scoped out	Scoped out	Scoped out
Water Quality & Flooding			
Incorporate measures into development proposals that contribute towards a reduction in flood risk aimed at providing a runoff rate less than greenfield rates.	As authority-wide	As authority-wide	As authority-wide

## Part F: Inter-relationships and Interactions

This part deals with the sustainability profile for Telford & Wrekin based upon the previous parts in their examination of the following themes:

- Sustainable economic development:**
  - Strengths in manufacturing, finance and information technology but need to adapt to low carbon economy as small number of major employers potentially at risk.
  - Low proportion of higher skilled employment hence there is a need to address skills and training.
  - Considerable portion of jobs taken by in-commuters. Small retailers under threat particularly in rural areas. Some 15,000 dwellings fail to meet the Decent Homes Standard.
- Resource management & material assets:** Good progress has been made in terms of the amount of waste generated per household and in the amount recycled and further improvements are required. Market conditions require a highly adaptive approach to waste management. Need to address increasing energy costs particularly as some 30% of the housing stock constructed between 1965 and 1975 pose problems in relation to promoting energy efficiency. Groundwater resources are over-abstracted and water efficiency measures are needed. Schools and health care facilities need to adapt to changing population profile and the ways in which they operate.
- Sustainable communities:** Potentially declining workforce with an increasingly elderly population with particular needs in terms of homes, mobility and health care. The public health profile is not generally poorer than the average for England across 14 of the 32 indicators including levels of childhood obesity. Dominance of the private car for transport with increasing fuel costs is expected to give rise to increased difficulties particularly for those without access to a car, the elderly and rural communities.
- Environmental sustainability:** Delivery of green infrastructure and of services provided by the natural environment need to be actively managed to assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the effects of climate change particularly at a wide scale.

While there is an authority-wide agenda, the characteristics of Telford, Newport and the rural areas require customised sustainability strategies.

Essentially, the Telford agenda focuses upon sustainable economic development and developing the workforce, while the agenda for Newport is focused upon managing the effects of a declining workforce and an increasingly elderly population in the context of proximity to Stafford and the dynamics occurring in the

neighbouring county. The rural area appears to be one of managing the potential for substantial change as the growing elderly population faces increasing isolation from services unless development can help sustain rural services at key settlements.

#### Key Challenges:

- Delivery of a skilled and healthy workforce able to retain/attract the businesses able to expand over the next 15 years.
- To provide timely capacity for the management of resources at material assets in an efficient manner to underpin economic development and demographic change.
- To enhance the health of the community and reduce health inequalities to a) address the needs of the increasing elderly population and b) to help deliver a healthy workforce.
- Develop an understanding of the services provided by the natural environment and value those assets found within Telford & Wrekin to develop a landscape scale or area-wide management strategy.

## Consultation Questions

It would assist the appraisal process if responses could be made to the questions presented below.

#### Consultation Questions

- Do you agree with the scoping findings?
- Are there any significant biodiversity issues that ought to be addressed that have been omitted?
- Are there any significant landscape, townscape or historic environment issues that ought to be addressed that have been omitted?
- Do you have any views on the objectives and indicators that could be used during the assessment?
- Are there any other information sources that ought to be considered particularly for Newport and the Rural Areas?
- Do you have any views on the objectives and indicators that could be used during the appraisal?

## Next Steps

The Council intends to prepare a revised Core Strategy “Shaping Places” with the following periods scheduled for consultation:

Plan preparation stage	Activity	Date
Phase 1	Initial community engagement	December 2012 - March 2013
Phase 2	Spatial Strategy & Options engagement	June – July 2013
Phase 3	Draft Plan	February – March 2014
Phase 4	Final draft Plan	June – July 2014
Phase 5	Examination and subsequent Adoption (c.7 months)	July 2014 – January 2015

## Consultation on the Draft Scoping Report

This six week consultation period is available for the public as well as Natural England, the Environment Agency and English Heritage to comment upon its findings and conclusions.

Any comments should be addressed to:

Rachel Taylor  
Environment & Planning Policy Team Leader  
Telford & Wrekin Council  
Wellington Civic Offices  
Larkin Way off Tan Bank  
Telford, TF3 4JA

## PART A1: INTRODUCTION

### A1.1 Sustainability Appraisal and Local Development Documents

- 1.1.1 This document is the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report that sets the framework for the appraisal of future Local Development Documents (also referred to as 'Plans') to be prepared by Telford & Wrekin Council ('the Council'). Sustainability Appraisal seeks to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation and revision of plans.
- 1.1.2 Local Development Documents (likely to be termed Local Plans following recent Government announcements) must undergo a Sustainability Appraisal incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment - that considers the environmental consequences of the plan<sup>6</sup>. Alongside Sustainability Appraisals, preparation of a plan must also involve:
- **Assessment of impacts on European wildlife sites:** A 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' Screening Report would be required.
  - **Equalities Impact Assessment:** An Equalities Impact Assessment is to be undertaken by the Council.

### A1.2 Structure of the Scoping Report

- 1.2.1 This Scoping Report documents the methodology used during the scoping exercise before then considering the following five sustainability themes and elements presented as a series of Parts to this report. Within each theme (such as sustainable economic development etc) a series of topics are considered such as employment, housing, green infrastructure, resources as shown below. As these topics may have aspects which appear in several of the above themes, some cross-referencing is appropriate.

#### Part B: Sustainable economic development

- |                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| - B1: Employment profile; | - B3: Housing;                 |
| - B2: Employment land;    | - B4: Local retail facilities; |

#### Part C: Resource management and material assets

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| - C1: Waste;                                | - C5: Transport infrastructure;                |
| - C2: Mineral resources;                    | - C6: Broadband communications;                |
| - C3: Energy;                               | - C7: Health care, schools, community centres; |
| - C4: Water supply & waste water treatment; |  |

#### Part D: Sustainable communities

- |                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| - D1: Population - demography; | - D3: Public health;    |
| - D2: Community deprivation;   | - D4: Crime and safety. |

#### Part E: Environmental sustainability

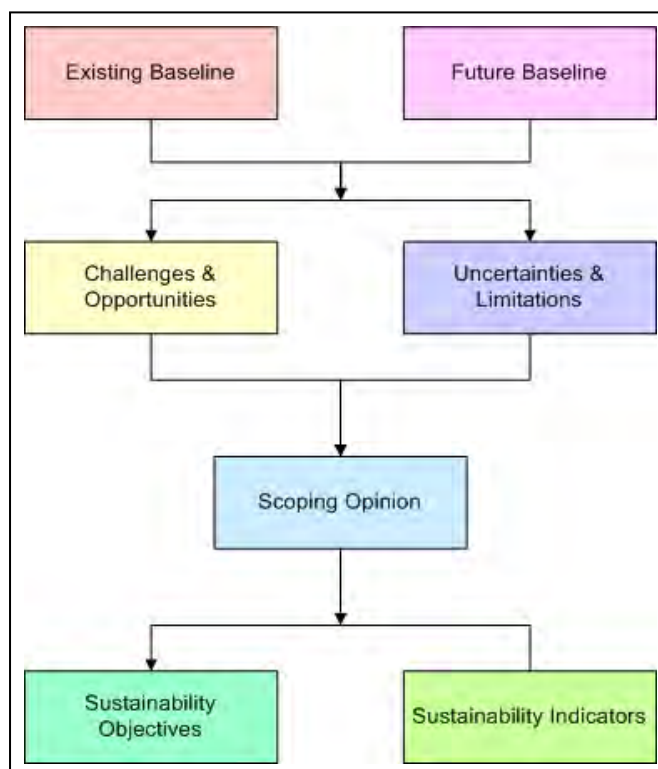
- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| - E1: Geological sites;      | - E6: Air quality & greenhouse gas emissions; |
| - E2: Biodiversity;          | - E7: Adaptation to climate change;           |
| - E3: Green infrastructure;  | - E8: Acoustic environment;                   |
| - E4: Landscape & townscape; | - E9: Water quality & flooding.               |
| - E5: Historic environment;  |   |

<sup>6</sup> European Parliament and Council of the European Union (July, 2001) *Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of certain plans and programmes on the environment* (Official Journal of the European Community – OJ No L197, 21.7.2001, p.30) as implemented by The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (Statutory Instrument 2004, no. 1633).



1.2.2 The Scoping Report has sought not just to provide the sustainability framework for authority-wide plans, but also to provide a framework for plans and/or policies that focus only upon either Telford; Newport or the Rural Areas. As a result, some aspects of the sustainability agenda may only merit coverage at the Authority-wide level in that the Core Strategy provides the over-arching planning policy document for all areas. In the case of plans focused upon a particular geographic area, then the inclusion of topics (such as minerals resources) in future sustainability appraisals would only be addressed when relevant. This Scoping Report seeks to guide that process.

1.2.3 Each chapter adopts a similar approach in which the existing situation, information concerning trends and forecasts of the future situation without the effects of plans are presented (see the diagram opposite). Together they provide the basis for challenges and opportunities to be identified to record the uncertainties and limitations that have an influence upon the scoping decision. For each sustainability topic that is scoped into the appraisal framework, then a set of sustainability objectives and indicators are identified.



1.2.4 The sustainability objectives are intended to be as compact and succinct as possible to capture the essence of the challenges and opportunities. Also, in order to keep the actual sustainability appraisals to manageable proportions, the number of objectives are kept to a small a number as possible. Consequently, the sustainability objectives may group issues or be drafted in a high level manner.

1.2.5 At this stage the indicators are presented as proposals on which to gather the views of those commenting upon the Scoping Report. The indicators have the objective of ultimately enabling the significant sustainability effects that are identified from the plan to be monitored and consequently not all will need to be applied to each plan. Also, as the nature of the significant effects of the plan become apparent, so revisions are made to the indicators that are presented in the final Sustainability Report that accompanies each draft plan. Once the plan is adopted, the final indicators to be monitored are presented in the Adoption Statement.

1.2.6 At the end of each chapter, trends across the sustainability issues examined, sustainability objectives and indicators are presented.

1.2.7 Within the final part of the Scoping Report a synthesis of the sustainability themes is presented to provide an overall narrative to the sustainability agenda facing the Council.

1.2.8 The following appendices provide supporting information:

- **Appendix A:** Statutory body comments on the previous 2008 Scoping Report;
- **Appendix B:** Policies, plans and programmes.

## **A1.3 Limitations of the Scoping Exercise**

- 1.3.1 This scoping exercise has relied upon the data and information recorded in the appendices along with the views provided by consultees on the 2008 Scoping Report. This evidence has been updated where possible. Together this provides an insight to both the current and emerging sustainability issues across Telford & Wrekin as far as they are relevant to spatial plans.
- 1.3.2 It is acknowledged that at the current time, there is uncertainty associated with many aspects of national and local economy that have a bearing upon future development activity and the Council's ability to manage such activities. Such uncertainty affects both the projections on what a future without a plan might look like, as well as the assessment of the alternative strategies.
- 1.3.3 There is also some uncertainty regarding the baseline and trends in some sustainability issues as evidence was not able to be accessed.

## **A1.4 Acknowledgements**

- 1.4.1 The Scoping Report has been produced based on a review of the 2008 Scoping Report, the observations of statutory consultees (English Heritage, Natural England and the Environment Agency) on the 2008 report and by contributions to this Scoping Report. They are thanked for their assistance. It is hoped that their early contribution helps in easing the formal process of consultation on this report.

## A2. SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

### A2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 Sustainability Appraisal (often referred to as SA) is a staged process that operates alongside the plan preparation process. This part provides an appreciation of the stages and how appraisals are undertaken. It addresses the following:

- Scope of an appraisal;
- Methodology;
- State of the environment, challenges and opportunities;
- Cumulative effects;
- Significance;
- Reporting.

### A2.2 Appraisal Stages

2.2.1 A sustainability appraisal typically comprises five stages (A to E) as set out below. In stage A, exploration of the sustainable development issues for the plan is undertaken leading to the development of a sustainability framework. This framework presented in a Scoping Report is then subject to consultation. The key stages in the SA process are set out below, with this Scoping Report focusing upon Stage A.

<b>Stage A</b>	<b>Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope</b>
Task A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying other relevant plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives</li> </ul>
Task A2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collecting baseline information</li> </ul>
Task A3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying environmental problems</li> </ul>
Task A4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing SA objectives</li> </ul>
Task A5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consulting on the scope of the SA</li> </ul>
<b>Stage B</b>	<b>Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects</b>
Task B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Testing the plan objectives against SA objectives</li> </ul>
Task B2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing strategic alternatives</li> </ul>
Task B3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Predicting the effects of the draft plan, including alternatives</li> </ul>
Task B4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluating the effects of the draft plan, including alternatives</li> </ul>
Task B5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects</li> </ul>
Task B6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposing measures to monitor the environmental effects of plan implementation</li> </ul>
<b>Stage C</b>	<b>Preparing the Sustainability Report</b>
Task C1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare the Sustainability Report, incorporating the information as required in Article 5 and Annex 1 of the SEA Directive</li> </ul>
<b>Stage D</b>	<b>Consulting on the draft plan and Sustainability Report</b>
Task D1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult on the draft Plan and Sustainability Appraisal Report</li> </ul>
Task D2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess significant changes</li> </ul>
Task D3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make decisions and provide information</li> </ul>
<b>Stage E</b>	<b>Monitoring significant effects of the Plan</b>
Task E1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing aims and methods for monitoring</li> </ul>
Task E2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responding to adverse effects</li> </ul>

## A2.3 Stage A: Scoping

- 2.3.1 This section commences with a review of the Sustainability Framework (in essence the criteria against which planning policies and proposals will be assessed) that were presented in the 2008 Scoping Report. The 2008 Scoping Report was prepared to inform preparation of Local Development Documents such as the now adopted Central Telford Area Action Plan.

### 2008 Sustainability Framework

- 2.3.2 A review of the 2008 sustainability objectives (presented in Table A2.1) using evidence published since 2008 concluded that the objectives were in need of revision (see **Appendix A**).

**Table A2.1: 2008 Sustainability Objectives**

<p><b>Theme 1 - Social</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To reduce poverty and social exclusion.</li> <li>2. To reduce and prevent anti-social activity, crime and fear of crime.</li> <li>3. Promote accessibility to a range of services and facilities to meet people's basic needs.</li> <li>4. To provide a range of housing that meets the needs of the Council area accompanied by adequate supporting infrastructure.</li> <li>5. To improve the population's health and reduce inequalities in health.</li> <li>6. To improve the education and skills of the population.</li> </ol> <p><b>Theme 2 - Environmental</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. To make best use of previously developed land (providing this does not harm its biodiversity value) and buildings.</li> <li>8. To reduce the need to travel and promote modes of travel other than the car.</li> <li>9. To protect and enhance the quality of the landscape and the countryside.</li> <li>10. To protect and enhance wildlife and habitats which are important on an international, national and local scale.</li> <li>11. Protect and enhance geological and geomorphological diversity.</li> <li>12. To protect and where appropriate enhance the landscape, buildings, sites and features of archaeological, historical or architectural interest and their settings.</li> <li>13. To address the causes of climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</li> <li>14. To reduce the risk flooding.</li> <li>15. To protect and enhance the availability and quality of water resources.</li> <li>16. To reduce air pollution and ensure that air quality continues to improve.</li> <li>17. To reduce noise and light pollution.</li> <li>18. To reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity.</li> <li>19. To increase energy efficiency and increase the use of renewable energy.</li> <li>20. To reduce the generation of waste and maximise re-use and recycling.</li> <li>21. To promote the use of resources efficiently, as well as sustainably sourced products and resources and re-used and recycled products.</li> </ol> <p><b>Theme 3: Economic</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>22. Create a balance of employment opportunities across all sectors.</li> <li>23. To improve economic competitiveness in the area.</li> </ol>
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### Statutory Body Observations on 2008 Scoping Report

- 2.3.3 Part of the process of developing the Sustainability Framework, it is necessary to consult the statutory bodies of Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency on the scope and detail of the Sustainability Appraisal. For the 2008 Scoping Report, the statutory bodies

provided an extensive array of comments. **Appendix A** provides a summary of the key messages from the statutory bodies and the actions that have followed their submission<sup>7</sup>.

### Approach to the Scoping Report

2.3.4 Reflecting on the 2008 Report, the following steps have been taken in this 2012 Scoping Report and to reflect current day appreciation of good practice:

- The relationship between the Habitats Regulation Assessment and the SA has been presented;
- The scope of the SA has not been unduly limited because of the topics mentioned in the SEA Directive since the list of topics identified in the Directive is a non-exclusive list;
- Efforts have been made to provide an informative and illustrated narrative to avoid reliance upon a review of tabular information to appreciate the issues;
- A geographical approach to both the evidence base and the scoping has been adopted to improve accessibility to different audiences;
- A graphical presentation of whether topics are to be scoped in or out for particular plans and geographic areas is used to enhance legibility;
- Key messages' from the context review have been identified in terms of opportunities and challenges;
- The outcomes of the scoping process (which in this case are principally SA objectives), emerge from the process of evidence gathering and analysis;
- The evidence gathered informs the SA Framework (which in this case is principally a list of SA objectives), but some evidence leads to some topics being scoped-out. Scoping out evidence and developing a concise framework is a key element of good practice.
- The attention of readers to the iterative nature of SA highlights that subsequent appraisals for different plans and areas may identify other issues and priorities that require further data collection. Essentially scoping is an on-going process rather than a discrete stage.
- Only limited attention has been given to a comparative examination of the Telford & Wrekin's environmental, social and economic characteristics and how these compare relative to the West Midlands and the rest of the country. This stance is taken since this activity is not particularly helpful to the plan delivery process. The focus taken therefore is upon the issues apparent within different areas within Telford & Wrekin. This position is a logical reflection of the SEA Directive which requires reports to include a consideration of - 'any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance'.
- The Scoping Report has endeavoured to maximise use of maps to describe the baseline / identify issues subject to other constraints;
- The Sustainability Framework comprises both authority-wide objectives supported by nested local objectives where necessary. It is recognised that not every objective will be relevant to every area or every plan; hence a "pick-n-mix" approach has been adopted.
- While efforts have been made to report trends, these can give rise to a flawed view of the future baseline state since they rarely account for changes such as those due to a change of Government and external factors such as the recession, action on climate change, resource

<sup>7</sup> There is no attribution made on the messages since a synthesis of the messages has been performed. Also no significance should be inferred by the order in which the messages are presented.

efficiency and the increasing price of energy and natural resources. Hence most effort has been devoted to considering the future baseline rather than looking into historical trends.

- Given the iterative manner in which the plan-making and appraisal processes are to be conducted, distinguishing between 'messages for the plan' and 'messages for the SA' is an unhelpful distinction; therefore a single set of key messages is presented.

### Assembling the Evidence Base

2.3.5 Baseline data provides the basis for forecasting and monitoring sustainability effects, and helps in the identification of environmental problems. For each SA objective, data is collected to help answer (where possible) the following questions:

- How good or bad is the current situation? Is it getting better or worse? How is the environment likely to change in accordance with or differently from historical trends (e.g. due to human pressure or climate change)?
- How far is the current situation from thresholds, objectives or targets?
- Are particularly sensitive or important elements of the environment affected: people, resources, species and habitats?
- Are the problems of a large or small scale, reversible or irreversible, permanent or temporary, direct or indirect?
- How difficult would it be to offset or remedy any damage?
- Have there been significant cumulative or synergistic effects over time? Are there expected to be such effects in the future?

### Technical Scope

2.3.6 In considering themes where evidence and the Scoping Report is required, the term environment used in the SEA Directive, not only refers to the natural and historic environment, but also to effects such as human health, population and material assets.

2.3.7 The regulations implementing the SEA Directive require that the likely significant effects on the environment are assessed to include topics such as but not limited to:

- |                    |                     |                          |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| • Biodiversity;    | • Water;            | • Cultural heritage;     |
| • Population;      | • Air;              | • Landscape & townscape. |
| • Human health;    | • Climatic factors; |                          |
| • Soil;            | • Material assets;  |                          |
| • Fauna and flora; |                     |                          |

2.3.8 The interrelationship between the above factors is also to be considered.

2.3.9 In considering the effects of the Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents on health issues, the following social groups are to be considered to capture health inequalities as well as general consequences for public health:

- |             |                                |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| • Children; | • Those with a health problem; |
| • Women;    | • Low-income groups.           |
| • Elderly;  |                                |

2.3.10 In order to address the social, economic as well as environmental issues to be addressed in a sustainability appraisal, the Scoping Report comprises the following four sustainability 'themes':

- **Theme 1** – Sustainable economic development;
- **Theme 2** – Resource management & material assets;
- **Theme 3** – Sustainable communities;
- **Theme 4** – Environmental sustainability.

#### Temporal Scope

2.3.11 In assessing future plans the focus is upon addressing impacts occurring over the lifetime of the plan except for issues such as climate change where a longer time horizon may be appropriate.

#### Geographical Scope

2.3.12 Appraisals will need to take account of the potential spatial variation in the effects of the plans both across Telford & Wrekin and beyond the Council boundary. The scoping process has focused upon the following areas:

- Authority-wide;
- Telford;
- Newport;
- Rural-area.

#### Methodology

2.3.13 The methodology to be used will be in accordance with the regulations and guidance. In addition, the approach has been informed by research for the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) entitled "Towards a More Efficient and Effective Use of Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal in Spatial Planning"<sup>8</sup>.

#### Future without the Plan (Future Baseline)

2.3.14 The SEA regulations require that information is provided on the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and **the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan**. The future baseline, or 'business-as-usual' scenario, is difficult to describe as trend data are often not available. Nevertheless, this section describes the future environmental baseline as it relates to each SA topic.

#### Data Gaps

2.3.15 The following data gaps were found to exist while preparing the Scoping Report, and the following gaps still remain:

- **Financial uncertainties:** The consequences of reductions in budgets and changes to the financing of development.
- **Impact on designated wildlife sites:** Any effects caused by changes to the development can only practically be determined when details of the proposal and the ecological character of the potentially affected areas are known.
- **Visual intrusion from development upon landscape, townscape and heritage assets:** As these effects are determined by the location and design of development proposals, it is only possible to infer a link between plan policies and visual amenity at this stage.

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1513010.pdf>



- **Material Assets:** Many aspects of material assets exhibit gaps in the data, such as forecast consumption of electricity and gas by industry and domestic users.

2.3.16 It should be noted that gaps in the evidence base have not impeded the ability to:

- Judge whether issues ought to be scoped in or out of subsequent sustainability appraisals, although the absence of an up-to-date Local Development Scheme has constrained the ability to scope out topics in relation to specific plans.
- Formulate sustainability objectives and indicators to be used in subsequent appraisals.

2.3.17 It is worth noting that developing the evidence base is an on-going activity needed to underpin the plans to be delivered by the Council. Also, the evidence base needs only to be as detailed to be able to deliver a robust plan and sustainability appraisals recognising the position of the plan in the planning hierarchy. It is to be remembered that site specific information is likely to be required to support individual development proposals particularly those for which an Environmental Impact Assessment is required.

2.3.18 Consultees are requested to consider any deficiencies in terms of information gaps or errors of interpretation/emphasis that:

- Undermine or question the scoping judgments made in this Scoping Report;
- Ought to be addressed for particular areas or topics to support the appraisal of future Local Development Documents;
- Are needed to inform future development management (the process by which planning applications are determined by a local planning authority) or future development strategies or initiatives.

### Challenges and Opportunities

2.3.19 Evidence and expert judgement has been used to define current and future challenges and opportunities based on:

- The views of planning and specialist Council officers and the statutory environmental bodies on sustainability issues in the area;
- Input from other stakeholders;
- Conflicts and opportunities identified by a preliminary review of other plans, programmes and environmental objectives;
- Conflicts between the current or future baseline conditions and existing objectives, targets or obligations; and
- Approaches to delivering national sustainability objectives as defined by European and national policy documents.

### Relationship with other Policies, Plans and Programmes

2.3.20 A plan will be affected by, and affect, other plans and programmes, and environmental objectives both within and beyond an authority's jurisdiction. Identification of conflicts and the integration of objectives across plans and programmes are key to promoting sustainability. Hence relevant policies, plans and programmes have been reviewed at the European, national and local scales (see **Appendix B**).



### **Cumulative Effects**

- 2.3.21 It is necessary to identify the likely cumulative effects resulting from the revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents acting in combination with other policies, plans, programmes and projects. During the appraisals, the Council will identify major project proposals that could give rise to cumulative effects with those arising from the plan under consideration.

### **Setting of Objectives**

- 2.3.22 The formulation of objectives is to take account of:
- Environmental protection objectives from legislation;
  - Environmental objectives from other relevant plans and programmes; and
  - The results of baseline data collection and consultation with the statutory environmental bodies and other stakeholders as appropriate.

### **Significance**

- 2.3.23 Carrying out the appraisal involves considering, for each component of the plan (option / preferred option / policy / proposal) and the plan as a whole:
- Is it clear what is proposed?
  - Who/what is likely to be affected?
  - Where is the effect likely to occur?
  - Is the effect likely to affect an area or population that is vulnerable or particularly valued?
  - Will any social group be disproportionately disadvantaged / affected?
  - What is the magnitude of the impact based on (duration, scale, uncertainty, direct, indirect, cumulative, reversible)
  - Is the strategy likely to have a significant effect on the objectives?
  - If so, can the effect be enhanced, avoided or its severity reduced?
  - If the effect cannot be avoided, e.g. by conditions or changes to the way it is implemented, can the proposal be changed or eliminated?
  - If its effect is uncertain, or depends on how the plan is implemented, how can the uncertainty associated with it be reduced?
- 2.3.24 Significance criteria capture duration, geographic scale, probability as well as whether the effect would be direct, indirect or cumulative. Whilst the potential for an impact to be reversible is recorded, since there would not necessarily be a guarantee that resources would be available to reverse the impact, the assessment assumes a worst case outcome. The reversibility of the impact is then considered in making recommendations to avoid, minimise or offset effects.
- 2.3.25 The significance criteria proposed for the assessment are set out in Table A2.2 although these may require customisation for each of the area/plans.
- 2.3.26 Tests of significance need to reflect the different spatial scales of the plans. For example, the provision of additional retail areas is unlikely to be as significant in an area already well served by shops than one where there is poor provision. Also, many small scale changes across a number of areas could give rise to a cumulative change collectively of greater significance across the

authority. Finally, an effect in one area may give rise to consequential effects beyond its immediate environs that cause the effects to be of greater significance.

- 2.3.27 Such effects need to be interpreted in the context of the time lag between the plan and development occurring, the time taken for the effects to be experienced; and also the implications of other external drivers. Consequently, it is difficult to do no more than speculate as to the significance of such local effects.
- 2.3.28 To assist in the task of judging the significance of policies and proposals within Local Development Documents, the following set of significance criteria have been prepared to guide the assessment process.

**Table A2.2: Significance Criteria**

<b>Minor</b>	Cause and effect likely affecting local areas for over 3 years but effects are unlikely to be reversible and do not cause district scale cumulative effects.
	Cause and effect either clearly not clearly established but limited to district wide effects lasting for less than 10 years. Anticipated that effects may or may not be reversible.
	Potential effects of less than 3 years duration at a regional scale which may or may not be reversible.
	Permanent local scale potential or likely direct or indirect effects that may or may not be reversible.
<b>Moderate</b>	Cause and effect likely to occur at a district scale extending between 3-10 years and that are unlikely to be reversible but do not affect regional or national resources.
	Cause and effect can be likely to or certain to occur but there will be district effects that extend for over 10 years that are unlikely to be reversible and do not affect regional or national resources
	Cause and effect not clearly established but potential for effects upon regional or national interests for any duration that may or may not be reversible
<b>Major</b>	Cause and effect directly attributable to change of more than 10 years to the existing conditions likely to occur over a wide area at a district scale that is unlikely to be reversible.
	A potential cause and direct effect with a duration of more than 3 years that may cause cumulative effects upon regional or national interests that is may not be reversible
	A cause and effect is likely or would occur with national or regional interests being affected that may or may not be reversible

- 2.3.29 To assist in the communication of significant effects a simple traffic-light based scoring system is proposed. This is illustrated in Table A2.3.

**Table A2.3: Impact Significance**

Scoring Symbol	Definition
<b>Maj+ve</b>	Major positive effect
<b>Mod+ve</b>	Moderate positive effect
<b>Min+ve</b>	Minimal positive effect
<b>Neut-</b>	Neutral effect
<b>Min-ve</b>	Minor negative effect
<b>Mod-ve</b>	Moderate negative effect
<b>Maj-ve</b>	Major negative effect

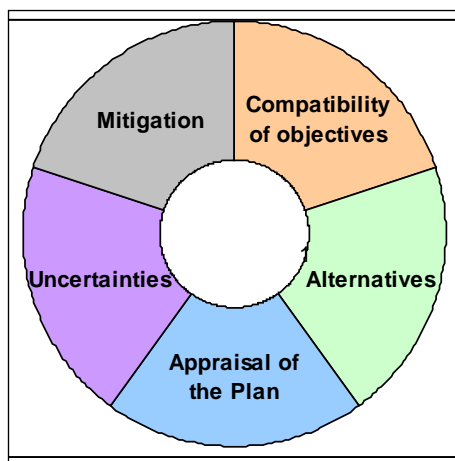
### Uncertainties

- 2.3.30 Uncertainties may be associated with the assessment of the revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents reflecting questions over funding, the timing of major infrastructure projects and new housing as well as changes to the policy context. The appraisal will seek to identify where uncertainties exist that have a bearing upon whether significant effects are likely to occur.

## A2.4 Stage B: Appraisal

### Appraisal

- 2.4.1 At Stage B the aim is to assess the planning documents at key points in its development in order to assess and potentially strengthen its sustainability credentials. Stage B includes five stages, illustrated below



### Testing Plan and SA Objectives

- 2.4.2 Early in the appraisal process, the compatibility of plan and sustainability objectives is to be assessed.

**Identifying Alternatives**

2.4.3 Following the Forest Heath High Court judgement on the reporting of reasonable alternatives, the revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents alternatives are to be developed, assessed and reported as set out below:

- The Council plan alternatives are to be developed, assessed and reported through an iterative plan-making process involving extensive community engagement with stakeholders. As policy and allocation alternatives emerge, these will be assessed against the sustainability objectives at each step, and the assessment outcomes will be reported to stakeholders at each stage of plan preparation. The judgements made in arriving at the selection of the best policies and allocations to be contained within the final draft plan will also be reported to stakeholders.
- The practical development and assessment of the sustainability of policies and allocations will be undertaken by a range of Council officers, including Planning officers, in collaboration with the Council's politically balanced Development Plans Steering Group. The recommendations of the steering group will be reported to meetings of the Council's Cabinet for consideration and decision making. Meetings of Full Council will ultimately decide upon the policies, site allocations and sustainability reporting that make up the adopted Borough Development Plan.

**Appraisal of the Effects**

2.4.4 The appraisal would be focused on the topics within the five sustainability themes at authority-wide or local area scales with uncertainties based upon the available evidence at each scale.

2.4.5 In appraising future plans and policies the following factors will be considered:<sup>9</sup>

- The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);
- The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;
- The cumulative nature of the effects; and
- The potential for effects to valued or vulnerable areas.

**Secondary and Cumulative Effects**

2.4.6 Secondary or indirect effects occur at some distance or time from the original effect of the plan. Such non-cumulative effects are identified and assessed mainly by considering potential links between various objectives.

2.4.7 Cumulative effects arise where several proposals that may or may not individually be significant, in-combination have a significant effect due to spatial crowding or temporal overlap between plans, proposals and actions and repeated removal or addition of resources due to proposals and actions. An example could be the effects of traffic resulting from several development projects on a junction or numerous housing projects on the demand for community facilities. Such effects can be additive; neutralising or synergistic.

2.4.8 During the appraisals receptors such as ecological sites, water treatment plants etc will be identified that may be subject to cumulative effects. The evidence base will be used to identify the potential for cumulative effects.

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<sup>9</sup> This approach to determining significance is a requirement of the SEA Directive.  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

**Mitigation and Enhancement**

- 2.4.9 Where potential significant adverse effects are identified then mitigation measures will be proposed. Also, opportunities for enhancement will also be identified. In both cases, links will be made with other policies, plans and programmes, where possible.
- 2.4.10 As the Local Development Framework sets the framework for projects that may fall under the requirements to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), an opportunity exists to identify measures that are more appropriately undertaken at that stage.

**Monitoring**

- 2.4.11 Measures by which significant positive and negative effects are monitored will be proposed in the Plan Sustainability Appraisal Report (Stage C) and confirmed in the Adoption Statement (Stage E). Monitoring will be incorporated into Authority Monitoring Reports (previously termed Annual Monitoring Reports).

**A2.5 Stage C – Sustainability Appraisal Report**

- 2.5.1 Stage C involves documenting the process and findings of the appraisal in a Sustainability Appraisal Report to accompany the draft Plan at pre-submission consultation. A Sustainability Appraisal Report is also to accompany the final Core Strategy and for any future planning documents. A Non-Technical Summary is also required by the regulations.
- 2.5.2 The Sustainability Report will be published alongside the revised the Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents providing information on:
- How the Plan was developed;
  - Challenges and opportunities;
  - Options considered;
  - Consequences of the preferred option and associated policies;
  - Proposals for mitigation and monitoring.

**A2.6 Stage D: Consultation**

- 2.6.1 Stage D involves consultation on the draft Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal Report. Following the period of public consultation, there may be a need to make alterations to the Sustainability Appraisal Report as a result of comments received.

**A2.7 Stage E: Adoption**

- 2.7.1 If the SA finds that adoption of the Plan has the potential to result in significant sustainability effects then proposals on how such effects are monitored would be agreed.
- 2.7.2 The Adopted Plan will have taken account of responses to consultation on the published draft Plan and on the published Sustainability Report. An SA statement would record:
- How sustainability considerations were integrated into the plan;
  - How the Sustainability Report has been taken into account;
  - How the opinions and consultations have been considered;
  - The reasons for selecting the final plan as well as; and

- The measures to be taken to monitor the effects of the strategy.

2.7.3 SEA guidance indicates that the existing monitoring arrangements of the plan and for other plans can be used. Particular attention will be paid to the monitoring proposals to ensure that they are practical and reflect anticipated resource constraints.

2.7.4 Monitoring will be undertaken by the Council or other organisation as identified in the Adoption Statement that will be published during Autumn/Winter 2013.

## A2.8 Habitats Regulations Assessment

2.8.1 Under European regulations there is a requirement to assess the potential for impacts of plans and projects upon sites designated as being of European or international importance. Consequently a Screening Report is to be prepared to determine the potential consequences of draft Plans upon the following European sites which lie within 20 km of the Council boundary:

- **Midland Meres and Mosses Phase 2 Ramsar Site** – a series of wetland sites - composite sites within 20km of the borough boundary include:
  - Aqualate Mere 0.4 km to the east
  - Hencott Pool 5.9 km west
  - Cop Mere 7.6 km north-east
  - Brownheath Moss 15 km north-west
  - Fens Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses
  - Sweatmere and Crossmere 16.5km north-west
- **Mottey Meadows SAC** 5.6km to the east
- **Midland Meres and Mosses Phase 1 Ramsar Site** – a series of wetland sites - composite sites within 20km of the Borough boundary include:
  - Berrington Pool 6.9km to the west
  - Bomere, Shomere and Betton Pools 8km west
  - Brown Moss
  - Fenemere 11.4km north-west
  - White Mere 19.8km north-west
- **Brown Moss SAC** 16.4km to the north-west
- **Fenn's Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses SAC and Ramsar site** 16.5km to the north-west.

2.8.2 This assessment will take account of other plans and major developments that could give rise to in-combination effects upon these sites.

## A2.9 Health Impact Assessment

2.9.1 While there is no statutory requirement to undertake a Health Impact Assessment, there is a requirement to consider the effects on human health of the plan under SEA Directive. As part of this requirement the following approach would be adopted for future plans:

- Account taken of health concerns expressed by the health authorities based on the Scoping Report;
- Collation of information on the health plans, baseline data, health issues;

- Assessment of the health consequences of the Plan proposals and how they may be distributed across different groups;
- Recommendations to enhance the health outcomes;
- Consultation on the health outcomes;
- Consider issues raised following consultation; and
- Consider need for monitoring of impacts.

## **A2.10 Delivery Processes**

- 2.10.1 To oversee the Sustainability Appraisal and the revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents, the Council has a governance group that consists of seven members; is cross party in nature; and also involves Council officers which has responsibility for:
- The Local Development Scheme and Local Development Documents;
  - The Sustainability Appraisal;
  - The HRA screening;
  - The EqlA;
  - Performance and risk management.
- 2.10.2 The timetable for the revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and appraisal is set out below:
- 3 Subject to Cabinet approval, consultation will commence on June 2013, the findings of which will feed into the Draft Plan which will be considered by Cabinet and Full Council prior to further formal consultation.

## A3. CONTEXT FOR THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

### A3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The SA process requires an appreciation of the context within which the relevant Plan is prepared. This includes national and local plans (including neighbourhood plans), programmes, policies, strategies and initiatives, including environmental protection objectives.
- 3.1.2 This chapter commences by considering the findings of the Scoping Report prepared in 2008 since it establishes the baseline for revisions to the evidence base for this current Scoping Report. This chapter also provides information on a plan's relationship with the objectives established at a European Community, national and local level.
- 3.1.3 The chapter takes account of the Government's White Paper on Local Growth, the National Infrastructure Plan and the plans of neighbouring authorities. A list of the relevant policy documents, the key objectives relevant to the Council have been identified as have the implications for the appraisal (see **Appendix B**). These objectives were then used to assist in formulating the sustainability appraisal framework.
- 3.1.4 Given the changing nature of policies, plans and programmes, strategies and initiatives it is likely that this framework will evolve during preparation of the revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents and the Sustainability Reports.
- 3.1.5 This chapter considers the following:
- **European policy framework** – a review of European policies and directives;
  - **National policy framework** – a review of national white papers;
  - **Neighbouring plans** – a review of plans from neighbouring planning authorities;
  - **Business and usual scenario** – a view on how the policy framework could evolve without future plans and policies;
  - **Other plans and strategies** – a review of the Local Enterprise Partnership strategy, the sustainable community strategy, Telford & Wrekin statutory plans and neighbourhood plans;
  - **Emerging sustainability objectives** – a summary of the issues that emerge from the policy framework that inform the development of the sustainable development objectives;
  - **Emerging sustainability targets** – a summary of targets where identified from the policy framework.

### A3.2 European Policy Framework

- 3.2.1 Recent developments at an International and European level have included a new policy agenda on biodiversity focusing upon halting the decline in the number of species. The European Union has also published statements on sustainable development, a White Paper on sustainable transport, papers on urban mobility and strategies on climate change. The key messages to emerge are that authorities ought to:
- Contribute towards stemming the loss of biodiversity and avoiding damage to watercourses, fisheries and groundwater;
  - Enhance air quality and reduce noise levels while protecting tranquil areas;
  - Promote low carbon transport including through promoting use of biofuels;



- Adopt strategies to increase resilience to climate change based on awareness of best practice in particular issues of flood risk;
- Promote sustainable transport and ITC solutions that minimise the need to travel and better manage transport services to deliver efficient use of individual modes;
- Adopt integrated policy approaches informed by whole life costing to also include public health within decision making;
- Promote the reduction of waste arising during the construction and maintenance of transport infrastructure.

3.2.2 Council for Europe conventions that relate to the rights of persons with disabilities and also the protection, management and planning of all landscapes not just designated landscapes under the European Landscape Convention form part of the policy framework. Also, it is recognised that the Kiev protocol on SEA enhances consideration of health and places a requirement to provide for the monitoring of health effects. Conventions are also in place to protect habitats and species.

### **Landscape**

3.2.3 In 2006, the UK ratified the European Landscape Convention (ELC). This Convention encourages public authorities to adopt policies and measures at local, regional, national and international level for protecting, managing and planning landscapes throughout Europe<sup>10</sup>.

3.2.4 The ELC defines landscape as “an area perceived by people whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”. The Convention covers all landscapes, from the outstanding to the ordinary, that determine the quality of people’s living environment. It established the need to develop landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and planning of urban and rural landscapes.

### **Sustainable Development**

3.2.5 The 2009 European Strategy for Sustainable Development noted that the current economic situation offered opportunities to develop a dynamic low-carbon and resource-efficient, knowledge-based, socially inclusive society.

### **Transport**

3.2.6 In March 2011, the European Commission issued a White Paper on Transport in which it expresses a desire for transport users to pay for emissions, noise and other harm they cause. The Commission envisages a radically different transport system by 2020 including greener infrastructure and low-carbon technologies. The White Paper foresees an increasing economic cost of transport due to expensive oil, congestion, scarcity of labour skills and wider application of the user pays principle.

3.2.7 The White Paper established ten goals of which the two are directly relevant to the Local Development Framework (see Box A3.1) the others being relevant at a European or national scale.

<sup>10</sup> European Union (2000): *The European Landscape Convention* [online] available at: [http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/landscape/default\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/landscape/default_en.asp)

### Box A3.1: EU Transport Policy Goals

- Halve the use of 'conventionally-fuelled' cars in urban transport by 2030; phase them out in cities by 2050; achieve essentially CO<sub>2</sub>-free city logistics in major urban centres by 2030
- 30% of road freight over 300 km should shift to other modes such as rail or waterborne transport by 2030, and more than 50% by 2050, facilitated by efficient and green freight corridors

- 3.2.8 The White Paper envisages the charging of heavy-duty trucks for using European highways with the phasing in of charging in the inter-urban network or at least the main European corridors by 2020. This might have implications for traffic routing through the Borough.

#### Air Quality

- 3.2.9 The Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) sets legally binding limits for concentrations in outdoor air of major air pollutants that impact public health such as particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). The 2008 Directive replaced nearly all the previous EU air quality legislation and was made law in England through the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010.

#### Climate Change

- 3.2.10 In 2009 the Copenhagen Accord agreed to:
- Recognise the scientific view that the increase in global temperature should be held below 2.0°C;
  - Deep cuts in global emissions are required;
  - Commit to implement the quantified economy wide emissions targets for 2020, to be submitted by 31 January 2010 [Annex I Parties, including the European Union].
- 3.2.11 In 2009 the European Commission issued the Adapting to Climate Change: towards a European Framework for Action which:
- Promote strategies that increase the resilience to climate change of health, property and the productive functions of land, *inter alia* by improving the management of water resources and ecosystems;
  - Framework for adaptation measures and policies to reduce the European Union's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.
- 3.2.12 It will be necessary in the appraisal of revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents to show that European policies are being complied with.

#### Renewable Energy

- 3.2.13 Resulting from the EU Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources, the UK has committed to sourcing 15% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020 – an increase in the share of renewables by almost a factor of seven from about 2.25% in 2008.
- 3.2.14 As planning authorities are responsible for providing planning consent for many renewable energy projects, so there is an obligation to consider the achievement of the target in such determinations.

#### Biodiversity

- 3.2.15 In March 2010, the European Council issued a new target to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020 and to support efforts to avert global biodiversity loss. There are six main targets and 20 actions. The six targets cover:
- Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity;

- Better protection for ecosystems, and more use of green infrastructure;
- More sustainable agriculture and forestry;
- Better management of fish stocks;
- Tighter controls on invasive alien species;
- A bigger EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.

3.2.16 A vision and headline target has been set as presented in Box A3.2 below, with the targets set in the strategy presented in Box A3.3.

### Box A3.2: EU Biodiversity Strategy Vision and Target

#### 2050 vision

By 2050, European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides — its natural capital — are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's intrinsic value and for their essential contribution to human wellbeing and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided.

#### 2020 headline target

Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.

### Box A3.3: Biodiversity Strategy Targets

**Target 1:** To halt the deterioration in the status of all species and habitats covered by EU nature legislation and achieve a significant and measurable improvement in their status so that, by 2020, compared to current assessments: (i) 100% more habitat assessments and 50% more species assessments under the Habitats Directive show an improved conservation status; and (ii) 50% more species assessments under the Birds Directive show a secure or improved status.

**Target 2:** By 2020, ecosystems and their services are maintained and enhanced by establishing green infrastructure and restoring at least 15 % of degraded ecosystems.

#### Target 3\*:

**A) Agriculture:** By 2020, maximise areas under agriculture across grasslands, arable land and permanent crops that are covered by biodiversity-related measures under the CAP so as to ensure the conservation of biodiversity and to bring about a measurable improvement(\*) in the conservation status of species and habitats that depend on or are affected by agriculture and in the provision of ecosystem services as compared to the EU2010 Baseline, thus contributing to enhance sustainable management.  
**B) Forests:** By 2020, Forest Management Plans or equivalent instruments, in line with Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)<sup>21</sup>, are in place for all forests that are publicly owned and for forest holdings above a certain size\*\* (to be defined by the Member States or regions and communicated in their Rural Development Programmes) that receive funding under the EU Rural Development Policy so as to bring about a measurable improvement(\*) in the conservation status of species and habitats that depend on or are affected by forestry and in the provision of related ecosystem services as compared to the EU 2010 Baseline.

(\*) For both targets, improvement is to be measured against the quantified enhancement targets for the conservation status of species and habitats of EU interest in Target 1 and the restoration of degraded ecosystems under target 2.

(\*\*) For smaller forest holdings, Member States may provide additional incentives to encourage the adoption of Management Plans or equivalent instruments that are in line with SFM.

**Target 4:** Fisheries: Achieve Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY)<sup>22</sup> by 2015. Achieve a population age and size distribution indicative of a healthy stock, through fisheries management with no significant adverse impacts on other stocks, species and ecosystems, in support of achieving Good Environmental Status by 2020, as required under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

**Target 5:** By 2020, Invasive Alien Species and their pathways are identified and prioritised, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and pathways are managed to prevent the introduction and establishment of new IAS.

**Target 6:** By 2020, the EU has stepped up its contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.

3.2.17 Among the key actions of relevance to the local Development Framework are the following:

**Action 1: Complete the establishment of the Natura 2000 network and ensure good management**

**1c)** Member States will ensure that management plans or equivalent instruments which set out conservation and restoration measures are developed and implemented in a timely manner for all Natura 2000 sites.

**Action 3: Increase stakeholder awareness and involvement and improve enforcement:**

**3a)** The Commission, together with Member States, will develop and launch a major communication campaign on Natura 2000 by 2013.

**3b)** The Commission and Member states will improve cooperation with key sectors and continue to develop guidance documents to improve their understanding of the requirements of EU nature legislation and its value in promoting economic development.

**3c)** The Commission and Member States will facilitate enforcement of the nature directives by providing specific training programmes on Natura 2000 for judges and public prosecutors, and by developing better compliance promotion capacities.

**Action 6: Set priorities to restore and promote the use of green infrastructure**

**6b)** The Commission will develop a Green Infrastructure Strategy by 2012 to promote the deployment of green infrastructure in the EU in urban and rural areas, including through incentives to encourage up-front investments in green infrastructure projects and the maintenance of ecosystem services.

**Action 7: Ensure no net loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services**

**7b)** The Commission will carry out further work with a view to proposing by 2015 an initiative to ensure there is no net loss of ecosystems and their services (e.g. through compensation or offsetting schemes).

**Action 9: Better target Rural Development to biodiversity conservation**

**9b)** The Commission and Member States will establish mechanisms to facilitate collaboration among farmers and foresters to achieve continuity of landscape features, protection of genetic resources and other cooperation mechanisms to protect biodiversity.

## Waste

3.2.18 The EU Waste Framework Directive requires the UK to recycle; compost or reuse 50 per cent of waste from households by 2020. The intermediate targets are:

- By 2010 to reduce the amount of Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) going to landfill to 75% of that produced in 1995;
- By 2013 to reduce the amount of BMW going to landfill to 50% of that produced in 1995;
- By 2020 to reduce the amount of BMW going to landfill to 35% of that produced in 1995.

3.2.19 In order for the UK government to avoid European infringement proceedings, there is an obligation on each waste authority to assist in the achievement of such targets.

## Water

3.2.20 The role of spatial planning is important to the objective of improving water quality since the impact of new housing and other development upon the water environment and achieving Water Framework Directive (WFD) objectives are to be tested. For example, the Government's Water Strategy "Future Water" identifies that water efficiency will be taken into account in planning delivery of housing growth. The Water Framework Directive also requires that the activities of all public bodies must not lead to a deterioration of the water environment. Hence the spatial planning system must take account of the Water Directive Objectives. Among the measures that local authorities can undertake are:

- Incorporate sustainable water management into spatial plans;
- Identify opportunities for improvement and restoration work to maximise contributions to meeting WFD objectives, such as in flood risk, land management and transport.

### A3.3 National Policy Framework<sup>11</sup>

- 3.3.1 The Coalition Government is introducing a change in the national planning policy. Commencing with the desired abandonment of the regional planning tier with the removal of Regional Spatial Strategies, there a localism agenda is being introduced in which the aim is to devolve more decision-making to the local level with greater opportunity for neighbourhood plans and other measures to promote local development.
- 3.3.2 The localism agenda is leading to the reorganisation of the NHS with the abolition of Strategic Health Authorities and Primary Care Trusts, while Health & Well-Being Boards will be created alongside Directors of Public Health being located in Borough Councils and upper tier authorities.
- 3.3.3 Planning is not immune and the Government has embarked upon a series of measures that allow economic forces greater prominence in decision making and lightening the burden of planning restrictions. Planning guidance will be reduced, with instructions to planning authorities to prioritise growth and jobs.
- 3.3.4 Under the Localism Act, an opportunity is available for Neighbourhood Plans to be prepared by the local community and to enable communities to propose Neighbourhood Development Orders that reduce the need for planning consents.
- 3.3.5 A duty is to be placed on local planning authorities to engage in on-going constructive and active engagement with relevant neighbouring authorities on the preparation of development plan documents and other activities relating to sustainable development and use of land, in particular in connection with strategic infrastructure<sup>12</sup>.
- 3.3.6 The Government has announced a series of Local Enterprise Partnerships (also known as LEPs) seeking to offer local areas the opportunity to take control of their future economic development through locally-owned partnerships between local authorities and businesses. Local Economic Partnerships are to be given a voice for business in the planning system to help with strategic plans – determining economic priorities, guide infrastructure delivery as well as assist in producing evidence and technical assessments to inform decision-making.
- 3.3.7 The following national policies will evolve prior to publication of a final plan by the Council and its accompanying Sustainability Appraisal Report:
- **Localism Act 2011:** This Act intends to move power from central government back into the hands of individuals, communities and councils. The Government is promoting decentralisation and democratic engagement and giving new powers to local councils, communities, neighbourhoods and individuals<sup>13</sup>. The Localism Bill proposes a new right for communities to prepare a 'neighbourhood development plan'<sup>14</sup>. Where a neighbourhood development plan is in line with national planning policy and in general conformity with the strategic policies in the Local Plan and with other legal requirements, the plan will be adopted where following a referendum; it is approved by a majority<sup>15</sup>. The Localism Bill also provides for 'neighbourhood development orders' to allow communities to approve development without requiring planning consent<sup>16</sup>.

<sup>11</sup> Since the preparation of this section, the Government has issued the Biodiversity Strategy "Defra, 2011: Biodiversity Strategy 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services. The mission for this strategy, for the next decade, is: *to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.*

<sup>12</sup> HM Treasury, 2011: The Plan for Growth

<sup>13</sup> HM Government (2010). *The Coalition: our programme for government* [online] available at: [http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/coalition\\_programme\\_for\\_government.pdf](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/coalition_programme_for_government.pdf) (accessed 1 February 2011).

<sup>14</sup> Communities and Local Government (2011). *A plain English guide to the Localism Bill* [online] available at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/1818597.pdf> (accessed 1 February 2011)

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>16</sup> See <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/localism.html> (accessed 1 February 2011).

- **National Planning Policy Framework** – Consultation Draft: Published in August 2011 (consultation to October 2011) sets out a presumption in favour of sustainable development with significant weight attached to the need to support economic growth setting out the following core planning principles:
  - Development to be of good design.
  - Plan-led approach.
  - Development to proceed except where it would compromise the key sustainable development principles.
  - Sufficient land to be allocated for employment and housing.
  - Existing and potential environmental quality to be taken into account.
  - Protect and enhance environmental and heritage assets and reduce pollution.
  - Make efficient use of land and promote mixed use development.
  - Enable reuse of existing resources and encourage use of renewable resources.
  - Actively manage patterns of growth to make fullest use of public transport, walking and cycling and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable.
  - Take account of and support local strategies to improve health and wellbeing.
  - Secure a good standard of amenity for existing and future occupants of land and buildings.

The draft framework represents a key plank of the Coalition Government's reform of the planning system. Proposals include replacing the Local Development Framework system with Local Plans. The Government proposes that these can reviewed in whole or in part to respond flexibly to changing circumstances. The draft national framework states that any additional development plan documents should only be used where clearly justified. Plans are to be prepared to meet objectively assessed development needs unless significant adverse effects outweigh the benefits. Local Plans are to be aspirational providing guidance on what will or will not be permitted and where. Policies are to provide a clear indication of how a decision maker should react to a development proposal. Strategic policies should deliver:

- Housing and economic development requirements.
  - Retail, leisure and other commercial development.
  - Infrastructure for transport, minerals, waste, energy, telecoms, water supply and water quality.
  - Health, security, community infrastructure and other local facilities.
  - Climate change mitigation and adaptation, protection and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape and where relevant coastal management.
- **Natural Environment White Paper, 2011:** Published in June 2011, the White Paper indicates that:
  - Partnerships of local authorities, local communities and landowners, the private sector and conservation organisations will establish new **Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs)**, based on a local assessment of opportunities for restoring and connecting nature on a significant scale.
  - A new voluntary approach to **biodiversity offsetting** tested on pilot areas is proposed.



- A new **Green Areas Designation** giving local people an opportunity to protect green spaces that have significant importance to their local communities is proposed to be introduced by April 2012.
- A new biodiversity strategy is to be published.
- Coherent and resilient ecological networks are to be created.
- Mechanisms to identify and protect urban quiet areas will be established.
- Measures to reduce the negative impacts of artificial light and protect existing dark areas will be explored. Exemptions from artificial light statutory nuisance are to be explored.
- **Fourth Carbon Budget, May, 2011:** Greenhouse Gas Emission target, for 2023-2027 emissions is to be 50% of 1990 levels.
- **National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England, 2011:** This strategy builds on existing approaches to flood and coastal risk management and promotes the use of a wide range of measures to manage risk.
- **Climate Resilient Infrastructure: Preparing for a Changing Climate, May 2011:** A strategic approach to adapting national infrastructure that can be replicated at the sub-regional and local level by local authorities and the new Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) (see paragraph 3.4.6) is described.
- **Appraising Transport Projects, April 2011:** Benefits of low carbon projects to be more accurately recognised.
- **The Carbon Plan, 2011:** Notes Government wishes to support and enable communities in their wish to adopt higher environmental standards for new homes including through:
  - Ensuring that there are robust sustainability standards for local authorities to use if they want to set higher standards than those in the national regulations in their local plans; and
  - Supporting eco-towns and eco-developments where there is local support and a wish to adopt higher standards of sustainability and design.
- **Planning for Traveller Sites: Consultation, 2011:** Replaces Circular 01/2006: Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites and Circular 04/2007: Planning for Travelling Show-people. The aim of the draft new policy is to put planning for traveller sites into the hands of local planning authorities and to align planning policy for traveller sites more closely with the policies for other forms of housing<sup>17</sup>.
- **Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management, 2011:** The core strategy of a waste planning authority should set out policies and proposals for waste management and ensure sufficient opportunities for the provision of waste management facilities in appropriate locations including for waste disposal. The core strategy should both inform and in turn be informed by any relevant municipal waste management strategy. It should look forward for a period of at least ten years from the date of adoption.
- **Public Health White Paper 2011:** Seeks new partnerships in important areas such as transport. Every child is to be offered high-quality instruction on how to ride safely and confidently by the end of year 6 of school. The £560m Local Sustainable Transport Fund will support active travel and further support will be outlined in the Local Transport White Paper. Public health is to be better integrated into social care, transport, leisure, planning and housing with the focus upon keeping people connected, active, independent, and in their own homes.
- **Flood and Water Management Act 2010:** The Act Section 21 sets a duty on the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)<sup>18</sup> to maintain a register of structures or features, and a record of

<sup>17</sup> Planning for Traveller Sites <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/travellersitesconsultation>

<sup>18</sup> The Unitary or County Council for the area.

information about each of those structures or features, which, in the opinion of the authority, are likely to have a significant effect on flood risk in its area helping to improve our understanding and management of local flood risk. Section 30 allows the Environment Agency, LLFAs and Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs) to designate natural or artificial features that are important for flood or coastal erosion risk management. The effect of a designation is that a feature may not be altered, replaced or removed without consent. A new regulation will require all LLFA's to assess all drainage designs prior to construction to determine whether the design meets national sustainable drainage standards.

- **National Infrastructure Plan 2010<sup>19</sup>:** Forecasts a 20% increase in congestion by 2025 and requires a change to how infrastructure is planned, coordinated and delivered with adaptation to provide security and resilience. Private sector capital is to be attracted and the cost of capital for projects needs to be reduced.
- **Creation of Local Enterprise Partnerships:** The Marches LEP (comprising Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin) was approved by Government in November 2010. Local Enterprise Partnerships are encouraged to work on transport, housing and planning as part of an integrated approach to growth and infrastructure delivery by setting out key investment priorities, including transport infrastructure.
- **Allowing Local Authorities to Sell Electricity, August 2010:** Permits local authorities to sell electricity produced from renewable sources.
- **Review of Waste Policies, July 2010:** Following this call for evidence, the Government intend to set goals for 2014, 2020 and beyond addressing waste prevention and reuse, increase recycling rates, maximize the cost-effective generation of renewable energy from residual waste; and move towards zero waste to landfill<sup>20</sup>.
- **The Household Energy Management Strategy:** Published in March 2010, it emphasises the role of district heating schemes and identified a essential role for planning in facilitating delivery of these and other community-scale energy schemes.
- **Noise Policy Statement for England, March 2010:** Sets out aims to manage and control environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise.
- **Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate, March 2010** describes Governments approach to meeting the climate change measures and optimising social benefits and gaining compliance with EU air quality limits.
- **Planning Policy Statement for a Low Carbon Future in a Changing Climate: Consultation Draft, March 2010:** Suggests that planning should:
  - Shape places so as to help secure radical cuts in greenhouse gas emissions. This requires the location and layout of new **development to be planned to deliver the highest viable energy efficiency**, including through the use of decentralised energy, reducing the need to travel, and the fullest possible use of sustainable transport.
  - Actively support and help **drive the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy**.
  - Shape places and secure new development so as to minimise vulnerability and **provide resilience to impacts** arising from climate change, and do so in ways consistent with cutting greenhouse gas emissions.
  - Ensure local communities are given real opportunities to take positive action on climate change; in particular by **encouraging community-led initiatives to reduce energy** use and secure more renewable and low-carbon energy.
  - A series of policies were put forward for action by planning authorities.

<sup>19</sup> HM Treasury, 2010: National Infrastructure Plan [http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/ppp\\_national\\_infrastructure\\_plan.htm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/ppp_national_infrastructure_plan.htm)

<sup>20</sup> Defra, 2010: Review of Waste Policies Call for Evidence



- **UK Climate Impacts Programme 2009:** Updated climate change projections based on three global emission scenarios provide forecasts for a climate and weather related impacts.
- **Flood Risk Regulations 2009:** Transpose EU Floods Directive placing a duty on the Environment Agency and Lead Local Authorities to prepare Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments before the end of 2011.
- **Climate Change: The Climate Change Act 2008<sup>21</sup>** requires that the average annual emissions in the carbon budget period including the year 2020 (i.e. the third period, 2018-2022) are at least 34% below the 1990 baseline. This is a 34% reduction by 2020. The 2008 Planning Act placed a duty on local authorities to include policies on climate mitigation and adaptation.
- **The Low Carbon Transition Plan and the Renewable Energy Strategy:** Published in July 2009 they set out how reductions in emissions and renewable energy targets are to be met.
- **The Energy Act 2008:** Introduced powers for a Feed-In Tariff and the Renewable Heat Incentive aimed at driving an increase in renewable energy generating capacity, and which is likely to have an impact on planning.
- **The Planning Act 2008:** Introduced a new planning regime for nationally significant infrastructure projects.

- 3.3.8 National policies are directed towards protecting the natural environment and making prudent use of natural resources. Indeed, there is a supportive strategy of enhancing landscape in the round to not only assist in adaptation to climate change, but also to provide a range of ecosystem services and public health benefits where accessible amenities are provided. There is also a strong link between the provision and maintenance of public open space within urban areas as well as rights of way and cycle tracks to promote physical activity.
- 3.3.9 Defra has supported the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution's report on minimising the impact of lighting on the environment by calling for highway authorities to reassess road lighting needs.
- 3.3.10 In recent years, the Government through planning policy statements has recognised and promoted the concept of Green Infrastructure (GI). The consultation paper from CLG<sup>22</sup> on Planning for a Natural and Healthy Environment notes the importance of green spaces and green infrastructure as a means responding to climate change as well as promoting healthy lifestyles.
- 3.3.11 The key implications to arise from consideration of the European and National plans and programmes for the Plan and the SA are presented in Appendix B and summarised below.

## A3.4 Regional Strategies

- 3.4.1 Whilst the Regional Spatial Strategy has been withdrawn under the Localism Act, there remain a series of other strategies that inform the delivery of sustainable development across the region that are of relevance to the Telford & Wrekin. These strategies are set out in Table A3.1.

<sup>21</sup> Available online at: [http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/ukpga\\_20080027\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/ukpga_20080027_en_1) (accessed 22 June 2010)

<sup>22</sup> <sup>39</sup> <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1498981.pdf>

**Table A3.1: Regional Strategies**

Strategy	Implications for Telford & Wrekin Local Development Framework
Regional Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote health and well-being as an integral part of the social, environmental and physical regeneration.</li> <li>Reduce social exclusion and promote independence by improving safe access to services.</li> <li>Encourage employers to have active travel plans Encourage 'designing for health'.</li> <li>Support the provision of affordable decent homes built to the lifetime standard.</li> <li>Reduce the excess number of winter deaths, and deaths through excess heat.</li> <li>Promote the housing needs of diverse and additional needs groups and support people to remain in their own homes.</li> <li>Promote the benefits of a diverse natural environment for physical and mental health and support the development of green Infrastructure.</li> <li>Increase the number of people using the countryside and green spaces, and work to meet emerging standards for accessible local green space.</li> <li>Tackle climate change and its impacts and promoting adaptation to climate change.</li> <li>Reverse the trend of rising obesity levels by 2020, particularly in childhood.</li> <li>Protect people and their environment from threats such as air pollution, land contamination, water pollution and noise pollution.</li> <li>Ensure children and adults get the most out of life by supporting them to develop their skills for employment and access to employment.</li> <li>Develop workplaces as appropriate as centres for promoting the health and well-being of the workforce and their families, and to promote both health, and safety at work as a way of increasing productivity.</li> <li>Broaden access to jobs by targeting unemployed people to take up entry level jobs in health and social care.</li> <li>To reduce the number of adults in the Region doing less than 30 minutes of physical activity, sport and active recreation per week and contribute to exceeding the target for a 1% year on year increase in physical activity levels in the population.</li> <li>Improve the quantity, quality and accessibility of cultural, leisure and play opportunities and facilities for residents.</li> <li><b>Integrate the health agenda into spatial planning.</b></li> </ul>
Regional Rural Development Framework (2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance value of the countryside.</li> <li>Develop a diverse and dynamic business base.</li> <li>Improve learning and skills.</li> <li>Establish conditions for growth.</li> <li>Achieve fair access to services for all.</li> <li>Secure vibrant, active, inclusive and sustainable communities.</li> <li><b>Recognise unique needs of rural areas.</b></li> </ul>
River Basin Management Plan Severn River Basin District, (2009)	<p>Sets out the pressures facing the water environment and while improvements are occurring key issues remain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diffuse pollution from agriculture and other rural activities.</li> <li>Point source pollution from water industry sewage works.</li> <li>Physical modification of water bodies; and</li> <li>Diffuse pollution from urban sources.</li> <li><b>Provide measures to reduce the risk of pollution and over abstraction of watercourses and groundwaters.</b></li> </ul>
Severn Catchment Flood Management Plan (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relatively low level of fluvial flood risk within the Shropshire Tributaries area; areas of low, moderate and high risk within the Middle Severn Corridor; areas of moderate to high risk in the Telford, Black Country Cluster.</li> <li>Man-made trends in land management and land-use have increased flood risk over time.</li> <li>Encourage rural and urban best practices in land-use and in land-management to restore more sustainable natural floodplains and to reduce run-off.</li> <li>Ensure floodplains are not inappropriately developed. Follow the 'sequential approach' of PPS 25 and consider land swapping opportunities.</li> <li>Encourage compatibility between urban open spaces, and their ability to make space for rivers to expand as flood flows occur. One example of a</li> </ul>

Strategy	Implications for Telford & Wrekin Local Development Framework
	<p>flood-compatible use is playing fields. Develop strategies to create 'blue corridors' by developing/redeveloping to link these flood-compatible spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review how effective and sustainable each flood defence is. Review maintenance operations to ensure they are proportionate to flood risk</li> <li>• Raise awareness of flooding among the public and key partners, especially major operators of infrastructure, allowing them to be better prepared. Encourage them all to increase the resilience and resistance of vulnerable buildings, infrastructure and businesses.</li> <li>• Develop better understanding of flooding from surface water, from drainage systems, and from 'non-main' watercourses. Produce a strategy for operation and investment, integrating all these with main rivers.</li> <li>• Ensure that the run-off from all proposed development is minimised. For example, SuDS must be encouraged and targeted within planning approvals. Encourage the retro-fitting of SuDS where surface water flooding is already a problem.</li> <li>• Support ecological improvements, for example, improvements in line with the Midland Meres and Mosses Ramsar site may involve raising the water table.</li> <li>• Maintain flood warning systems and look for opportunities to improve their effectiveness and coverage.</li> <li>• <b>Provide measures to sustain the current level of flood risk.</b></li> </ul>
Water Resources Strategy (2005)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prudent and sustainable use of natural resources.</li> <li>• Efficient use of water while bringing forward proposals for resource development.</li> <li>• Provide robustness to uncertainty and change.</li> <li>• Where uncertainty exists adopt the precautionary principle.</li> <li>• <b>Promote policies and proposals that recognise resource constraints and adopt the precautionary principle where appropriate.</b></li> </ul>
Regional Historic Environment Strategy (2010-2015)	<p>Sets out the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the rich cultural diversity of the region by ensuring that all people and communities can enjoy the historic environment, physically and intellectually, reducing barriers to access.</li> <li>• Foster and increase in community engagement with, and enjoyment of, the historic environment of the region, particularly in those areas where take-up of historic environment-related activities appears to be low.</li> <li>• Use the historic environment to address the skills gap in young people and adults including safeguarding, and developing, traditional building skills in the region.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to develop a deep understanding of the historic environment and how it contributes to the sense of place and distinctiveness of the region.</li> <li>• Ensure that historic character is respected and historic buildings, landscapes and archaeological remains are conserved and enhanced when development or change is planned.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how well used and managed historic environment can contribute to sustainable development, carbon reduction and climate change adaptation.</li> <li>• Undertake and contribute to studies and surveys of how the historic environment is valued and used and its impact on the region's economy and quality of life.</li> <li>• Influence and contribute to the development of other policies and plans in the region to ensure that the historic environment contributes to the delivery of key aspirations and outcomes.</li> <li>• Align the objectives and marshal the efforts of the historic environment sector in the region, to realise some key goals and initiatives, including making the most of the Cultural Olympiad.</li> <li>• <b>Promote policies that protect and promote the values of the historic environment in maintaining a sense of place and contributing to economic and cultural objectives.</b></li> </ul>

## A3.5 Neighbouring Plans

- 3.5.1 It is necessary for the SA to consider the potential for any interactions with neighbouring plans and programmes. In this regard, the evolving plans for the neighbouring authorities of Shropshire and Stafford are considered.

- 3.5.2 No specific contradictions between the Council's strategies and those of the neighbouring authorities have been identified by the Council.

### Shropshire Council

- 3.5.3 The status and implications of relevant plans in the neighbouring authority of Shropshire Council are summarised in Table A3.2.

**Table A3.2: Shropshire Council Plans**

Plan	Implications for Telford & Wrekin Local Development Framework
<b>Core Strategy 2006-2026</b> Adopted 24 February 2011.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flood risk is a key issue and a significant constraint to development in some areas e.g. Much Wenlock and Albrighton. Activities in Telford &amp; Wrekin should not increase such risks.</li> <li>There are six SACS and two RAMSAR designations the closest to Telford &amp; Wrekin being to the north and south of Shrewsbury.</li> <li>Source of sand &amp; gravel for Telford &amp; Wrekin.</li> <li>Telford &amp; Wrekin receive most of Shropshire's waste.</li> <li>Increasing traffic management issues in Shrewsbury.</li> <li>Proposing improved transport infrastructure including to the A5, A41, A49 and A53 as well as a possible Shrewsbury parkway station.</li> <li>5,775-6,325 dwellings and 55-66ha of employment land in North East Shropshire.</li> <li>3,025-3,575-dwellings and 30-40ha of employment land and up to 1,000 dwellings for military personnel in East Shropshire.</li> <li>8,250-8,800 dwellings and 95-105 ha employment land in central Shropshire with a sustainable urban extension to the south and west of Shrewsbury.</li> <li><b>Potential effects upon commuter patterns and location of businesses</b></li> </ul>
<b>Type and Affordability of Housing SPD</b> Adopted 16 March 2011.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>No direct implications for Telford &amp; Wrekin.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Site Allocations and Management of Development: Issues and Options</b> Consultation: April 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seven of the Shropshire Local Joint Committee Areas about the Borough.</li> <li>North East Shropshire - 2,900 – 3,200 new homes 50-60 ha employment land 2006-2026.</li> <li>Central Shropshire – 8,500 new homes and 95-105 ha employment land 2006-2026 mainly in Shrewsbury.</li> <li>East Shropshire – 1,600-2,100 new homes and 30-40 ha employment land.</li> <li>Gypsy &amp; Traveller Accommodation provision - across the county 93 new permanent caravan pitches and 20 transit pitches are needed.</li> <li><b>Potential effects upon commuter patterns and location of businesses.</b></li> <li><b>Potential effects on location of pitches for gypsies and travellers.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD</b> Adopted 29 September 2010.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>No direct implications for Telford &amp; Wrekin.</b></li> </ul>

### Stafford Borough

- 3.5.4 Published Local Development Documents for Stafford Borough are limited to the Local Choices Plan for Stafford.

**Table A3-3: Stafford Borough Plans**

Plan	Implications for Telford & Wrekin Local Development Framework
<b>Plan for Stafford Borough – Local Choices</b> Consultation draft published November 2010. Consultation ended 28 January 2011.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gnosall to east of Newport a possible location for new housing potentially causing increased movement towards Newport along the A518 and may lead to resolution of the sewerage overflow problems being experienced.</li> <li><b>Possible movement and water quality implications for Telford &amp; Wrekin.</b></li> </ul>

## A3.6 Business as Usual Scenario

3.6.1 This section provides a view on the future sustainability of Telford & Wrekin based on the changes across the plan area without a plan being in place. This is a requirement of the Environmental Assessment Regulations SI 2004 No 1633.

3.6.2 Typically, the “without plan” is based on the following:

- Current government policies;
- Assume other adopted plans and programmes will deliver as planned;
- Assume continued implementation of strategies and measures from earlier adopted versions of the plan unless they are time limited; and
- No new strategies or measures even where they appear to be essential in the context of current government policies or of other plans or programmes.

3.6.3 This scenario proved to be difficult to define given the economic circumstances and the changing approach towards government and delivery of planning services. Although the “without plan” situation would be guided by the Council’s legal duties, consultants considered that the following would be likely to occur:

- **Investment planning:** Attention would tend to focus upon maintenance, with less attention being given to delivering solutions delivering multiple benefits across a range of community objectives. Budget driven by “silo” management would dominate.
- **Forward planning and innovation:** There would be a reactive approach towards problems with reduced capacity for innovation reflecting a lack of overall co-ordination and direction.
- **New housing and employment development:** The level of planning input would increasingly rely upon the contributions made by private sector developers with an overall decline being anticipated to reflect the housing market such that sustainable travel, accessibility planning and potential funding sources could be compromised.
- **Adaptation to climate change:** While the effects of climate change are expected to become more prominent during this Plan planning period, without the plan, there would be a reduced focus upon the Borough’s contribution to the legally binding reduction in carbon dioxide emissions.
- **Social exclusion:** The price of fuel and resources are expected to continue to rise as a proportion of disposable income. Along with reductions in subsidised public transport services and an increasingly elderly population social exclusion could well increase. A decline in efforts to address social exclusion with a potential lack of support for the voluntary sector and a degraded pool of knowledge may well impede the ability to address accessibility issues in a coordinated manner.
- **Monitoring:** A lack of targeted monitoring may mean factors no longer relevant being considered with emerging problems failing to be identified through monitoring activities with a consequential failure to resolve problems before costly remedial expenditure may be required.

## A3.7 Other Plans and Strategies

### The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership

- 3.7.1 The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership was established by the Government in 2010. Its first corporate business plan was issued in June 2011.
- 3.7.2 The LEP area spans Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. While there are centres of population and economic activity at Telford (139,000), Shrewsbury (70,000), and Hereford (55,700) with 25 long-standing market towns also come within its scope.
- 3.7.3 Within the proposal to Government, the following were among the focus for interventions:
- Creation of employment opportunities by improving the infrastructure and conditions for business success;
  - Ensure that our strategic and local planning is responsive to local communities aspirations including thriving businesses, jobs and enterprise;
  - Ensure that planning is closely linked with regeneration and delivery of development and that we make full use of the community infrastructure levy;
  - Adopt a pro-active joint approach to the provision of housing, particularly innovative approaches to affordable housing, with locally initiated schemes to meet local needs;
  - Promote vital and attractive, distinctive towns that act as service hubs for their rural hinterlands, prime business locations and attract tourists and residents;
  - Draw together the known transport and other infrastructure priorities, including broadband, roads, rail and the utilities necessary to support economic growth;
  - Address urban transport issues and rural connectivity, focusing on sustainable and affordable solutions;
  - Promote a modern, low carbon economy for the 21st century;
  - Develop sustainable business and local enterprise practices;
  - Promote sustainable rural communities that are attractive, viable and affordable.
- 3.7.4 Consequently the proposed agenda for the LEP would seem to be supportive of the Council in developing initiatives that coincide with sustainable development objectives for the area.

### Sustainable Community Strategy

- 3.7.5 The Sustainable Community Strategy is currently being revised to reflect the policies and delivery plans of all local partners.
- 3.7.6 A report to Cabinet (26th July) contained a number of points of interest for our revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' plan.
- 3.7.7 Amongst other things, the report confirms that the Council is fully committed to the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and its existing long-term vision of "a successful, prosperous and healthy community which offers a good quality of life for all the people of Telford & Wrekin".
- 3.7.8 Interestingly the report goes further to state that the new administration wants Telford & Wrekin to be a diverse, caring and enterprising Borough.
- 3.7.9 It outlines seven key outcomes that it will aim to achieve:



- Telford & Wrekin will be a great place to do business - with higher levels of investment and business growth;
- Lower levels of poverty and social exclusion and greater well-being of households - through higher numbers of residents in employment;
- Vulnerable children, young people and adults safeguarded from harm and neglect;
- More children and young people on the path to success in adult life - through the provision of good quality education, training and jobs;
- A safe and cohesive place where people are empowered and have the confidence to play active roles in their communities;
- Improved health of people - which enables them to live active, positive and independent lives;
- Mixed and sustainable communities - with an increased supply of new housing, improved existing homes, and a high quality physical environment.

3.7.10 The report also points to the period of 'comprehensive community engagement' that has begun that will 'listen, understand, and respond to views on medium and long-term priorities for the Borough'. So these seven outcomes could be subject to change.

3.7.11 The Council becoming a Co-operative Council<sup>23</sup> with a specific key issue identified being 'Jobs and skills - ensuring people have the right skills for businesses in the Borough'.

### **The Core Strategy**

3.7.12 The existing Core Strategy was adopted in 2007 and provided the policy framework for:

- **Telford**, the Borough's main settlement and principle economic and social centre;
- **Newport** a 12<sup>th</sup> Century planned town with in the region of 11,900 residents in 4,500 dwellings (10 miles north-east of Telford and abuts the Borough's boundary with Staffordshire, the County town Stafford is 13 miles to the east),
- **The rural area** comprising of 47 small settlements ranging in size from 30 to 600 dwellings, with eight settlements having populations greater than 500 residents. Several rural settlements, including Edmond, High Ercall and Wrockwardine, are of significant architectural and historical interest.

3.7.13 The proposed timetable for the revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document is set out in Box A3.4.

#### **Box A3.4 Revised Core Strategy Timetable**

- Dec 12-Mar 2013: Preliminary engagement – Evidence & Issues;
- June-July 2013: Spatial Issues & Options engagement;
- Feb-March 2014: Draft Plan Engagement;
- July 2014: Final Plan Submitted;
- Oct 14- Nov 14: Public Hearings;
- July 14-Jan 2015: Examination and subsequent adoption (c.7 months).

### **Central Telford Area Action Plan**

3.7.14 This plan set out policies and proposals for Telford Town Centre, Old Park, Central Park, Hollinswood and Malinslee and followed the programme set out in Box 3.5:

<sup>23</sup> [https://www.telford.gov.uk/press/article/931/co-operative\\_commission\\_chooses\\_key\\_issues](https://www.telford.gov.uk/press/article/931/co-operative_commission_chooses_key_issues)

**Box 3.5: Central Telford Area Action Plan**

- Consultation on Proposed Submission Documents: June – July 2009;
- Submission for examination: Aug 2009;
- Hearing Sessions Nov/Dec 2009;
- Adoption April 2010 (adopted March 2011).

3.7.15 The Sustainability Report accompanying the Central Telford Area Action Plan identified the following key sustainability issues facing the Borough:

- **Social**
  - Pressure for housing development and lack of 'affordable' housing;
  - The need to maintain and enhance town and village centres;
  - New services and facilities will need to be provided in areas of existing and new population growth;
  - The need to reduce the level of deprivation within Telford & Wrekin;
  - Ensuring accessibility for all;
  - Promoting the development of inclusive communities.
- **Economic**
  - The need to maintain high and stable economic growth;
  - Ensuring a diverse, yet balanced range of employment opportunities;
  - Improving the education and skills of Telford & Wrekin's population;
  - Ensuring necessary regeneration is carried out to a high standard.
- **Environmental**
  - The need to reduce private car usage and improve opportunities for other modes of transport;
  - Increasing demand for resources, including energy and water;
  - Development in Telford & Wrekin can contribute to, and be affected by, climate change;
  - The need to continue to minimise waste by moving up the waste hierarchy and the problem of fewer disposal options;
  - Protection and enhancement of the natural environment.

**Land Allocations**

3.7.16 This plan was proposed to identify sufficient land to make provision for the additional development – housing, employment and other uses – throughout the Council area (excluding Central Telford) as per the 2007 Core Strategy. The plan was to be delivered through the following stages:

- Consultation on Proposed Submission Documents: June – July 2010;
- Submission for examination: Aug 2010;
- Hearing Sessions: Nov/Dec 2010;
- Adoption: April 2011.



- 3.7.17 Work on the allocations document has ceased; being replaced by work on a new Core Strategy (currently be referred to as 'Shaping Places').

#### **Infrastructure Plan**

- 3.7.18 The Council is preparing an Infrastructure Delivery Plan to accompany the new Shaping Places Plan.

#### **Local Transport Plan**

- 3.7.19 The Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 was adopted in April 2011 and was accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal from which evidence and other relevant information has been drawn.

- 3.7.20 The Local Transport Plan sets out six goals:

- Making travel more reliable and efficient, to attract jobs and support growth and regeneration;
- Maintain highways effectively and efficiently;
- Reduce carbon emissions to help tackle climate change;
- Allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure;
- Improve safety and security on the transport network and promote active travel choices which encourage people to be healthier;
- Improve the quality of life by reducing the visual, noise, air quality and other impacts of transport on people and the local environment.

- 3.7.21 The objectives set out for the Local Transport Plan along with the associated sustainability objectives have been incorporated into the sustainability framework set out in Chapter 10.

#### **Supplementary Planning Documents**

- 3.7.22 Two Supplementary Planning Documents have been in preparation - Managing Surface Water Drainage (preliminary scoping consultation, summer 2009) and Shop-front and Signage Design in Conservation Areas (consultation on full draft document, summer 2009) – but again progress has ceased due to re-evaluation of Council priorities.

- 3.7.23 Interest has been expressed in producing Supplementary Planning Documents on green infrastructure, design, affordable housing, and developer contributions, and some initial evidence gathering has been undertaken.

#### **Neighbourhood Planning**

- 3.7.24 The Council has been successful in bidding for national funding for Neighbourhood Planning (see section A3.4) for three neighbourhood plans in the Borough: the two rural parishes of Waters and Ercall Magna together with the urban parish of Madeley. A further eight Parish Council's have expressed shown an interest in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan.

### **A3.9 Uncertainties and Data Limitations**

- 3.8.1 Key uncertainties in the context for the Telford & Wrekin Local Development Framework are:

- Available resources and strategy to be taken by the new administration;
- Government progress on the modernisation of planning, the Localism Bill and Neighbourhood Planning;
- Implications of neighbouring authority plans, particularly with regard to water quality and flood risk issues;

- National policy changes and targets for climate change, waste recycling and the natural environment;
- Content and scope of the National Planning Policy Framework.

## A3.9 Emerging Sustainability Objectives

- 3.9.1 Based upon the evidence presented above and drawing upon national Planning Policy Statements, the sustainability agenda has been summarised in Tables A3.5 to A3.9 below.

**Table A3.5: Emerging Agenda: Sustainable Economic Development**

Sustainable Economic Development: LDD Implications	
Employment Profile	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote a modern, low carbon economy for the 21st century.</li> <li>• Regeneration of the Borough town centres.</li> </ul>	
Employment Land Needs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a 5 year employment land supply.</li> <li>• Ensure the location of new development makes efficient use of existing infrastructure.</li> <li>• Support development on brownfield sites.</li> <li>• New economic growth and development of main town centre uses to be focused in existing centres.</li> </ul>	
Housing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the location of new development makes efficient use of existing infrastructure</li> <li>• Support development on brownfield sites.</li> <li>• To achieve a wide choice of high quality homes both affordable and market housing to address the needs of the community.</li> <li>• To widen opportunities for home ownership.</li> <li>• Ensure high quality housing for those who cannot afford market housing in particular those who are vulnerable or in need.</li> <li>• Improve affordability across the housing market, including by increasing housing supply.</li> <li>• Create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas.</li> <li>• Deliver high quality housing that is well-designed and built to high standards.</li> <li>• Deliver a mix of housing particularly in terms of tenure and price.</li> <li>• Deliver housing development in locations offering a good range of community facilities with good access to jobs, key services and infrastructure.</li> <li>• Deliver extra care housing.</li> <li>• Deliver patterns of urban growth and sustainable rural developments that help secure the fullest possible use of sustainable transport for moving freight, public transport, cycling and walking..</li> <li>• Manage land supply to make efficient and effective use of land.</li> <li>• Promote mixed use development.</li> <li>• Manage patterns of urban growth to make fullest use of public transport and focus development in existing centres and new public transport interchanges.</li> </ul>	
Community Deprivation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address high levels of deprivation across the Borough, particularly in South Telford new town estates.</li> <li>• Address the skill base of the local workforce and school leavers.</li> <li>• Tackle the high levels of young people not in education, employment or training.</li> <li>• Delivery of services for vulnerable adults and older people.</li> <li>• Address unemployment, particularly amongst young people.</li> <li>• Raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas.</li> </ul>	
Local Retail Facilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul>	

**Table A3.6: Emerging Agenda: Resource Management & Material Assets**

Resource Management & Material Assets: LDD Implications
<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote waste reduction measures.</li> <li>Promotion of recycling and reduction in waste disposal.</li> <li>Driving waste management up the waste hierarchy.</li> <li>Communities to take more responsibility for their own waste.</li> <li>Enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations.</li> <li>Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management.</li> <li>Provide at least 10 years capacity for waste management.</li> <li>Identify type(s) of waste management facility appropriate to an area.</li> </ul>
<b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote clean low carbon vehicle technology.</li> <li>Promote and plan for district heating systems.</li> <li>Facilitate local renewable energy sources.</li> <li>Development to achieve highest viable energy efficiency.</li> <li>Encourage community led initiatives on reducing energy consumption.</li> <li>New development should be planned to make good use of opportunities for decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy.</li> <li>A target percentage of the energy used in new development that is to come from decentralised and renewable low-carbon energy sources where it is viable is to be set.</li> <li>Set out how development is to contribute to a decentralised energy supply system.</li> </ul>
<b>Soils</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognise importance of efficiency of land use and need to conserve soil resources.</li> <li>Seek to reclaim derelict and contaminated land.</li> <li>Protect farmland and soils.</li> <li>Provision of land for local food production.</li> <li>Support development on brownfield sites.</li> <li>Conserve soil quality.</li> <li>Promote efficient use of land through higher density, mixed use development.</li> </ul>
<b>Mineral Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote efficient use of resources.</li> <li>Minimise use of primary aggregates by use of secondary and recycled materials.</li> </ul>
<b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The capacity of existing and potential infrastructure including for water supply and waste water treatment to service sites is to be considered when selecting development sites in ways consistent with reducing emissions and adapting to local climate change.</li> <li>Incorporate sustainable water management into spatial plans.</li> </ul>
<b>Transport</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote clean low carbon vehicle technology.</li> <li>Promote mixed-use development policies to reduce the need to travel.</li> <li>Encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport.</li> <li>Improve safety for all road users.</li> <li>Promote viable alternatives to road haulage.</li> <li>Consider implications of growth in Shrewsbury and neighbouring areas on travel to work patterns.</li> <li>Ensure access to regional, national and international markets through the efficient use of existing infrastructure.</li> <li>Improve interchange facilities and provide intelligent transport solutions.</li> <li>Maintenance of roads, pavements and street lights.</li> <li>Promotion of sustainable travel patterns in new urban developments.</li> <li>Improve accessibility to employment, education, health care and recreation.</li> <li>Support and underpin public/community transport provision, especially within rural areas.</li> <li>Provide equality of access to the transport system, information and &amp; communication technologies.</li> <li>Support public transport, especially in more rural areas.</li> <li>Support and improve accessibility to education and work by young people.</li> <li>Improve accessibility to employment areas, education, health, social, leisure facilities and local fresh food outlets.</li> <li>Address mobility options for those with special needs, including the elderly, disabled etc.</li> </ul>

Hospitals, Schools, Community Centres etc
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The capacity of existing and potential infrastructure including for schools and hospitals to service sites is to be considered when selecting development sites in ways consistent with reducing emissions and adapting to local climate change.</li> <li>• Focus developments that attract a large number of people in existing centres.</li> <li>• New services and facilities will need to be provided in areas of existing and new population growth.</li> </ul>

**Table A3.7: Emerging Agenda: Sustainable Communities**

Sustainable Communities: LDD Implications
Demography & Equalities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current and future demographic trends and profiles to influence housing plans.</li> <li>• Accommodation needs of specific groups, in particular, families with children, older and disabled people.</li> <li>• Impact of development on the social fabric is to be taken to account.</li> <li>• Policies should seek to reduce social inequalities.</li> </ul>
Public Health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance access to green and open spaces.</li> <li>• Take account of environmental and social determinants of health in decision making.</li> <li>• Reduce health inequalities.</li> <li>• Facilitate healthier choices by the community.</li> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Address deprivation</li> <li>• Deliver a Rights of Way network accessible to all especially in accessing key facilities and services.</li> <li>• Provide or improve access to local health and social services especially for the elderly.</li> <li>• Ensure policies maximise health benefits.</li> <li>• Contribute to improvement of physical activity by supporting non-motorised modes of travel and access to recreation.</li> <li>• Improve access to green and open space and to recreational opportunities.</li> <li>• Provision of land for local food production.</li> <li>• Address mobility options for those with special needs, including the elderly, disabled etc.</li> <li>• Address childhood obesity rates.</li> <li>• Respond to the ageing population.</li> <li>• Address premature deaths as a result of circulatory and heart disease.</li> </ul>
Crime & Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve security and minimise crime and fear of crime.</li> <li>• Address anti social behaviour by designing out crime.</li> <li>• Implement safety measures, improve personal security and reduce fear of crime.</li> </ul>
Gypsies, Travellers & Travelling Showpeople
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The needs of gypsies and travellers to be planned for.</li> </ul>

**Table A3.8: Emerging Agenda: Environmental Sustainability**

Environmental Sustainability: LDD Implications
Geological Sites
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance geodiversity.</li> </ul>
Biodiversity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek to avoid direct or indirect damage to sites and species that are either internationally or nationally protected.</li> <li>• Protect wildlife and employ ecosystems approach in decision making.</li> <li>• Support conservation and enhancement of biodiversity particularly habitats and species affected by climate change.</li> <li>• Undertake Habitats Regulation Screening of future Local Development Documents.</li> <li>• Contribute to achievement of local and national Biodiversity Action Plans.</li> <li>• Minimise fragmentation of wildlife corridors.</li> <li>• Identify any areas of sites for the restoration or creation of new priority habitats.</li> <li>• Restore culverted watercourses to their natural state where possible.</li> </ul>
Green Infrastructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance access to green and open spaces.</li> <li>• Provide or enable good access to, community and green and open amenity and recreational space.</li> <li>• Contributions from existing and new opportunities for open space and green infrastructure to urban cooling, sustainable drainage systems, conserving and enhancing biodiversity is to be taken into account.</li> <li>• Protection of open space unless clearly surplus to requirements.</li> <li>• Open space and sports and recreation facilities of high quality of particular value to a local community should be recognised and given protection.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid any erosion of recreational function and maintain or enhance the character of open spaces.</li> <li>• Ensure open spaces do not suffer from increased overlooking, traffic flow or other encroachment.</li> <li>• Protect and enhance those parts of the right of way network that might benefit open space.</li> <li>• Promote compatibility of uses made of open spaces etc with adjoining land uses.</li> <li>• Encourage better accessibility of existing open spaces etc, taking account of the mobility needs in the local population.</li> <li>• Promote better use of open spaces etc by better design to reduce crime.</li> </ul>
<b>Landscape</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance existing landscape.</li> <li>• Promote access and protection of the countryside.</li> <li>• Give consideration to the protection and enhancement of landscapes.</li> <li>• Protection of landscape should not preclude the supply of renewable energy other than in the most exceptional circumstances.</li> </ul>
<b>Townscape</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce intrusion by lighting and seek to reduce signage and street furniture where appropriate and not detrimental to safety.</li> <li>• Protect local distinctiveness.</li> <li>• Minimise dust, odours and litter.</li> <li>• Development that creates or enhances a distinctive character that relates well to surroundings and supports a sense of local pride and civic amenity.</li> <li>• Enable communities to adopt higher environmental standards.</li> <li>• Promote vibrant, high quality urban environment by enhancing the pedestrian environment in Telford Town and District Centres.</li> </ul>
<b>Historic Environment</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance heritage assets and their setting regardless of designation.</li> <li>• Protect archaeological remains and listed buildings, and their setting.</li> <li>• Improve access to buildings and landscapes of historic/cultural value.</li> <li>• Avoid damage to the character of Conservation Areas.</li> <li>• Take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation.</li> <li>• Understand value of historic environment and how that value can be sustained.</li> <li>• Avoid damage to internationally or nationally designated sites, monuments and their settings.</li> <li>• Historic, archaeological and architectural heritage of centres to be conserved and where appropriate, enhanced to provide a sense of place and focus for the community and for civic activity.</li> </ul>
<b>Air Quality &amp; Greenhouse Gases</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve air quality by reducing the need to travel.</li> <li>• Reduce energy consumption.</li> <li>• Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</li> <li>• Enable use of renewable energy.</li> <li>• Promote low carbon vehicles.</li> <li>• Promote accessible and affordable sustainable transport.</li> <li>• Reduce need to travel.</li> <li>• Explore other ways of delivering services.</li> <li>• Enable communities to adopt higher environmental standards.</li> <li>• Development in terms of its spatial distribution, location and design should be planned to limit carbon dioxide emissions.</li> </ul>
<b>Adaptation to Climate Change</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance resilience of urban infrastructure.</li> <li>• Minimise risk and impact of flooding.</li> <li>• Improve resilience of elderly people to higher temperatures.</li> <li>• Enable communities to adopt higher environmental standards.</li> <li>• Encourage competitiveness and technological innovation in mitigating and adapting to climate change.</li> <li>• New development to be planned to minimise future vulnerability to climate change.</li> </ul>
<b>Noise</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimise levels of traffic noise.</li> <li>• Avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life from environmental and neighbourhood noise.</li> <li>• Protection of quiet places and quiet times.</li> </ul>
<b>Water Quality &amp; Flooding</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve ground and surface water quality.</li> <li>• Improve the biodiversity and chemical quality of rivers.</li> <li>• Encourage use of sustainable urban drainage.</li> </ul>

- Minimise risk and impact of flooding from all sources.
- A precautionary approach is to be taken in relation to development exposed to flood risk and stability issues.
- Implications of Internal Drainage Board designation on a ability to alter, replace or remove structures without consent.
- Identify opportunities for improvement and restoration work to maximise contributions to meeting WFD objectives, such as in flood risk, land management and transport.
- Ensure all development in flood risk areas is appropriately flood resilient and resistant.

### **A3.10 Emerging Sustainability Targets**

3.10.1 The following targets arise from the exploration of international, national and local plans, programmes and policies that are to be delivered towards the end of the current planning horizon:

- Halve conventional fuelled cars by 2030;
- Deliver 15% of energy from renewable sources by 2020;
- Halt biodiversity loss by 2020;
- Recycle 50% of domestic waste by 2020;
- Reduce biodegradable municipal waste to 35% of 1995 levels by 2020;
- Reduce greenhouse gas emission by 50% of 1990 levels by 2023-2027;
- Telford is to accommodate an extra 26,500 houses by 2026 (an Regional Spatial Strategy figure that is due to be revoked following the Localism Act);
- Reverse rising obesity levels by 2020, particularly in childhood;
- Reduce the number of adults doing less than 30 minutes of physical activity, sport and active recreation per week;
- Contribute to exceeding the target for a 1% year on year increase in physical activity levels in the population.

## PART B: SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### B0: INTRODUCTION

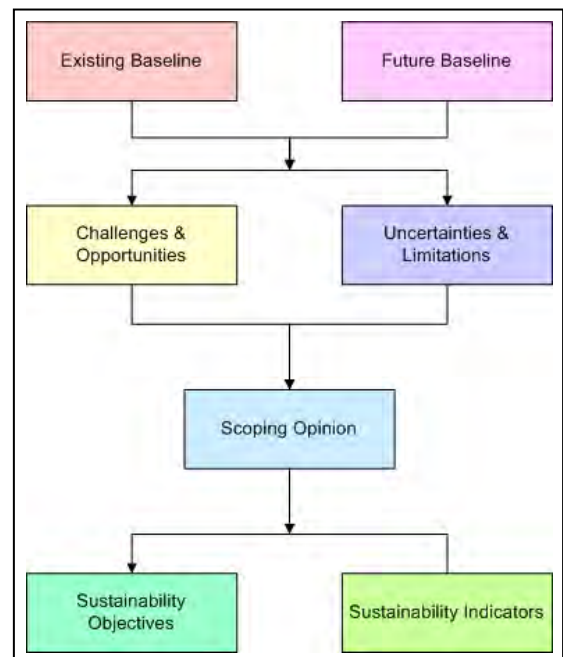
0.1.1 Telford & Wrekin is rich in contrasts: market towns including Newport and Wellington; old mining communities such as Dawley; the rural area; and the growing communities of Lawley and Lightmoor. Telford & Wrekin boasts the historical heritage of Ironbridge but also suffers some of the legacy of the new town era with on-going physical, social and economic regeneration needs. Surrounding Telford are attractive rural communities but which in many cases lack the mixed local economy and housing choices to retain younger members of their communities.

0.1.2 The economic development aspect of the sustainability agenda is examined by reference to the following themes:

- B1: Employment;
- B2: Employment land;
- B3: Housing;
- B4: Retail.

0.1.3 These themes have been brought together as the employment profile influences the employment land requirements. Both of which are then supported by the available skills and the workforce population. The number and type of housing has an influence upon the available workforce, new housing construction is also a generator of employment and may also place pressures upon the availability of employment land.

0.1.4 For each of the above themes, a description of the existing and future baseline is presented to derive a series of challenges and opportunities. These together with any data limitations then inform the scoping decision, the sustainability objectives and the initial proposals for the sustainability indicators. This process is illustrated in the adjacent figure. For ease of reference the text representing each of the steps in the sustainability process is set within a box coloured in a similar manner to the diagram above.



0.1.5 Before considering the individual themes, a brief review of relevant policies, programmes and plans within Telford & Wrekin as required by the regulations is presented. The purpose of this section is to expand upon the context established by the European and National policy framework as well as the local policy context set by neighbouring authorities as described in Chapter A3.

0.1.6 A summary of the scoping recommendations, sustainability objectives and indicators as well as questions posed to the consultees conclude this chapter.

### Authority-wide Policies, Programmes & Plans

0.1.7 The Telford & Wrekin Local Economic Assessment published in 2011 provides a perspective on the economic challenges and opportunities facing the area that provides the basis for part of this Scoping Report's consideration of the issues.



## Sustainable Community Strategy

- 0.1.8 A revised Strategy to reflect the aspirations of the new administration is currently being prepared.

## Telford Policies, Programmes & Plans

- 0.1.9 The Central Telford Area Action Plan (CTAAP) adopted in March 2011 is the only plan for Telford and has a focus upon central Telford and its immediate surrounding area. The plan divides Central Telford into five Character Areas each with a set of objectives (see Table 2-1)

**Table 2-1: Objectives for Central Telford Character Areas**

### **Telford Town Centre:**

- Create a vibrant mix of retail, employment, cultural and civic, leisure and residential uses
- Create adaptive buildings which can meet changing needs
- Create vertical mixed use to achieve active frontages at ground level whilst providing opportunities for employment and residential on upper floors
- Create active frontage to public realm
- Create and enhance the public realm including the enhancement of existing and the creation of key urban streets and places
- Establish improved connections with surrounding areas – especially with the Town Park and adjacent residential areas.

### **Old Park:**

- Establish a direct active and attractive link between the Rock, Old Park and the Town Core based upon Colliers Way
- Focus a communal / community use in the vicinity of the new link, serving residential development
- Establish public spaces at key nodes
- Preserve the woodland boundary to West Centre Way and Old Park Way
- Enhance the central tree covered mound for leisure uses and biodiversity /ecological value
- Promote the strategic and structural enhancement of open space, in accordance with the Open Space Strategy
- Bring forward the strategic use of new development to help consolidate the existing fragmented residential areas.

### **Central Park:**

- To provide opportunities for prestigious employment and high density residential mixed use
- To maximise the opportunities of the area's high visual profile by making direct connections with the Town Centre and railway station
- To preserve the substantially wooded northern backdrop to the Town Centre.
- To present a distinctive and attractive 'shop window' for the town.
- To present a quality edge to the major highway routes (M54, A442, and A5) and the Holyhead Road.
- To establish sustainable connections to the town core.
- To integrate existing residential areas to the north, whilst consolidating employment areas to the south.

### **Malinslee:**

- To focus on promoting the continuing regeneration of the residential environment and enhancing its relationships and connections to the Town Centre, Town Park and Old Park
- To regenerate the environment of Malinslee through improvements to the built environment
- To protect and enhance the natural environment of Malinslee
- To establish improved physical and visual linkages to the Town Centre, in particular through the Southwater area and Town Park

### **Hollinswood:**

- Improved pedestrian and visual links between Town Centre, Southwater and Hollinswood;
- Protect and enhance the green spaces in Hollinswood, especially Dalelands open space;
- Protect and enhance Hollinswood Local Centre;
- Seek provision for young people, e.g. youth centre or multi use games facilities.

0.1.10 The Spatial Development Strategy seeks changes to the way the town centre currently works. The key proposed changes include:

- Identifying the broad locations for around 2,500 homes, 110,000 sq. m office floor space and 65,000 sq. m - 70,000 sq. m comparison retail floor space;
- Linking and integrating the physical structure of the town centre with areas adjoining the shopping centre, redevelop the Southwater area with a mixture of uses, and create a focal point for the town here;
- Creating a sense of place with high quality designs, a mixture of building heights and styles and improved public realm;
- Encouraging mixed use development and introducing residential uses into the Town Centre;
- Reducing reliance on the private car, managing vehicle circulation within the Town Centre and improving access to and links between the different types of transport;
- Providing new opportunities for office employment in Central Park and Old Park and introducing further housing here;
- Regenerating Hollinswood and Malinslee and improving linkages between these areas and the Town Centre.

### Newport Policies, Programmes & Plans

0.1.11 Apart from the Authority-wide Core Strategy, no policies, plans or programmes have been identified for the settlement of Newport.

### Rural Areas Policies, Programmes & Plans

0.1.12 In 2009 a Rural Plan was prepared by the Council through the Rural Forum that sought to ensure well-being, sustainable communities and a sustainable countryside in rural Telford and Wrekin. The plan sets out a framework using the government's three priorities for rural communities:

- **Economic and social regeneration** - supporting enterprise across rural England, and targeting greater resources at areas of greatest need (a sustainable rural economy);
- **Social justice for all** – tackling rural social exclusion, wherever it occurs and providing fair access to services for all rural people (sustainable rural communities);
- **Enhancing the value of our countryside** – protecting the natural environment for this and future generations (a sustainable rural environment).

## B1: EMPLOYMENT

### B1.1 Baseline Conditions

- 1.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline employment conditions for Telford & Wrekin before considering the situation in Telford, Newport and the Rural Areas.

#### Authority-wide

- 1.1.2 Telford & Wrekin is home to approx. 162,000 people<sup>1</sup> and 4,500 businesses, in 5,650 business units providing 81,000 jobs. The focus of economic activity is the former New Town of Telford with a population of 139,000 or 86% of the total.
- 1.1.3 Some 79,200 of the population are economically active, slightly below both the regional and national averages. A total of 66,800 (63.5%) are employees, 19,700 (24.9%) are in part-time employment and 6,300 (6%) are self employed<sup>2</sup>.
- 1.1.4 Telford has one of the fastest growing populations of any district in the region; since 1991 it has grown by 17% with around 21,000 extra people. Telford & Wrekin has a higher proportion of younger people than the regional average and, at present, smaller percentages in the higher age groups<sup>3</sup>. The working age population of Telford & Wrekin is just over 100,000 or 62% of the total, although this has shown a slight downward trend over the last 5 years, in common with most other parts of the West Midlands<sup>4</sup>. Approximately 36% of the working age population is aged under 35 in 2008 in comparison with 41%-42% for Sandwell, Coventry and Birmingham<sup>5</sup>. Just below 21% (33,400) are below the age of 16, slightly higher than the regional or national averages.
- 1.1.5 There is a higher level of employment in elementary occupations, higher levels in plant, process and machine operative occupations but lower levels working in professional and associate professional occupations (See Table B1.1). Over the last 5 years, the percentage of managers and senior officials has increased slightly, but there is also a slight downward trend in the percentage of residents in higher levels jobs overall. The emphasis on elementary occupations is consistent with a significant stock of manufacturing businesses.
- 1.1.6 Telford & Wrekin's 4,500 businesses are spread across a range of industrial and commercial sectors with the business base seeming to be growing faster than elsewhere<sup>6</sup>. Manufacturing is part of the area's heritage and remains strong today; polymer and advanced engineering companies now stand alongside traditional manufacturers.
- 1.1.7 The service sector is the largest employer in Telford & Wrekin, accounting for 78.1% of all jobs public services accounting for 26.2%<sup>7</sup>. Manufacturing is also important accounting for 18.6%<sup>8</sup> of employment with vehicles, and the manufacture of metals and non-metallic goods being strong relative to the region (see Table B1.2).

<sup>1</sup> Office of National Statistics, 2009 Mid Year Estimates.

<sup>2</sup> Inspira consulting, 2011: Local Economic Assessment, Supporting Information, Final Draft.

<sup>3</sup> Inspira consulting, 2011: Local Economic Assessment, Supporting Information, Final Draft.

<sup>4</sup> WMRO, 2010: City Region Employment and Skills Assessment Report Charts

<sup>5</sup> WMRO, 2010: City Region Employment and Skills Assessment Report Charts

<sup>6</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2011: Local Economic Assessment

<sup>7</sup> Office of National Statistics, 2011: NOMIS Official Labour Market Statistics, Employee Jobs (2008)

<sup>8</sup> Office of National Statistics, 2011: NOMIS Official Labour Market Statistics, Employee Jobs (2008)

- 1.1.8 In 2010, Telford & Wrekin had the smallest number of VAT/PAYE employers in the West Midlands<sup>9</sup>. While the area did have a greater number with over 5 employees, and those with over 100 employees than for the English and West Midlands averages, most of the employers were small and medium sized businesses with most being in the 0-4 employment size band. Although small and medium sized businesses had the greatest number of closures in 2009 within the West Midlands, Telford & Wrekin had the greatest proportion business start-ups across the region in the 5-9 employee size<sup>10</sup>.

**Table B1.1: Employment Profile<sup>11</sup>**

Annual Population Survey				
ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from NOMIS on 28 September 2010]		Apr 09 - Mar 10		
	England	West Midlands	Telford and Wrekin	
% all in employment who are:	percent	percent	number	percent
- 1: managers and senior officials	16.1	14.6	11,000	14.6
- 2: professional occupations	13.8	12.4	8,300	11.1
- 3: associate prof & tech occupations	14.8	13.1	8,800	11.8
- 4: administrative and secretarial occupations	11.2	11.5	8,600	11.4
- 5: skilled trades occupations	10.2	11.1	8,100	10.8
- 6: personal service occupations	8.6	9.6	6,200	8.3
- 7: sales and customer service occupations	7.3	7.1	5,600	7.4
- 8: process, plant and machine operatives	6.6	8.2	8,000	10.6
- 9: elementary occupations	11.0	12.0	10,300	13.8

**Table B1.2: Employment by Sector<sup>12</sup>**

Employment Sector	T&W %	West Midlands %	GB %
Manufacturing	18.6	13.8	10.2
Construction	2.6	4.9	4.8
Distribution, Hotels Restaurants	23	23.6	23.4
Transport & Communications	3.7	5.8	5.8
Finance, IT, Business Activities	21.7	18.6	22.0
Public Admin, Education, Health	26.2	27.0	27.0
Other Services	3.5	4.6	5.3
Tourism Related *	5.0	7.4	8.2

- 1.1.9 There are more large businesses than elsewhere in the region. However, while there are nearly 150 inward investors, they are also potentially more mobile. The business sector provides a strong and varied base with above average numbers of companies in growth sectors, a seed bed for the growth of new clusters and potential for a 'green' economy.
- 1.1.10 Over the period 1996 to 2008, Telford & Wrekin has seen an increase in its Gross Value Added (GVA) of 3.7%, however this is below that for both the West Midlands (4.0%) and England (5.7%). Hence there has been a steady decline relative to the region. The dominant public administration sector also reduced from 41% to 22% of GVA between 1996 and 2008<sup>32</sup>.

<sup>9</sup> Office for National Statistics, 2011: Painting Pictures of Place Series: Local Profiles – Enterprise

<sup>10</sup> Office for National Statistics, Painting Pictures of Place Series – Local Profiles - Enterprise

<sup>11</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2011: Local Economic Assessment

<sup>12</sup> Inspira consulting, 2011: Local Economic Assessment, Supporting Information, Final Draft

- 1.1.11 The majority of jobs available in Telford & Wrekin are located in Telford, most of which are in the large industrial estate/areas of Hadley, Halesfield, Hortonwood and Stafford Park as well as the MoD at Donnington. Telford Town Centre is the main centre for commercial and professional jobs. Reflecting Telford's New Town origins there is a high level of segregation of uses in the town. Non car access to these mainly peripheral areas is very limited.

## **Telford**

- 1.1.12 The primary town and focus of economic activity is Telford with a population of over 140,000<sup>13</sup>. Its modern nature is contrasted by a series of 6 traditional market towns across the urban area.
- 1.1.13 The Evening and Night-Time Economy report for the Central Telford Area Action Plan sets out the following issues to be addressed<sup>14</sup>:
- Absence of a town centre with a mix of uses requires a long term view;
  - Dispersed nature of individual "experiences" and road layout impedes pedestrian access;
- 1.1.14 A high level of in-commuting occurs into Telford for work which is partly facilitated by the generous provision for motor vehicle traffic that currently exists in the area. This is also reflected by the location of many existing employment areas close to major road intersections on the A5, A442 and M54.

## **Newport**

- 1.1.15 The labour market statistics for Newport are split by the Office of National Statistics into four ward labour market profiles (Newport East, North, South and West). In the Northern area construction and professional, scientific & technical businesses with each 16.7% of the total number of businesses dominate, while in the southern part of Newport (area 003) retail dominates employment at 17.9% followed by professional scientific and technical at 11.9%. The Telford & Wrekin figure for professional employment reveals that scientific & technical businesses represent 3.1% of all businesses<sup>15</sup>.
- 1.1.16 The central area of Newport has a concentration of service sector jobs. Industrial workplaces are principally concentrated on the eastern edges of the town at Audley Avenue and Springfields Industrial Estate, off Station Road.
- 1.1.17 Some 62.2% of the total local business units employ less than 4 people. In Newport the figures are 83.3% and 65.7% (southern and northern areas respectively). Not surprisingly the reverse is true in terms of businesses employing 20 or more persons with the Telford & Wrekin figure being 12% and the northern Newport 4.2% and southern Newport 7.5%<sup>16</sup>.
- 1.1.18 Newport has the highest proportion of people educated to degree level or above in 2005 (the latest year that data is available)<sup>17</sup> (18.6% are graduates, compared to a Telford & Wrekin average of 14.2%). The proportion of graduates rises to almost one quarter of people (aged 16-74) in the Newport North Ward. One quarter of the 16-74 age group do not have any qualifications (for Telford & Wrekin the figure is 31.8%)<sup>18</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Central Area Action Plan February 2010.

<sup>14</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: The Evening and Night-Time Economy Topic Paper

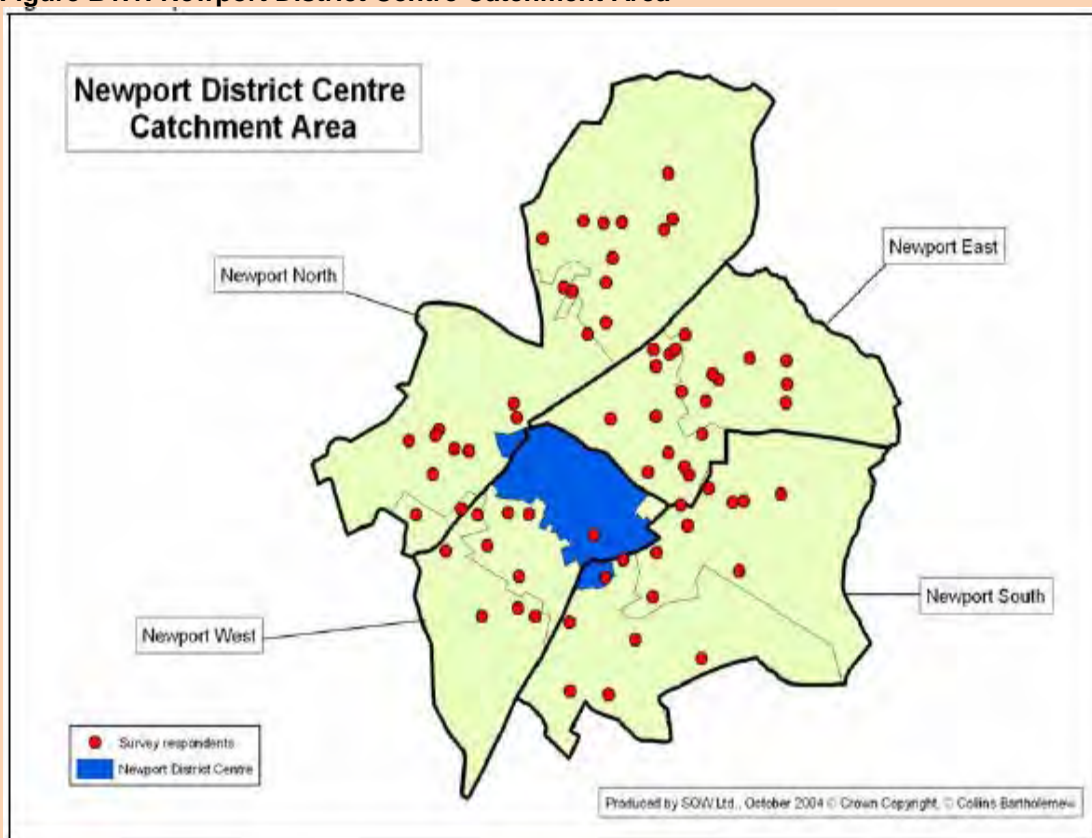
<sup>15</sup> Office of National Statistics 2011: Telford and Wrekin 001 (Middle Layer Super Output Area) Business: Local Units by Broad Industry Group: Urban/Rural (Mar 2010)

<sup>16</sup> Office of National Statistics 2011: Telford and Wrekin 001 (Middle Layer Super Output Area) Business: Local Units by Broad Industry Group: Urban/Rural (Mar 2010)

<sup>17</sup> SQW 2005: Telford District Centres Health Check - Newport

<sup>18</sup> SQW 2005: Telford District Centres Health Check - Newport

Figure B1.1: Newport District Centre Catchment Area<sup>19</sup>



- 1.1.19 Economic activity and employment rates in Newport are both well above the Telford & Wrekin average, equalling 69.6% and 64% respectively of the population (aged 16-74)<sup>20</sup>. Economically active residents are twice as likely to be self-employed in Newport compared to any other District Centre.
- 1.1.20 Unemployment levels for Newport catchment area are low being:
- Newport East: 2.1%;
  - Newport North: 1.5%;
  - Newport South: 2.1%;
  - Newport West: 2.2%;
  - Authority-wide: 4.2%<sup>21</sup>.
- 1.1.21 Approximately 30% of the 16-74 age group are economically inactive, almost half of which are retired. Just under 17% of households in the Newport catchment area do not own a car, compared to the Telford & Wrekin average of 22.4%<sup>22</sup>.
- 1.1.22 With over 215,000 sq ft of total space in the centre, including 50,000 sq ft business space and approximately 120,000 sq ft retail space, Newport is the second largest district centre in the District Centres study<sup>23</sup>.

<sup>19</sup> SQW, 2005: Telford District Centres Health Check - Newport

<sup>20</sup> Nomis: 2011: Official Labour Market Statistics Newport East, Newport South, Newport West, Newport North

<sup>21</sup> Nomis: 2011: Official Labour Market Statistics Newport East, Newport South, Newport West, Newport North

<sup>22</sup> Nomis: 2011: Official Labour Market Statistics Newport East, Newport South, Newport West, Newport North

<sup>23</sup> SQW, 2005: Telford District Centres Health Check - Newport



1.1.23 The presence of Harper Adams University College (higher education) based nearby in Edgmond means that there is a substantial and active student population, which contributes to a lively evening economy. Newport is seen as a “stand alone” community and consequently will not be as influenced by the development proposals for Telford Town Centre as other centres. Also the 2005 District Centre Health Check report<sup>24</sup> identified the following that influence commercial activity:

- An increasing tourism focus and potential to develop this further;
- An increase in small business uses and accommodation;
- A continuing strength in convenience retailing as a result of the draw of the supermarket;
- Increase in retail spend – as a result of the above trends.

## Rural Areas

1.1.24 Two thirds of Telford & Wrekin is rural with 16% of the total population living in the rural areas and the market town of Newport. The rural areas have a sparse population of approximately 24,000 and a population density of 0.7 people per hectare. Beyond Newport there are 13 parishes that make up the rural area.

1.1.25 In 1991, 10.6% of the rural population worked in agriculture, forestry and fishing, by 2001 this had fallen to 6.4% (1.4% authority-wide). Some 17% of residents in the rural area are self-employed with 13.7% work mainly from home. Unemployment levels are 2.3% below the average for Telford & Wrekin<sup>25</sup>. In terms of the age distribution of those receiving Job Seekers Allowance as of May 2011, Figure B1.2 indicates that the rural areas experience a higher percentage in those aged 50 and over receiving this benefit. This may reflect a more elderly profile amongst rural communities.

1.1.26 The rural population profile is older than the Telford & Wrekin average, which often means that there is a significant amount of volunteering and involvement within these communities<sup>26</sup>. However the future implications for this are likely to be an increased demand for services - especially health services, care facilities and public/community transport.

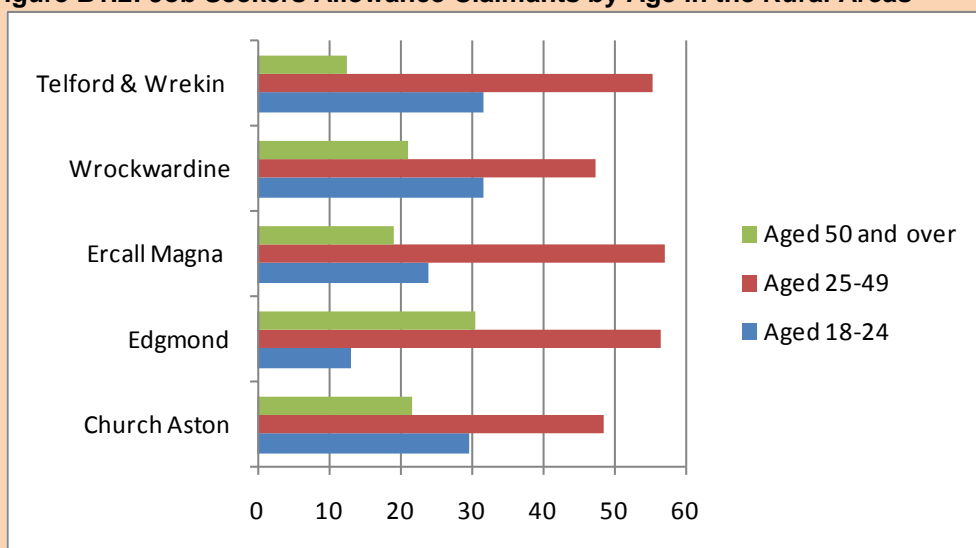
<sup>24</sup> SQW, 2005: Telford District Centres Health Check - Newport

<sup>25</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: 3<sup>rd</sup> Local LTP Strategic Environmental Assessment Health Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Environmental Report.

<sup>26</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Rural Plan.



Figure B1.2: Job Seekers Allowance Claimants by Age in the Rural Areas<sup>27</sup>



1.1.27 In seeking to establish a sustainable rural economy, the Rural Plan<sup>28</sup> identified the following issues:

- **Agriculture** – This is still an important part of the rural community and needs to be supported to enable it to adapt to change;
- **Business and employment** - There are high percentages of small rural businesses in need of business support, access to staff, incubator units to expand to. There are also a large percentage of the rural population who commute to urban areas.
- **Education and skills** – Neighbourhood and Employment Skills Plans for the Rural Areas are being used to identify the particular needs of the rural community.

## B1.2 Future Baseline

1.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. It is therefore necessary to consider the future situation without the plan that is being assessed. This section provides a view on the future baseline.

### Authority-wide

1.2.2 Although the population of Telford & Wrekin is likely to rise, the proportion of working age people may well decline. This is most likely to affect public services since they have a concentration of people over the age of 45.

1.2.3 Tourism and leisure is a sector that is potentially vulnerable to demographic effects as it employs a high proportion of young people. The sector is also dependent on a high level of migrant workers and so is vulnerable if migration flows significantly change.

1.2.4 Current strengths in the manufacture of materials and fabricated metal products may be challenged by increased energy costs and pressures for lean manufacturing and loss of market if products are not re-designed to reduce their carbon footprint.

<sup>27</sup> NOMIS, 2011: Ward Labour Market Profiles: 00gfnq, 00gfpw, 00gfnz, 00gfnx

<sup>28</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Rural Plan.

## Telford

- 1.2.5 Modelling undertaken in 2006 suggests that if forecast housing growth is achieved by 2026, this could expand the population by over 40,000 people and would create demand for an additional 12,000 jobs<sup>29</sup>. This figure was calculated on pre-recession figures, so may now need adjustment.

## Newport

- 1.2.6 In the absence of any reports providing projections, it is assumed that the employment situation will remain broadly unchanged.

## Rural Areas

- 1.2.7 The future of the agricultural sector is linked to the Common Agricultural Policy, opportunities associated with bio-crops, the price of energy and fertilisers as well as the impact of climate change. In the absence of research into the rural economy, it is considered that the agricultural sector will continue in its decline as a source of employment.
- 1.2.8 With increasing travel costs and the gradual introduction of high speed broadband, rural employment self-employment often based at home is likely to continue.

## B1.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 1.3.1 The challenges and opportunities that face Telford & Wrekin are summarised below with those facing Telford have been identified from the Consultation Draft version of the Sustainable Communities Strategy 2011<sup>30</sup> and the Evening and Night-Time Economy Topic Paper<sup>31</sup>.

**Table B1.3: Employment Challenges & Opportunities**

Authority-wide
Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in public sector employment.</li> <li>• Drive job creation to support projections on the working age population.</li> <li>• Prevent Telford becoming a dormitory for the West Midlands conurbation.</li> <li>• Reduce vulnerability of employment sectors to the effects of a low carbon economy.</li> <li>• Monitor changes in demographic patterns and help businesses adjust.</li> <li>• Make training more accessible to older people.</li> <li>• Address skill needs to aid retention of potentially mobile businesses.</li> <li>• Create the best operating environment for existing businesses including rural businesses.</li> <li>• Consider implications of online retailing on town centres.</li> </ul>
Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance the gateway to Telford from the railway station.</li> <li>• Improve pedestrian mobility and access to car parks, bus and train stations to town centre along with other design and management objectives<sup>32</sup>.</li> </ul>

<sup>29</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Local Economic Assessment Supporting Information

<sup>30</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2011: Sustainable Community Strategy, Our Future, Consultation Draft.

<sup>31</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: The Evening and Night-Time Economy Topic Paper

<sup>32</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: The Evening and Night-Time Economy Topic Paper

<b>Telford</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regeneration of the South Telford Local Centre and North Woodside and Sutton Hill Local Centre.</li> <li>• Securing investment into the South Telford estates through partnership with Homes and Communities Agency (HCA).</li> <li>• Establish Southwater Square as the centre piece around which other facilities and venues are developed.</li> <li>• Grow Telford as a sub-regional centre including in the development of High Technology Corridor industries with Central Telford to become the primary focus for B1 developments.</li> <li>• Integrate employment development into other uses to encourage increased economic diversity.</li> <li>• Locate homes and jobs in closer proximity to reduce the need to travel.</li> <li>• Improve access to more sustainable transport modes from both new and existing employment sites in Central Telford.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance the gateway to Telford from the railway station.</li> <li>• Improve pedestrian mobility and access to car parks, bus and train stations to town centre along with other design and management objectives<sup>33</sup>.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop specialist industrial estate provision focused on Newport reflecting the relatively high percentage of businesses engaged in professional, scientific &amp; technical activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distinctive character of Telford &amp; Wrekin is a critical ingredient in its attraction to business. Thus future development ought to take place with sensitivity and seek to maintain a balance between developed and green spaces.</li> <li>• To prioritise enabling ICT and broadband infrastructure to support rural business<sup>34</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul>

## B1.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 1.4.1 A series of uncertainties and limitations were identified that have a potential influence upon the existing or future baseline situation and therefore the sustainability challenges and opportunities associated with the employment theme (see Table B1.4 below).

<sup>33</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: The Evening and Night-Time Economy Topic Paper

<sup>34</sup> T&W 2011: Sustainable Community Strategy: Our Future, Consultation Draft.  
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**Table B1.4: Employment Uncertainties & Limitations**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In terms of the needs for the Scoping Report, there are no significant uncertainties evident at this stage.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Because of Telford's strategic role in providing housing growth and the effects of the recession on the house-building sector there is uncertainty about the likelihood of achieving the required employment numbers.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data available at a Super Output Area middle layer is restricted to 2001 census data and is out of date. The 2011 census data may inform future sustainability appraisals.</li> <li>A sector analysis of the employment pattern and size of businesses within Newport has not been available for this Scoping Report.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are many uncertainties regarding the state of the rural economy that constrain an understanding of the issues that are capable of being addressed by spatial planning.</li> </ul>

## B1.5 Scoping

- 1.5.1 This section presents a view on whether employment ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either an authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### Authority-wide

- 1.5.2 Employment is **scoped into** the appraisal of future plans since the availability of employment is central to a sustainable and healthy community.

### Telford

- 1.5.3 Delivery of employment opportunities is key to sustainable development and hence is **scoped into** future sustainability appraisals.

### Newport

- 1.5.4 The provision of employment to meet the evolving needs of the residents of Newport is **scoped into** future sustainability appraisals.

### Rural Areas

- 1.5.5 Given the threats to the rural economy and the reliance upon home-workers indicates that resilience of the rural economy ought to be **scoped into** within the appraisal.

## B1.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

- 1.6.1 Having determined whether a theme is scoped in or out of future appraisals it is then necessary to establish the sustainability objectives by which the performance of the plan will be assessed. It is also appropriate to propose the indicators that may be used to monitor any significant effects that might arise.

**Table B1.5: Employment Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To contribute to regeneration and economic development initiatives with a focus on a low carbon economy.</li> <li>To reduce difficulties accessing employment, education and training opportunities.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Births and deaths of enterprise by employment size band.</li> <li>Percentage of enterprises surviving for over 3 years.</li> <li>Employment by broad industry group.</li> <li>Workforce engaged in new technology, low carbon and care services.</li> <li>Extent of out commuting.</li> <li>Percentage of managers and skilled workers in the workforce.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To diversify employment opportunities.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diversification of employment opportunities in Central Telford.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote the growth of high technology and professional services focused businesses.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of professional, scientific &amp; technical businesses.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance the economic resilience of the rural economy.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of rural businesses operating with a business life in excess of 2 years.</li> </ul>

## **B2: EMPLOYMENT LAND**

### **B2.1 Baseline Conditions**

- 2.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline employment conditions for Telford & Wrekin before then considering the situation in Telford, Newport and the rural areas.

#### **Authority-wide**

- 2.1.2 Of the commercial and industrial floor space in Telford & Wrekin in 2008, 32.2% was retail, 28.7% factories, 20.5% offices and 14.2% warehouses. The proportion of floor space assigned to factories and other bulk uses was higher than the West Midlands average. Apart from retail premises the rateable value of some offices and factories were all less than the West Midlands average in 2008<sup>35</sup>.

#### **Telford**

- 2.1.3 Telford Town Centre is perceived as a shopping centre rather than a town centre. It provides a successful modern shopping experience but has little diversity of uses. There is currently no housing or night-time economy and the leisure offer is limited and of variable quality. It lacks the physical form, urban density, connections, range of uses and vibrancy of a town centre.
- 2.1.4 The existing Primary Shopping Area does not make efficient use of the land, with the Shopping Centre itself being largely single storey and extensive areas used for surface car parking. The skyline is also unattractive and lacks variety. Essentially the area is not realising its potential to interact and connect with the rest of the Town Centre<sup>36</sup>.
- 2.1.5 The five character areas of Central Telford offer different patterns of land use (see Table B2.1).

**Table B2.1: Land Use Pattern of Central Telford**

<p><b>Telford Town Centre:</b> Includes: the primary retail area; principal office employment areas are located in and around Ironmasters Way and Telford Square; the northern part of Telford Town Park; and leisure and conference facilities in the Southwater area. It is also the hub of the Council's public transport infrastructure, including the main train and bus stations</p> <p><b>Old Park:</b> Contains the substantial out-of-centre Telford Bridge and Telford Forge Retail Parks, office employment uses, secondary educational facilities provided nearby at the Phoenix School, Dawley and the City Technology College at the Thomas Telford School, vacant development sites and an established area of private housing development at Park Lane.</p> <p><b>Central Park:</b> Comprises significant office and light industrial employment, mixed woodland, and various vacant sites</p> <p><b>Malinslee:</b> An area of housing built in the early years of the New Town with a local retail centre and enhanced primary educational facilities provided at Old Park Primary School, and limited opportunities for new development.</p> <p><b>Hollinswood:</b> An area of housing built in the early years of the New Town with associated facilities, including Hollinswood Infant &amp; Junior School, and limited opportunities for new development.</p>
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- 2.1.6 Beyond the town centre other land is held by the Homes and Communities Agency.

#### **Newport**

- 2.1.7 There is no information available on the existing employment land provision beyond that of an area allocated in the Wrekin Local Plan.

<sup>35</sup> ONS, 2011: Painting Pictures of Place Series: Local Profiles, Theme: Enterprise (April 2011)

<sup>36</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2010: Central Telford Action Area Plan

## Rural Areas

- 2.1.8 No evidence been found that would suggest constraints affecting the provision of small business units.

## B2.2 Future Baseline

- 2.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline for employment land.

### Authority-wide

- 2.2.2 No shortage of employment land in Telford & Wrekin was forecast in 2006<sup>37</sup>. Indeed, given the layout of Telford & Wrekin a range of substantial development sites exist predominantly in and around Telford. At that time the Employment Land Review forecasts of floor space demand for 2031 indicated under various scenarios that:

- Expansion of B8 warehouses well within current supply suggesting some land could be allocated for other uses.
- Potential deficit supply of B1a floor space under some scenarios.
- A decline of manufacturing activities under all scenarios widens the gap between supply and demand for B2 employment.
- The small surplus of B1c land in 2016 increases by 2031.
- A significant deficit in B1a employment land compared to current supply in 2031 with increased supply needed before 2020.
- Primarily requirement is for business and science parks<sup>38</sup>.

- 2.2.3 In 2009, 222.4 hectares of employment development land were identified in the Annual Monitoring Review<sup>39</sup>.

### Telford

- 2.2.4 The Central Telford Action Plan identifies a need for 2,500 homes, 110,000 sq. m office floor space and 65,000 sq. m comparison retail floor space by 2021. It also calls for office employment in Central Park and Old Park and introducing further housing as well as regenerating Hollinswood and Malinslee and improving linkages between these areas and the Town Centre.
- 2.2.5 The White Young Green Retail and Leisure study (2009) identified a need for an additional indicative 7,875 sq. m gross convenience (food) retail by 2016 and 10,740 sq. m gross convenience retail by 2021. Retail development in out-of-centre locations is to be resisted, to avoid affecting the vitality and viability of Telford Town Centre. The Retail Study identified that there was enough capacity in central and edge-of-centre locations to meet retail need over the plan period<sup>40</sup>.

<sup>37</sup> Telford First, 2006: Employment Land Review

<sup>38</sup> Telford First, 2006: Employment Land Review

<sup>39</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Local Development Framework, Annual Monitoring Report

<sup>40</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Telford Town Centre Retail Strategy Paper



## Newport

- 2.2.6 The future employment land requirements for Newport are unknown at this stage.

## Rural Areas

- 2.2.7 There is no information available concerning future demand for employment land.

## B2.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 2.3.1 A series of challenges and opportunities identified from the evidence base are presented below. In the case of Telford, the challenges and opportunities were drawn from the Central Telford Area Action Plan<sup>41</sup>.

**Table B2.2: Employment Land Challenges & Opportunities**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a balance between urban and rural sites to avoid undermining the Telford &amp; Wrekin's distinctive character.</li> <li>Upgrading and maintaining its older sites as well as bringing new ones to fruition.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote innovative development schemes by the refurbishment of low quality units potentially to become low carbon demonstrations.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver a mixture of uses, including approximately 50,000 sq. m comparison retail, 900 homes and 18,000 sq.m. offices.</li> <li>Make more efficient use of land.</li> <li>Incorporate outward facing frontages with pedestrian-friendly streets which face outwards towards the surrounding areas of the Town Centre.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create an improved skyline with a variety of building heights.</li> <li>Improve existing public spaces.</li> <li>Encourage development in Central Southwater to reflect the convergence of three primary uses: the Telford Shopping Centre, Telford Town Park and the Telford International Centre.</li> <li>East Southwater to play a greater role in the vibrancy of the Town Centre.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None reported.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop specialist industrial estates and the 'Canal corner'.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>

<sup>41</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Central Telford Area Action Plan  
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## B2.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 2.4.1 The uncertainties and limitations associated with employment land are presented in Table B2.3 below.

**Table B2.3: Uncertainties and Limitations**

Authority-wide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proportion of employment land that has used previously developed land has increased from 48% in 2006/7 through to 99% in 2009/10, but given the rapid change in the area developed each year this figure cannot be relied upon as a sound indicator of a trend.</li> <li>While employment land availability within Telford is envisaged to be appropriate, the situation concerning Newport and the rural areas is unknown.</li> </ul>
Telford
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No uncertainties and limitations considered to be of significance to the objective of scoping sustainability appraisals have been identified.</li> </ul>
Newport
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is little information available on the status, trends, challenges or opportunities associated with employment land.</li> </ul>
Rural Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No information identified on employment land in rural areas.</li> </ul>

## B2.5 Scoping

- 2.5.1 This section presents a view on whether employment land ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either an authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### Authority-wide

- 2.5.2 Given the ample availability of employment land, this topic has been **scoped out** of the appraisals for Authority-wide plans. However the provision appropriately sized business units has been **scoped in** for future appraisals given the need to cater for starter-businesses and promote locally based operations.

### Telford

- 2.5.3 While forecasts for future employment and retail development have been made<sup>42</sup>, the sustainability issues are matters of design and accessibility that are a concern at the planning application stage. For this reason employment land is not viewed as an issue to be included within sustainability appraisals for this area and is thus **scoped out**.

### Newport

- 2.5.4 There is no information on the demand or proposals for employment land allocations in Newport. Currently this subject is **scoped out** of the appraisals until further information becomes available.
- 2.5.5 While the broad issue of land availability for employment has been scoped out at an authority-wide level, the provision of local retail and appropriately sized business units is important given the need to cater for starter-businesses and promote locally based operations and hence this aspect is **scoped in**.

<sup>42</sup> Telford First, 2006: Employment Land Review  
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## Rural Areas

- 2.5.6 The availability employment land in the rural areas has not been revealed as an issue for the sustainability appraisals as no evidence of constraints were identified and is thus **scoped out**.
- 2.5.7 While employment land has been excluded for rural areas, the provision of local retail and appropriately sized business units has been **scoped in** given the need to cater for starter-businesses and promote locally based operations.

## B2.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

- 2.6.1 The sustainability objectives and indicators proposed are set out in Table B2.4.

**Table B2.4: Employment Land Objectives & Indicators**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and starter business premises.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of enquiries for employment land in across the Telford &amp; Wrekin per year.</li> <li>Number of planning applications for conversion of rural premises to commercial use per year.</li> <li>Number of available incubator and smaller premises for start-up businesses.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and starter business premises.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of enquiries for employment land per year;</li> <li>Number of available incubator and smaller premises for start-up businesses.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of enquiries for employment land per year;</li> <li>Number of planning applications for conversion of rural premises to commercial use per year.</li> </ul>

## B3. HOUSING

### B3.1 Baseline Conditions

- 3.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline housing conditions for Telford & Wrekin before then considering the situation in Telford, Newport and the rural areas.

#### Authority-wide

- 3.1.2 The New Town estates are in need of revitalisation and refurbishment (particularly in South Telford) as well as maintain, improve and adapt the existing housing stock across the Council area. There are over 17,000 people on housing register and significant shortfall in social and affordable housing exists despite there being a good supply of land.
- 3.1.3 Affordable housing completions still remain significantly below (15% per annum of assessed need) the need identified in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2008<sup>43</sup>.
- 3.1.4 Overall, since April 2006, 87.6% of residential completions have been within 30 minutes drive time of centres with 52.7% being within 800m of a centre. In 2009/10 80.5% of residential completions have been within 30 minutes drive time and 31.5% within 800m of a centre<sup>44</sup>.
- 3.1.5 In general, Telford has lower property values, higher proportions of social and privately rented housing within the context of lower incomes. By contrast, the rural area has higher property values, more owner occupation and much higher average incomes. Newport falls between the two.
- 3.1.6 Although Telford & Wrekin has a lower overall proportion, there are still 15,100 dwellings that failed to meet the Decent Homes Standard, with 13,000 of these being within the private sector (Housing Condition Survey, 2008). Some 36.5% of vulnerable households live in the non-decent dwellings.
- 3.1.7 According to the Housing Strategy for 2010-2013<sup>45</sup>, an estimated 3,200 households (5%) are in fuel poverty with some 14,900 households (22%) having one or more residents with a disability. Approximately 2.3% of dwellings in Telford & Wrekin are overcrowded.
- 3.1.8 The Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA)<sup>46</sup> notes that there is currently a requirement for 24 residential pitches and 5 transit sites over the period 2007-2012.

#### Telford

- 3.1.9 Hollinswood and Malinslee presently contain the vast majority of the existing housing stock in Central Telford. Both are large residential estates that contain a predominance of medium to high density terraced housing and flats. Old Park contains an existing area of housing located along Park Lane that comprising mainly larger detached and semi-detached properties.
- 3.1.10 Telford is a relatively low value housing market area and that there are pockets of higher and lower values within the town. Priorslee, for example, which adjoins Central Telford to the east of the Central Park Character Area, is one of the highest value areas in the town, whilst Hollinswood and most of Malinslee fall within one of the lowest market value areas.

<sup>43</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Executive Summary

<sup>44</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report

<sup>45</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: People and Places, Housing Strategy 2010-2013

<sup>46</sup> Centre for Urban & Regional Studies, University of Birmingham, 2008: Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment.

3.1.11 There is currently an overall surplus of one bedroom affordable houses and flats across Telford & Wrekin while there is a shortfall of other affordable houses or flats with two bedrooms or more, the shortfall being greatest for larger houses of four bedrooms or more<sup>47</sup>.

3.1.12 With regard to provision for gypsies & travellers, there are currently two sites (Ketley Brook Caravan Park, Lawley and Lodge Road Caravan Park, Donnington Wood) that provide a total of 36 residential pitches<sup>48</sup>.

### **Newport**

3.1.13 In the 2005 District Centres Health Check for Newport an increase in residential development within the core of the District Centre was reported – representing a change in use for sites from traditional commercial / industrial – and introducing a critical mass of new residents into the heart of the area.

3.1.14 It is understood from the Housing Strategy that there is a shortage of affordable housing in Newport.

### **Rural Areas**

3.1.15 The average house price in the rural area is almost double those of the urban area<sup>49</sup>. It is also known from the 2008 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment that there is an average of 5 sites of less than 0.5ha that become available for housing each year.

3.1.16 The local Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) highlights the high affordability ratios and lack of affordable housing supply in the rural part of Telford & Wrekin. The supply of affordable housing in the rural areas is important in helping to sustain these areas and to provide opportunities for people with close connections to specific rural areas. The Council's planning policies support the provision of small rural 'exception' sites where a housing need has been identified. Rural affordable housing is identified as a commissioning priority in the Local Investment Plan<sup>50</sup>.

3.1.17 Recent research has shown that the average rural house price is now more than twelve times the average salary of people living in rural areas. The latest Housing Market Assessment for Telford & Wrekin also identifies the rural part of Telford & Wrekin as having the greatest affordability gap<sup>51</sup>.

## **B3.2 Future Baseline**

3.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline.

### **Authority-wide**

3.2.2 There is evidence that the growth in the population in Telford & Wrekin below the age of 15 has been affected by the net inward migration of families as the housing stock has grown. Without the continuing growth of housing stock population projections may change.

3.2.3 A fall in housing-led population growth might mean that the number of children in Telford & Wrekin would begin to fall, despite the general rise in the birth rate to 1.84 children for the

<sup>47</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Central Telford Area Action Plan

<sup>48</sup> CLG, 2010: Gypsy sites provided by Local Authorities and Registered Social Landlords in England

<sup>49</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Rural Plan

<sup>50</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: People and Places, Housing Strategy for Telford & Wrekin 2010-2013

<sup>51</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Rural Round Up Issue 3

average UK born woman<sup>52</sup>. The SHLAA (Second Update 2010) identified the following housing supply figures through to 2021 (see Table B3.1).

**Table B3.1: SHLAA Housing Supply Forecasts<sup>53</sup>**

Area	2010-11	2011-16	2016-21	2021-26	Total
Telford	9,802	12,478	1,979	0	24,259
Newport	103	182	0	0	285
Rural	1,194	24,324	0	0	25,518
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,099</b>	<b>36,984</b>	<b>1,979</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50,062</b>

3.2.4 Commissioning priorities identified in the Local Investment Programme (LIP) include:

- Support delivery of strategic housing sites (Lawley, Lightmoor, Telford Millennium Community).
- Support delivery of other 'stalled sites'.
- Regeneration of the South Telford Estates.
- Regeneration of the Borough Towns.
- Delivery of supported and specialist housing including extra care housing in priority areas.
- Deliver other affordable provision – including Newport and the rural area.
- Renewal of the existing housing stock.
- Delivery of other schemes of strategic importance or benefit to Telford & Wrekin.

3.2.5 The 2008 SHLAA identified a series of strategic sites to be delivered in five yearly periods (see Table 3.2). The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) has three strategic sites at Lawley, East Ketley and Lightmoor are underway but have extended their delivery phasing.

**Table B3.2: Strategic Housing Sites<sup>54</sup>**

Strategic Site	2006/2011	2011/2016	2016/2021	Total
Lawley	312	1,212	1,247	2,771
East Ketley	132	573	-	705
Lightmoor	266	534	-	800
<b>Totals</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>2,319</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>4,276</b>

3.2.6 This table indicates that majority of the housing remains to be delivered over the plan period, two thirds within the site at Lawley.

3.2.7 The SHLAA set out a vision of 80% of the housing supply up to 2016 being provided within Telford with 3,227 in the rural areas and 272 in Newport. The total allocation was 17,503. With a peak supply in 2016/17, before declining thereafter.

3.2.8 The 2008 Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) for Telford & Wrekin<sup>55</sup> considers accommodation sites in terms of:

- Local Authority sites provide permanent residential pitches. Authorised Private sites.
- Private sites include both family owned sites and larger sites which provide rented pitches, all have planning permission.

<sup>52</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2011: Sustainable Community Strategy, Our Future, Consultation Draft.

<sup>53</sup> Telford & Wrekin Council: 2010: Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, Second Update April 2010.

<sup>54</sup> Telford & Wrekin Council: 2010: Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, Second Update April 2010.

<sup>55</sup> Centre for Urban and Regional Studies University of Birmingham (July 2008). Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment Shropshire, Herefordshire, Telford & Wrekin and Powys (revised final report July 2008 with amended pitch figures for Herefordshire).

- Long-term unauthorised – these are on both Gypsy owned land and other land that have been in existence for a long time.

3.2.9 The GTAA identified a need for an additional 10 residential pitches up to 2017.

### **Telford**

3.2.10 Out of the 25,000 new homes to be delivered in Telford, 2,580 (or just over 10% of the total) are proposed in the Central Telford Area Action Plan up to 2016.

3.2.11 The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA, 2009) and the Economic Development Strategy (2005) forecast that in the future there will be more high earners working in Telford & Wrekin, especially in the town centre. Good quality, high density housing in the form of flats and apartments in town centre locations will be needed to accommodate the needs of these growing sectors. Lower density housing for families will be needed in locations further from the town centre.

3.2.12 The Wrekin Housing Trust is currently leading a regeneration project to address some of the environmental and deprivation problems associated with Hollinswood. A particular need for further provision for young people, such as a youth centre, has been identified by the regeneration project<sup>56</sup>.

3.2.13 A net affordable housing need of 1,240 units exists throughout Telford & Wrekin is needed to fully meet housing need over the plan period comprising an overall annual need for 984 for social rented housing units (79%) and 256 intermediate housing units (21%).

### **Newport**

3.2.14 The 2008 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment identified the need for 347 housings between 2001 and 2016 as well as 159 between 2016 and 2021.

### **Rural Areas**

3.2.15 A programme of rural housing needs surveys is underway according to the Housing Strategy<sup>57</sup>. It is however known that there is a shortage of affordable housing in the rural area.

## **B3.3 Challenges and Opportunities**

3.3.1 The challenges and opportunities presented in Table B3.3 have been drawn the Draft Housing Strategy<sup>58</sup>, the Borough People & Places Housing Strategy 2010-2013 and the Central Telford Area Action Plan.

<sup>56</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Central Telford Area Action Plan

<sup>57</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Housing Strategy People and Places, 2010-2013

<sup>58</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: People and Places, Draft Housing Strategy for Telford & Wrekin 2010-2013



**Table B3.3: Housing Challenges & Opportunities**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunities for mixed developments that align housing provision and economic growth.</li> <li>• Prioritise the competing regeneration needs of different geographical areas.</li> <li>• Meet the growing shortage of affordable homes and creating a range of housing opportunities for local people.</li> <li>• Help local people to make appropriate housing choices and access suitable housing, including the prevention of homelessness.</li> <li>• Improve the condition and making the best use of the existing housing stock.</li> <li>• Respond to a growing and changing housing stock, including increasing owner occupation and a shift from the social to the private housing sector.</li> <li>• Meet the housing needs of the growing ageing and vulnerable population, including the need for a greater choice of good quality accommodation.</li> <li>• Create mixed and balanced communities that meet needs and aspirations of all.</li> <li>• Contribute to the wider health and well being and the creation of cohesive communities.</li> <li>• reducing and mitigate the effects of climate change, linked with lowering fuel poverty.</li> <li>• Balance the need to achieve new housing growth with the needs of the existing housing stock.</li> <li>• Delivery of Extra Care housing.</li> <li>• Delivery of additional traveller pitches.</li> <li>• Older people are expected to make up 48% of the net growth in households by 2026 and housing is required to be built to the Lifetime Homes Standard. Existing housing must also be adapted to meet the needs of the ageing population<sup>59</sup>.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewal and redevelopment of New Town Development Corporation estates in the south of the Telford &amp; Wrekin.</li> <li>• New residential development in Hollinswood and Malinslee will need to cater for larger, family households in medium density developments.</li> <li>• Cater for the housing needs of an increasingly elderly population which may need to downsize to release capacity for younger families and release equity for health care.</li> <li>• Provide adaptation measures and home focused services for the elderly choosing to stay at home.</li> <li>• Provision for care homes and hospices.</li> <li>• Diversify the housing mix in Hollinswood and Malinslee and contribute towards addressing the shortfalls in affordable housing for larger two, three and four bedroom housing and also two bedroom flats.</li> <li>• Creating a tenure balance in new affordable housing of 80% social rented and 20% intermediate housing.</li> <li>• Deliver affordable housing of the same size and type as market housing in the Town Centre Character Area to help address the shortfall of these types of housing.</li> <li>• There is a need for an additional 10 residential pitches that are assumed to be for Telford.</li> </ul>

<sup>59</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Executive Summary  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Old Park needs a range of housing including smaller houses and some apartments to improve the housing mix.</li> <li>The Town Centre Character Area has an opportunity for new housing with innovative styles, form, design, range and mixture, but mainly one, two and three bedroom apartments.</li> <li>Enhancing the relationships and connections between Malinslee, Telford Town Centre, Telford Town Park and the Old Park Character Area.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Challenge</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address the affordable housing need in Newport<sup>60</sup>.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Challenge</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To address the affordable housing needs of the rural areas and to help maintain the viability of village life by maintaining provision for younger members of the population.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>

## B3.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 3.4.1 The following uncertainties and limitations were identified that have a potential influence upon the existing or future baseline situation and therefore the sustainability challenges and opportunities associated with the housing theme. Table B3.4 summarises those uncertainties and limitations.

**Table B3.4: Housing Uncertainties and Limitations**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are considerable uncertainties associated with the future supply of housing since the demand is a function of local demographics, the ability of the education system to provide the skilled workforce required by the businesses operating in the area. It is also dependent upon the housing market.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No uncertainties and limitations considered to be of significance to the objective of scoping sustainability appraisals have been identified.</li> <li>From the evidence reviewed, the housing analysis has not taken account of the changes taking place in either the benefits or public health system. With the move from social rented property to affordable rented property there will be increasing numbers of people faced with income deprivation.</li> <li>Further with the ending of secured tenancies, many of those least able to care for themselves may face the increased stress of having to vacate their homes. Consequently the current forecast need for low cost housing may well be underestimated.</li> <li>At the same time, changes in the HCA's National Affordable Housing Framework will have an impact on the ability to deliver new affordable homes. It is certainly the case that none of the forecasts have addressed the implications of the increasing age of the population.</li> </ul>

<sup>60</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Housing Strategy, People and Places.  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

<b>Newport</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no information available on the type of housing (whole life housing) that is required or details on affordability for this Scoping Report.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The rural housing survey ought to aid the understanding of the rural housing agenda for future sustainability appraisals.</li> </ul>

## B3.5 Scoping

3.5.1 This section presents a view on whether housing ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either an authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### Authority-wide

3.5.2 Housing issues are **scoped into** the appraisal of authority-wide plans as it is central to the delivery of sustainable communities.

3.5.3 The provision of pitches for Gypsies & Travellers is **scoped out** of the Authority-wide plan on the presumption that either a supplementary policy document will be prepared on the subject or that other area based plans will address the allocation of the pitches.

### Telford

3.5.4 Housing is included **scoped into** the appraisal of plans affecting Telford.

### Newport

3.5.5 Given the number of dwellings to be provided over the plan period, the issue of affordable housing and the uncertain need for whole life housing, these aspects are to be determined at a later date **pending** further information.

### Rural Areas

3.5.6 Rural housing is **scoped into** subsequent sustainability appraisals as housing issues currently exist.

## B3.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

3.6.1 The sustainability objectives and indicators proposed are set out in Table B3.5.

**Table B3.5: Housing Objectives & Indicators**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the supply and affordability of accommodation for all groups in areas of greatest need.</li> <li>Locate housing in areas with good accessibility to employment, services and amenities.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual housing completion rate by number of bedrooms.</li> <li>Annual affordable housing completions.</li> <li>Number of gypsy and traveller plots available.</li> <li>Proportion of housing built within 15 minutes by public transport of main employment areas.</li> </ul>

<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver the housing needs across all sections of society.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of elderly residents residing in family homes.</li> <li>Number of places available within sheltered and care housing as a percentage of the population aged over 80 years old.</li> <li>Number of private rented homes not meeting decency and domestic safety standards;</li> <li>Number of people on short-term tenancies.</li> <li>Number of dwellings located within 30 minutes walking distance of major employment sites.</li> <li>Number of new dwellings in Central Telford.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No sustainability objectives can be defined at present.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No sustainability objectives can be defined at present.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide local needs including provision of affordable homes.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of affordable homes built each year within each of the rural wards.</li> </ul>

## B4: LOCAL RETAIL FACILITIES

### B4.1 Baseline Conditions

- 4.1.1 The baseline condition for local retail facilities are discussed within the Telford Chapter.

#### Telford

- 4.1.2 Telford Town Centre comprises a privately-owned shopping mall containing 16 shops, also banks, restaurants and cafes, and nearly 5000 parking spaces for cars.

- 4.1.3 Within Telford, there are District Centres at Dawley, Donnington, Hadley, Madeley, Oakengates and Wellington with Local Centres serving their immediate neighbourhoods. These centres have experienced varying fortunes reflecting market trends and changing consumer practices. Wellington has an established Regeneration Partnership funded by the Market Towns Initiative sponsored by the former Advantage West Midlands (AWM).

- 4.1.4 Several out-of-centre retail warehouse developments exist in Telford, including Telford Bridge Retail Park, Telford Forge Retail Park, and Wellington Retail Park, M54 Junction 6.

#### Newport

- 4.1.5 Newport market town serves a catchment that includes its rural hinterland. Its range of goods and services reflect the needs of the town and its hinterland, including the student population of Harper Adams University College. Mere Park is an out-of-centre development to the east of the town. Newport also has an established Regeneration Partnership<sup>61</sup>.

#### Rural Areas

- 4.1.6 Retail provision in the rural area outside Newport and Telford is limited, both in quantity and range. High Ercall, Tibberton and Waters Upton are the service centres outside Telford and Newport that server the rural areas.

### B4.2 Future Baseline

- 4.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline.

#### Authority-wide

- 4.2.2 A retail and leisure study<sup>62</sup> identified the need and capacity for between 109,220 sq. m (net) and 139,780 sq. m (net) and 780 sq. m (net) additional retail floor space in the town over the period to 2026.

- 4.2.3 A theoretical capacity exists to provide 111,925 sq. m (net) of additional retail floor space which would meet the needs until beyond 2021 and potentially to 2026. The implication is that there is no requirement for any new retail floor space outside of the town centre.

- 4.2.4 There has been a trend towards larger retail outlets with a resultant demise in smaller retail outlets.

<sup>61</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted December 2007

<sup>62</sup> White Young Green, 2008: Telford and Wrekin Retail and Leisure Study 2006 to 2026 Phase II Town Centre Capacity.

## Telford

- 4.2.5 In the future, Telford will be the focus of Telford & Wrekin's spatial development accommodating the majority of opportunities of employment and services. It is perceived that Telford will continue to provide inward investment and employment.
- 4.2.6 The anticipated growth in population is expected to see an increase in demand for retail outlets/floorspace generated within the Central Telford area. In acting as a service centre for the sub-region, the Central Telford area will accommodate the highest concentration and widest range of retail, recreational and leisure uses, and office development, locally.

## Newport

- 4.2.7 Future development in Newport will aid its economic and commercial regeneration. The Core Strategy aims to achieve a sustainable economy based on the appropriate balance between the quantity and type of employment opportunities available in the town<sup>63</sup>.
- 4.2.8 Development associated with promoting the town as a visitor destination, including the reinstatement of the Shrewsbury-Newport Canals, is anticipated where this demonstrates a direct benefit to the economy of the town and the sustainability of its central area.
- 4.2.9 There are currently no commitments for additional convenience or comparison retail floorspace in Newport<sup>64</sup>.

## Rural Areas

- 4.2.10 While being protected from development proposals and supported through the concentration of new houses on key settlements through the Core Strategy, the existing rural retail offer will be subject to economic forces. It is the future baseline is consequently unclear.

## B4.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 4.3.1 Among the opportunities available are:
- Support for existing and new shops or services within walking distance of people's homes as this ought to contribute towards the objective of reducing the need to travel.
  - Help to build local communities and provide for the elderly and less mobile members of society.
  - Providing more retail facilities for the rural areas of Telford & Wrekin.

## Telford

- 4.3.2 The existing central area has relatively few cafes and bars, and lacks a range of social and cultural facilities. The closure of the shopping centre from early evening means that there is no evening economy in central Telford. The limited leisure and recreation facilities act as a constraint to attracting younger people and to economic development by attracting and retaining inward investment and business tourism<sup>65</sup>.

<sup>63</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted December 2007

<sup>64</sup> White Young Green, 2008: Telford and Wrekin Retail and Leisure Study 2006 to 2026

<sup>65</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document

4.3.3 To achieve a vibrant central urban environment, the public realm of the town centre will have to be of the highest quality urban design, enabling it to act as the focus for town centre activities and engender civic pride<sup>66</sup>. To maintain the vitality of the area into the evening, the development of a 'cultural quarter' within Central Telford is a key aim.

4.3.4 The principal aims for the Town Centre Character Area are to:

- Reinforce and enhance the area as the central commercial, cultural and active heart of the town and through this become the foremost expression of what Telford is as a place, its values, its prosperity and its image;
- Create a vibrant mix of retail, employment, cultural and civic, leisure and residential uses;
- Create adaptive buildings which can meet changing needs;
- Create vertical mixed use to achieve active frontages at ground level whilst providing opportunities for employment and residential on upper floors;
- Create active frontage to public realm;
- Create and enhance the public realm including the enhancement of existing and the creation of key urban streets and places;
- Establish improved connections with surrounding areas – especially with the Town Park and adjacent residential areas<sup>67</sup>.

### Newport

4.3.5 Challenges and opportunities for Newport include the following:

- To increase the accessibility of key services and facilities to Newport residents and those living in the hinterland;
- To support its role as a market town to enable it to fulfil its role as a rural service centre<sup>68</sup>;
- To resist the loss of existing services and facilities;  
To enhance and create services and facilities such as schools, doctor surgeries, shops (particularly convenience), sports, recreation and leisure facilities, with the aim to strengthen quantity and variety of the town's retail provision.

### Rural Areas

4.3.6 The challenge will be to support improved access for rural areas to established retail centres while supporting the retention of existing rural services.

## B4.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

4.4.1 There are no uncertainties and limitations that affect the scoping activities of this report, however some of the documents reviewed do not extend beyond 2016 and hence there is a weakness in the provision of a comprehensive evidence base for the Core Strategy.

4.4.2 The evidence assembled has focused upon the Telford town centre retail offer with an absence of evidence detailing the baseline situation and challenges facing district and local retail

<sup>66</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document

<sup>67</sup> Jon Rowland Urban Design, 2009: Central Telford Area Action Plan, Development Statement TC4, Malinslee Link

<sup>68</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted December 2007



services. The implications of future plans on district and local retail activities and thus on meeting the needs of those in need of fresh food outlets or without transport, will necessitate the assembly of evidence for these areas.

- 4.4.3 There is little evidence on which to conclude whether the local retail underpinning of sustainable rural communities ought to be taken forward for inclusion in future appraisals. Nor has information been seen that relates the proposed 3,200 housing allocation to rural areas and the potential effects upon the viability of the rural retail offer.

## B4.5 Scoping

- 4.5.1 Local retail facilities have been **scoped out** for authority-wide plans since the issues raised tend to be local to the specific retail area and hence they are proposed to be appraised alongside local plans and policies.

### Telford

- 4.5.2 The creation of a vibrant town centre reaches to the heart of making Telford & Wrekin sustainable. A fully functional town centre that operates as a centre with a complete day and night-time economy is part of the offer to attract both inward investment and also to attract and retain younger mobile members of the workforce. For these reasons retail issues **scoped into** future appraisals of plans for Telford.

### Newport

- 4.5.3 It is not evidence that there are significant issues that require the consideration of retail within future appraisals, however it is recognised that this situation may change and also the scoping decision is dependent upon the type of plan being considered. At this point a scoping decision is **deferred** until the context of the future plan is understood.

### Rural Areas

- 4.5.4 Given the rapidly ageing rural population, access to basic services will become ever more important as transport costs increase and the ability to drive to larger settlements for food shopping diminishes as dementia and other ailments of old age take effect. This suggests that different models of service delivery are needed. While spatial planning may not be at the centre of such new delivery models, the manner in spatial planning is conducted is likely to still affect the viability of existing and new service models. For this reason the retail aspects have been **scoped into** future appraisals.

## B4.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

- 4.6.1 The sustainability objectives and indicators provided for Telford and for the Rural Areas are presented in Table B4.6 below.
- 4.6.2 Given that the sustainability objective for the central Telford retail offer is one that underpins the economic rationale for retaining and attracting mobile young professionals, so an indicator is needed that measures success in these terms. It is suggested that this may be best delivered through a periodic attitude survey amongst the 18-24 age group with tertiary/professional qualifications.

**Table B4.6: Retail Objectives & Indicators**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop the central retail area in a manner that provides a set of attributes capable of attracting and retaining young mobile members of the workforce as well as enhancing the attractiveness of the town to inward investment opportunities.</li> <li>• To protect and enhance district and local retail offers while enhancing the central retail offer such that local needs are catered for particularly for those retail outlets supporting those areas featuring frequently in the Index of Multiple Deprivation.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of young professionals who consider that the central Telford retail and night-time economy serves their needs (periodically surveyed perhaps on a quinquennial cycle).</li> <li>• Net convenience retail floor space within walking distance of those communities featuring in the top 20% most deprived communities on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deferred pending further information.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deferred pending further information.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help support rural communities through measures that aid the viability of service delivery methods that meet the needs of a rapidly ageing rural population.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of houses constructed per annum within walking distance of a retail outlet.</li> </ul>

## B5. SCOPING RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY

### B5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This section provides a summary of the following:

- The scoping recommendations accompanied by the justification.
- A summary of the trends, objectives and potential indicators.
- The consultation questions.

5.1.2 It should be noted that while Authority-wide objectives apply to all areas, specific objectives may also apply to Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

**Table B5.1: Sustainable Economic Development Scoping Recommendations**

Sustainability Objectives	Authority wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas	Reason
Employment					
Economic development	In	In	In	In	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Employment and the ability of the workforce to access are scoped into appraisals as it is central to a sustainable and healthy community. The diversification of employment opportunities within Telford is key to a more resilient economy.</li><li>• Provision of high technology &amp; professional services employment is needed to meet the evolving needs of Newport.</li><li>• Given the threats to the rural economy and the reliance upon home-workers this aspect ought to be included.</li></ul>
Ability to access employment	In	In	In	In	
Diversify opportunities	Out	In	Out	Out	
High technology & professional services	Out	Out	In	Out	
Economic resilience of rural economy	Out	Out	Out	In	
Employment Land					
Industrial employment land	Out	Out	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It was concluded that there were no constraints to the provision of employment and retail land that would merit inclusion in sustainability appraisals. However provision of a supply of land for incubator and small business premises was considered relevant to appraisals for all areas except Telford which was excluded as no shortage was reported.</li></ul>
Retail employment land	Out	Out	Out	Out	
Types of employment units	In	Out	In	In	

Housing					
Affordable housing & provision for travellers	In	In	?	In	• Provision of affordable housing and <b>meeting</b> the needs of travellers is necessary to underpin these communities across all areas except Newport where no evidence of housing issues were found.
Access to jobs, amenity & services	In	In	?	In	
Diversity of housing	Out	In	?	Out	• The relationship of the location of the housing to employment, amenity and services is key to <b>minimising</b> the need to travel and enhancing community development. The need for diversity in the type, size and tenure of housing is recognised as needing consideration in Telford and possibly in Newport. Similarly the specific needs of rural housing
Homes for rural communities	Out	Out	Out	In	
Retail					
Retail provision	Out	In	?	In	The importance of retail provision to Telford town centre and to the vitality of rural communities is the basis for scoping this topic into future appraisals. In the case of Newport the situation is remains to be determined in the context of future plans and policies.

## B5.2 Trends, Indicators and Objectives

- 5.2.1 Based on the information presented within this chapter, the following tables provide an overview of the anticipated trends for the various topics across the different spatial areas.
- 5.2.2 The anticipated trends are provided for the Telford, Newport and Rural area planning areas only where there is a difference to those presented for the authority-wide situation. In such circumstances a “no information on trends” entry is provided.

**Table B5.2: Summary of Employment Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Employment		
Authority-Wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 Reliance upon approx 150 inward investors</p> <p>😊 4,500 businesses</p> <p>😞 79,200 of the population are economically active, slightly below that for the regional and national averages</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To contribute to regeneration and economic development initiatives with a focus on a low carbon economy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Births and deaths of enterprise by employment size band.</li> <li>Percentage of enterprises surviving for over 3 years.</li> </ul>

<p>☹️ 24.9% of the population are in part-time employment</p> <p>☹️ Downward trend to 62% of the population is of working age</p> <p>😊 Younger than average population profile (36% of working age population is aged under 35)</p> <p>☹️ Higher level of employment in elementary occupations</p> <p>😊 Percentage of managers and senior officials has increased slightly over last 5 years</p> <p>☹️ Slight decline in residents in higher level jobs</p> <p>☹️ More of residents work in lower skilled jobs than elsewhere in region</p> <p>☹️ Smallest number of VAT/PAYE registrations in the region</p> <p>😊 Retail forms the largest proportion of enterprises</p> <p>☹️ Manufacturing businesses face increased energy costs and need for lean manufacturing</p> <p>☹️ Growth in GVA 3.7% is below that for region and England</p> <p>😊 GVA has remained above the West Midlands average</p> <p>😊 Numbers of people employed in construction, knowledge economy occupations and manufacturing have remained the same as last year</p> <p>☹️ 30% of employees in operations businesses at risk from climate change</p> <p>☹️ 18% of businesses are in sectors able to diversify into low carbon economy</p> <p>☹️ 26% of jobs taken by in-commuters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce difficulties accessing employment, education and training opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employment by broad industry group.</li> <li>Workforce engaged in new technology, low carbon and care services;</li> <li>Extent of out commuting.</li> <li>Percentage of managers and skilled workers in the workforce.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<p>☹️ Need to establish vibrant town centre</p> <p>☹️ Parts of the town need joining up by pedestrian links</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To diversify employment opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diversification of employment opportunities in Central Telford.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<p>😊 Employment dominated by professional, scientific &amp; technical jobs</p> <p>😊 Number of small (0-4) sized businesses greater than the Telford &amp; Wrekin average</p> <p>☹️ Smaller than Telford &amp; Wrekin average number of businesses employing over 20 people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote the growth of high technology and professional services focused businesses.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of professional, scientific &amp; technical businesses.</li> </ul>

<p>😊 18.6% are graduates, compared to an average of only 14.2% across the Telford &amp; Wrekin, the proportion of graduates rises to almost one quarter of people (aged 16-74) in the Newport North Ward</p> <p>😊 Economic activity and employment rates in Newport catchment area are both well above the Telford &amp; Wrekin average, equalling 69.6% and 64% of the population (aged 16-74).</p> <p>😊 Economically active residents are twice as likely to be self-employed in Newport compared to any other DC.</p> <p>😊 Unemployment levels for Newport catchment area are low in comparison with that for Telford &amp; Wrekin.</p> <p>😊 Nearly 17% of households in the Newport catchment area do not own a car, compared to a Telford &amp; Wrekin average of 22.4%.</p>		
<b>Rural Area</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<p>😊 17% of residents in the rural area are self employed with 13.7% work mainly from home.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance the economic resilience of the rural economy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of rural businesses operating with a business life in excess of 2 years.</li> </ul>

**Table B5.3: Summary of Employment Land Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Employment Land		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😐 32.2% of floor space is retail, 28.7 factories, 20.5% offices and 14.2% warehouses in 2008</p> <p>😊 No shortage of employment land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and starter business premises.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of enquiries for employment land in across Telford &amp; Wrekin per year.</li> <li>Number of planning applications for conversion of rural premises to commercial use per year.</li> <li>Number of available starter and smaller premises for start-up businesses.</li> </ul>

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Employment Land		
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
😊 Adequate land for 2,500 homes, 11,000 sq. m office and 65,000 sq. m retail by 2021	As the subject has been scoped out no sustainability objectives or indicators are proposed.	
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
😐 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and small business premises.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of enquiries for employment land per year.</li> <li>Number of available starter and smaller premises for start-up businesses.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of enquiries for employment land per year.</li> <li>Number of planning applications for conversion of rural premises to commercial use per year.</li> </ul>

**Table B5.4: Summary of Housing Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Housing		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😞 10,000 people on housing register</li> <li>😞 Shortfall in social and affordable housing</li> <li>😊 Delivered increased numbers of affordable housing over the last 3 years</li> <li>😊 Adequate land</li> <li>😞 Difficulties in delivering affordable houses</li> <li>😞 15,100 homes failing to meet decent homes standard (13,000) in private sector</li> <li>😞 36.5% of vulnerable households live in non-decent housing</li> <li>😞 3,200 households are in fuel poverty</li> <li>😞 14,900 households have a resident with a disability</li> <li>😐 Inward migration needed to maintain population growth</li> <li>😐 1,325 dwellings needed per annum up to 2026</li> <li>😞 Shortage in specialist housing for older people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the supply and affordability of accommodation for all groups in areas of greatest need.</li> <li>Locate housing in areas with good accessibility to employment, services and amenities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual housing completion rate by number of bedrooms.</li> <li>Annual affordable housing completions.</li> <li>Number of gypsy and traveller plots available.</li> <li>Proportion of housing built within 15 minutes by public transport of main employment areas.</li> </ul>



Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
<b>Housing</b>		
😊 10 new residential pitches needed for gypsies & travellers		
<b>Telford</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
😊 80% of housing up to 2016 to be in Telford 😞 Shortfall two bedroom and larger affordable houses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver the housing needs across all sections of society.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of elderly residents residing in family homes.</li> <li>Number of places available within sheltered and care housing as a percentage of the population aged over 80 years old.</li> <li>Number of private rented homes not meeting decency and domestic safety standards.</li> <li>Number of people on short-term tenancies.</li> <li>Number of dwellings located within 30 minutes walking distance of major employment sites.</li> <li>Number of new dwellings in Central Telford.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
😊 272 new houses to be delivered by 2016	No sustainability objectives or indicators can be defined at present	
<b>Rural Area</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
😊 3,227 new houses to be delivered by 2016 😞 Average rural house price is now more than twelve times the average salary of people living in rural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide for local needs including provision of affordable homes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of affordable homes built each year within each of the rural wards.</li> </ul>

**Table B5.5: Summary of Retail Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Retail		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😊 Capacity to expand retailing especially within Telford Town Centre.</li> <li>😊 Increased employment opportunities.</li> <li>😞 Trend towards larger retail outlets with a resultant demise in smaller retail outlets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😊 Telford to provide inward investment and employment opportunities.</li> <li>😊 Central Telford can accommodate retail, recreational and leisure uses and offices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To develop the central retail area in a manner that provides a set of attributes capable of attracting and retaining young mobile members of the workforce as well as enhancing the attractiveness of the town to inward investment opportunities.</li> <li>To protect and enhance district and local retail offers while enhancing the central retail offer such that local needs are catered for particularly for those retail outlets supporting those areas featuring frequently in the Index of Multiple Deprivation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proportion of young professionals who consider that the central Telford retail and night-time economy serves their needs (periodically surveyed perhaps on a quinquennial cycle).</li> <li>Net convenience retail floor space within walking distance of those communities featuring in the top 20% most deprived communities on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😐 No issues identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No objectives or indicators set as Local Retail Facilities has been left open for future plan appraisals to consider.</li> </ul>	
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😞 Declining retail offer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To help support rural communities through measures that aid the viability of service delivery methods that meet the needs of a rapidly ageing rural population.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of houses constructed per annum within walking distance of a retail outlet.</li> </ul>

### **B5.3 Consultation Questions**

5.3.1 It would assist the appraisal process if responses could be made to the questions presented below.

- Do you agree with the scoping findings?
- Are there any significant issues that ought to be addressed that have been omitted?
- Are there any other information sources that ought to be considered?
- Do you have any views on the objectives and indicators that could be used during appraisals?

## PART C: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & MATERIAL ASSETS

### C0. INTRODUCTION

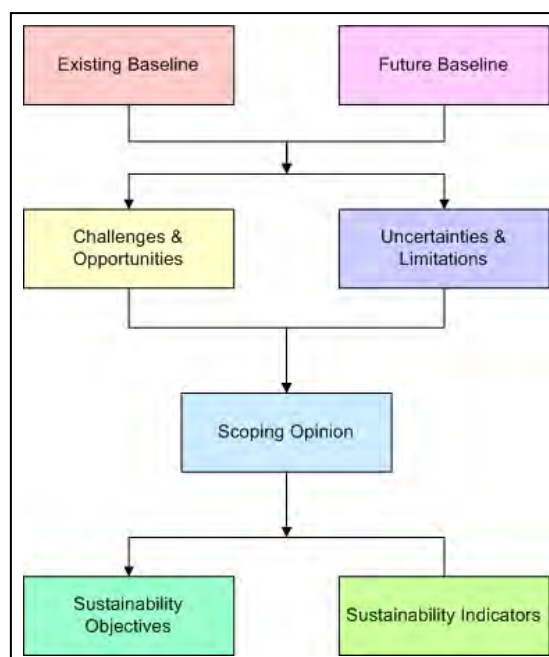
0.1.1 This chapter sets out the authority-wide policy context for the resource management and material assets:

- Waste;
- Mineral resources;
- Energy;
- Water supply & waste water treatment;
- Transport infrastructure;
- Broadband communications;
- Health care, schools, sport, leisure & community centres.

0.1.2 For each theme the following are examined to determine those to be scoped in or out of the appraisal of the revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents:

- Existing baseline;
- Future baseline;
- Data limitations;
- Scoping; and
- Objectives and indicators.

0.1.3 For each of the above themes, a description of the existing and future baseline is presented to derive a series of challenges and opportunities. These together with any data limitations then inform the scoping decision, the sustainability objectives and the initial proposals for the sustainability indicators. This process is illustrated in the adjacent figure. For ease of reference the text representing each of the steps in the sustainability process is set within a box coloured in a similar manner to the diagram above.



0.1.4 Before considering the individual themes, a brief review of relevant policies, programmes and plans within Telford & Wrekin as required by the regulations is presented. The purpose of this section is to expand upon the context established by the European and National policy framework as well as the local policy context set by neighbouring authorities as described in Chapter A3.

0.1.5 A summary of the scoping recommendations, sustainability objectives and indicators as well as questions posed to the consultees conclude this chapter.

## Authority-wide Policies, Programmes & Plans

- 0.1.6 This section summarises the key local policy documents that affect waste, energy, minerals, water, transport and community facilities where they exist.

### Waste Planning

- 0.1.7 The Council's Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2005-2021 "From Waste to Resources" set the following targets:
- To recycle and compost a minimum of 30% of household waste by 2009;
  - To recycle and compost a minimum of 40% of household waste by 2010 (Subject to the introduction of a kitchen waste service);
  - To recycle and compost a minimum of 45% of household waste by 2015 (To guide the procurement of services after 2010).
- 0.1.8 The strategy has been kept under review and emphasis given to moving waste up the waste management hierarchy and diversion of residual waste from landfill.
- 0.1.9 A Waste Development Plan Document combined with minerals is due to undergo formal consultations in early 2012, with Consultation on Proposed Submission Documents: Autumn 2012 and adoption by summer 2013.
- 0.1.10 The EU Waste Framework Directive (and revisions) set out the framework for waste policy, strategic waste planning, as well as regulation of the waste management industry and producers of waste. From September 2011, a declaration that the waste management hierarchy has been applied when transferring waste is required.
- 0.1.11 The Priority Plan Environment and Rural Areas 2010<sup>1</sup> identifies the following objectives:
- Increase the amount of household and Council waste recycled;
  - Improve public satisfaction with the household waste and recycling collection service.

### Mineral Resources

- 0.1.12 Telford & Wrekin Council and Shropshire County Council adopted the Joint Minerals Local Plan in April 2000. This plan operated from 1996 to 2006. Consequently, there are a series of saved policies from the Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Joint Structure Plan, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Minerals Local Plan, the Wrekin Local Plan and other supplementary planning guidance.
- 0.1.13 Preparation of the Minerals Core Strategy to be combined with the Waste Development Plan Document as noted above.

### Energy

- 0.1.14 National policy frameworks support delivery of low carbon development through setting targets for sustainable construction standards and local generation of energy by "renewable" technologies. When setting local policies the emphasis is placed on what is achievable, taking into account local economic conditions and technical feasibility.
- 0.1.15 The Government intends all new housing to be zero carbon by 2016, public buildings by 2018 and commercial development by 2019. Interim targets will also be set for 2013.

<sup>1</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Priority Plan: Environment and Rural Areas.  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

- 0.1.16 Policy CS4 from the Core Strategy 2007 promotes development at a higher density and at locations highly accessible to the centre, while policy CS13 supports the production of energy from renewable sources. It also reflects local strategies and plans, particularly the Council's Climate Change Strategy<sup>2</sup> ambitions.

### **Water Supply and Waste Water Treatment**

- 0.1.17 Spatial planning is important to improving water quality since new housing and other development impact of upon the water environment not only as result of increasing runoff, but also due to water demand and waste water generation.
- 0.1.18 The Water Framework Directive requires that all water bodies must achieve 'good status' by 2015 unless there are grounds for derogation. The Directive combines water quantity and water quality issues. Under the Directive, a series of Programmes of Measures to meet water objectives are to be made operational by 2012. A second and third round of measures is to be set for 2015- 2021 and 2021-2027 that link into the Local Development Framework.
- 0.1.19 The EU Groundwater Daughter Directive 2006/118/EC<sup>3</sup> sets out measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution. These measures include in particular:
- Criteria for the assessment of good groundwater chemical status; and
  - Criteria for the identification and reversal of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals.
- 0.1.20 Measures that local authorities can undertake include:
- Incorporate sustainable water management into spatial plans;
  - Identify opportunities for improvement and restoration work to maximise contributions to meeting WFD objectives, such as in flood risk, land management and transport.
- 0.1.21 Planning Policy Statement 23 advises that planning authorities are to take account of the Water Framework Directive in particular development must not result in any deterioration in the status of surface water bodies. Any deterioration would be a breach of the WFD and a risk of infraction proceedings.

### **Transport**

- 0.1.22 The third Local Transport Plan was published in 2011 and sets out the agenda through until 2026. It adopts an integrated approach to land use and transport planning and seeks to address the following challenges:
- To manage traffic from new developments and provide access to key services;
  - Accommodate increasing travel without increasing carbon emissions and maintain the reduction in road accident casualties;
  - Through regeneration and new development create an urban form that encourages cycling and walking trips;
  - Enhance the image of public transport.

<sup>2</sup> Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2008: A Climate for Change, 2008-2026.

<sup>3</sup> The Directive is implemented through the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) 2010.

0.1.23 To achieve the vision of “a successful, prosperous and healthy community which offers a good quality of life for all the people of Telford & Wrekin”, the following six goals have been established:

- Making travel more reliable and efficient, to attract jobs and support growth and regeneration.
- Maintain highways effectively and efficiently.
- Reduce carbon emissions to help tackle climate change.
- Allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.
- Improve safety and security on the transport network and promote active travel choices which encourage people to be healthier.
- Improve the quality of life by reducing the visual, noise, air quality and other impacts of transport on people and the local environment.

0.1.24 A Strategic Environmental Appraisal of the plan has been undertaken. The LTP3 strategy sets out how it will address the above goals. These are summarised in Table C1.1 below.

**Table C1.1: LTP3 Strategy**

**Supporting Economic Growth (LTP Goals 1 and 2)**

- Improve access to markets.
- Employ a plan-led approach for new developments to mitigate any transport impacts and fund an Area Travel planning approach.
- Improve transport links to Telford's key visitor attractions and develop a sustainable access and a rail access strategy for the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site.
- Reduce traffic congestion by making better use of existing infrastructure, better management of travel demand and better management of traffic, and seek a direct connection between the M54 and the A442 in Telford town centre.
- Improve access to employment and training opportunities, particularly for those without access to a car.

**Reducing Carbon Emissions (LTP Goal 3)**

- Help people make low carbon travel decisions by promoting travel by walking and cycling for short distance, and public transport, in particular rail, for long distance trips.
- Reduce the need for people to travel by encouraging mixed use developments of housing, employment and community facilities.
- Encourage more efficient use of motor vehicles by promoting initiatives such as car share, and monitoring the roll out of low carbon vehicles to decide when to facilitate the necessary infrastructure for new vehicle technology.
- Manage transport assets to reduce the Council's carbon footprint, for instance trialling new vehicle technology and more efficient use of road maintenance materials, street lighting and traffic sign lighting.
- Respond to current and future climatic conditions by improving the resilience of transport by, for example, improving information to travellers in the event of severe weather events.

**Promoting Equality of Opportunity (LTP Goal 4)**

- To promote access for all, particularly those without a car.
- To promote a range of sustainable transport modes in both urban and rural areas to provide access to key services.
- To promote work in partnership with operators to deliver infrastructure and information improvements and so make public transport more punctual, convenient and affordable.
- Encourage the use of sustainable transport to access work; and with local schools to develop and widen the implementation of Safer Routes to School.



- Increase access to all services and to leisure and recreation through the Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- Developing and implementing the Ironbridge Gorge accessibility and rail access strategies and improving access to existing rail stations.
- Continuing to review bus subsidy policy to ensure value for money and maximum accessibility for the community.
- Deliver non-transport solutions to issues of accessibility where appropriate.

#### **Contributing to Better Safety, Security and Health (LTP Goal 5)**

- Implementing road safety schemes and speed management measures including consideration of 20mph speed limits and Home Zones in urban areas and Quiet Lanes in rural areas.
- Encourage greater levels of active travel, increased network safety and better personal security.
- Encourage greater levels of active travel through better urban design and planning and creating strategic links to walking, cycling and bridleway networks.
- Personal safety issues in urban and rural areas will be addressed during project development.
- Improving the environment for vulnerable road users through strengthened development policies, rebalancing the road network, reducing severance, improved maintenance etc.

#### **Improving Quality of Life and a Healthy Natural Environment (LTP Goal 6)**

- Develop local design principles based around the 'Manual for Streets' and 'Manual for Streets 2' both within and outside of residential areas where appropriate. Specific design guides will be developed for use in areas where the conservation of historic buildings is particularly important.
- Use the Transport Asset Management Plan and Borough Towns Initiative to de-clutter highways of unnecessary signs and road markings.
- Employ a joint approach to mitigating the impacts of major development with the Highways Agency.
- Mitigate transport noise where appropriate.
- Maintain local air quality.
- Improve the journey experience for all people travelling and improve access to the Telford & Wrekin's railway stations.
- Promote better access to the countryside through the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

### **Broadband Communications**

- 0.1.25 Broadband is very important for the economic and social sustainability of rural communities<sup>4</sup>. The Government aims to ensure fast and reliable access is available in all rural communities as part of its commitment to have the best broadband network in Europe by 2015. To achieve this, all households will need to have access to broadband networks with a speed of 2 Mbit/s. In 2010, 23% of households in rural areas and only 5% in urban areas had broadband speeds less than 2 Mbit/s<sup>5</sup>. This suggests that achieving this aim will mean a greater change in rural areas.
- 0.1.26 Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) is developing resources for local bodies to develop their own broadband strategies and projects. This will include State Aid application guidelines, templates and examples of good practice. BDUK will be providing tools to assist consumers register absence of broadband, help communities organise to help solve the broadband issues in their community and to allow community groups to share experiences and advice<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> Defra, 2011: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/rural/rural-living/broadband/>

<sup>5</sup> Defra, 2011: Statistical Digest of Rural England 2011

<sup>6</sup> Broadband Delivery UK, 2011: <http://discuss.bis.gov.uk/bduk/resources/>

## Health Care, Schools, Sport, Leisure and Community Centres

### Health Care

- 0.1.27 Under a reorganised health service, the Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust will provide community health services. The Telford & Wrekin PCT Strategy Plan<sup>7</sup> notes that projects being developed to co-locate services with health facilities were to be included within the Building Schools for the Future project. The intent of the former Telford & Wrekin PCT was to prepare Health Care Strategy to address the challenges over the period 2012/13. The strategy was also to develop a vision to '2020'. It is not known whether this will still be the case.

### Schools

- 0.1.28 The provision of schools and sufficiency of school places within the authority remains a statutory duty of the Council. Projections of school places are carried out annually and form the basis of future plans for additional provision or changes to accommodation, influenced by housing development and records of known children from the Primary Care Trust.

### Sport & Leisure

- 0.1.29 The Telford & Wrekin Sport and Leisure Facility Framework (2007-27) sets out the need to provide quality facilities within the next 20 years. The vision is to create a network of inclusive high quality community and specialist sport and leisure facilities that will encourage an increase in the community's sports and physical activity levels, and enhance the quality of life of existing and future communities. High quality sport, leisure and community assets are essential in meeting the Department of Health new physical activity guidelines 'Start Active, Stay Active'<sup>8</sup>.

### Community Centres

- 0.1.30 The Adopted Core Strategy<sup>9</sup> states that proposed approach seeks to maintain and provide appropriate community facilities. It also observes that the local need for community facilities will be defined by local strategies. The following policies consider community centres:
- **Policy CS 5:** Local Centres will be the focus for more accessible local services and small scale community facilities to meet people's day-to-day needs. The role of existing and new Local Centres will need to be identified in line with housing growth and customer accessibility. The mix of uses in Local Centres will be carefully managed.
  - **Policy CS 10:** The provision of new community facilities or improvements to existing community facilities to meet the needs of local residents will be supported. New facilities:
    - should be located in Town, District, Local Centres and key rural settlements;
    - outside the above locations, should have good accessibility by foot, cycle and public transport;
    - should demonstrate both environmental and social benefits to the local community, may exceptionally develop on open space.

## Telford: Policies, Programmes & Plans

- 0.1.31 The 2009 assessment of available land for housing development estimated the five year supply (2010 – 2015) to be at 154% of the supply actually needed or 138% if a margin for development slippage is included<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT: 2008 Strategy Plan

<sup>8</sup> Department of Health, 2009 Start Active, Stay Active,

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_128210.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_128210.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Adopted Core Strategy

<sup>10</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Local Economic Assessment Supporting Information

0.1.32 The Central Telford Area Action Plan Proposed Amendments 2010 through Vision Theme 6 conceives of design measures that will encourage low carbon lifestyles by improved sustainable transport links, adaptive buildings and high levels of renewable energy technology. Vulnerabilities to climate change will also have been reduced. The Proposed Amendments to the Action Plan<sup>11</sup> provide the following objectives:

- Create buildings and spaces that are built to last and well designed, for a changing climate, environmentally sustainable and adaptable;
- Construct buildings to high sustainability criteria, such as the Code for Sustainable Homes, and showcase innovative design features, such as green roofs;
- Ensure that new development in the Town Centre acts as a model of high quality sustainable construction, promoting a low carbon footprint including utilisation of a high proportion of energy from renewable sources;
- Minimise net rainwater run-off, with grey water recycling and sustainable drainage techniques employed.
- Contribute towards reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from domestic, industrial and commercial uses.

0.1.33 No other policy or programme documents have been identified for the town.

### **Newport: Policies, Programmes & Plans**

0.1.34 The Core Strategy Development Plan Document adopted in 2007 identifies Newport as fulfilling a service centre role. Development is to support its role as a market town, strengthening its provision of services and facilities, meeting local housing needs and reducing the need to travel.

0.1.35 The Core Strategy highlights the need to provide additional services and facilities such as schools, doctor's surgeries, shops (convenience), sports, recreation and leisure facilities. It is however silent about the management of the resources and material assets.

### **Rural Areas: Policies, Programmes & Plans**

0.1.36 The Core Strategy Development Plan Document adopted in 2007 identifies three key settlements of High Ercall, Tibberton and Waters Upton as the focal points for new homes, jobs and services and facilities for local residents.

0.1.37 The rural area has been changing rapidly in economic, social and environmental dimensions. The decline in agricultural economy, greater personal mobility has tended to restrict rural employment opportunities. Hence the Core Strategy proposes to sustain rural communities by focusing development on a limited number of rural settlements. In this way a pattern of development would be created that maximises accessibility to services and facilities. The Core Strategy is silent about the management of the resources and material assets.

<sup>11</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Central Telford Area Action Plan, Proposed Amendments February 2010  
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## C1: WASTE

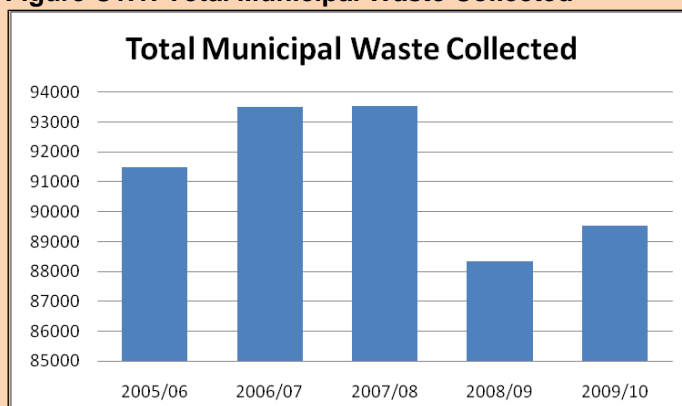
### C1.1 Baseline Conditions

- 1.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline waste conditions for Telford & Wrekin before then considering the situation in Telford, Newport and the rural areas.

#### Authority-wide

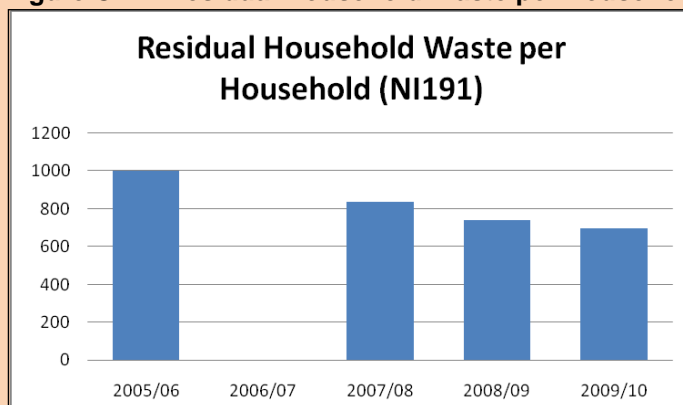
- 1.1.2 About 1 million tonnes of controlled wastes are generated each year in Telford & Wrekin<sup>12</sup>. Municipal waste represents just 10% of this (90,000 tonnes) and this has declined (See Figure C1.1) over the last 5 years. The remaining 90% is generated through development (construction & demolition waste) and through production of goods and services (industrial, commercial & hazardous wastes).

**Figure C1.1: Total Municipal Waste Collected<sup>13</sup>**



- 1.1.3 Over the period 2005/6 to 2009/10 there has been a reduction in the amount of waste generated by each household and an increasing percentage of waste recycled (see Figure C1.2 and C1.3).

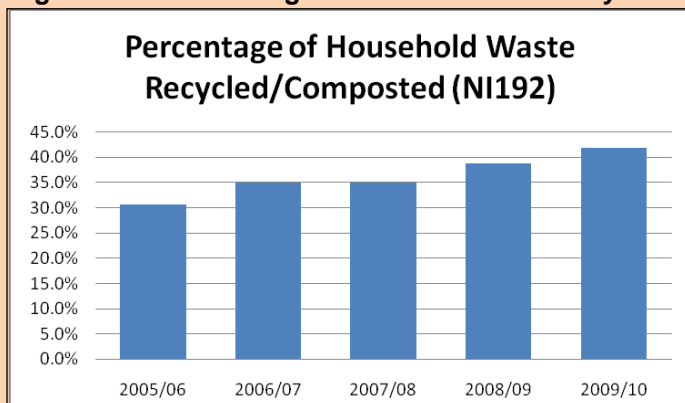
**Figure C1.2: Residual Household Waste per Household**



<sup>12</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2005: From Waste to Resource, Municipal Waste Strategy 2005-2021.

<sup>13</sup> Defra, 2011: Local Authority Collected Waste for England – Annual Statistics as Source Data for the Graphs.  
<http://www.Defra.Gov.Uk/Statistics/Environment/Waste/Wrfg23-Wrmsannual/>

**Figure C1.3: Percentage Household Waste Recycled**



- 1.1.4 Most waste destined for landfill is managed locally, though some, and most hazardous waste, is managed within the West Midlands Region<sup>14</sup>.
- 1.1.5 Residual waste is destined for the Granville landfill site on the eastern boundary of Telford & Wrekin which can accommodate waste until 2020. Wastes are also sent to the Candles landfill site which has approximately 2 years remaining capacity.
- 1.1.6 Through the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) based the cost of landfill is estimated to be £4.0m in 2010<sup>15</sup>. LATS ends after the 2012/13 financial year as announced in the Government Review of Waste Policy in England 2011. The Councils Landfill Allowances remain but Government feel that Landfill Tax is the more effective driver. Landfill Tax affects all waste going to landfill while LATS was just biodegradable waste. The cost of Landfill Tax is due to increased from £48 per tonne in 2010/11, to be £56 per tonne in 11/12, and will be £80 in 2014/15.
- 1.1.7 The EU Landfill Directive requires a reduction in the amount of Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) disposed of to landfill. The BMW reduction targets established by the Landfill Directive are, for the UK:
- By 2010 to reduce the amount of BMW going to landfill to 75% of that produced in 1995;
  - By 2013 to reduce the amount of BMW going to landfill to 50% of that produced in 1995;
  - By 2020 to reduce the amount of BMW going to landfill to 35% of that produced in 1995.
- 1.1.8 The proportion of waste being sent to landfill has been reduced over the last 5 years (See Figure C1.4). In 2003/04, 85.8% the waste sent to landfill<sup>16</sup>.
- 1.1.9 Across England proportion the household waste recycled, composted or reused has increased to 40.3 per cent between October 2009 and September 2010. The 2009/10 figures for the Telford & Wrekin show that 41% of household waste was recycled with 59% sent to landfill<sup>17</sup>. While the Council is slightly ahead of the national average, nearby Staffordshire Moorlands performed the best in the country with nearly 62% of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting in 2009/10.

<sup>14</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2005: From Waste to Resource, Municipal Waste Strategy 2005-2021.

<sup>15</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2005: From Waste to Resource, Municipal Waste Strategy 2005-2021.

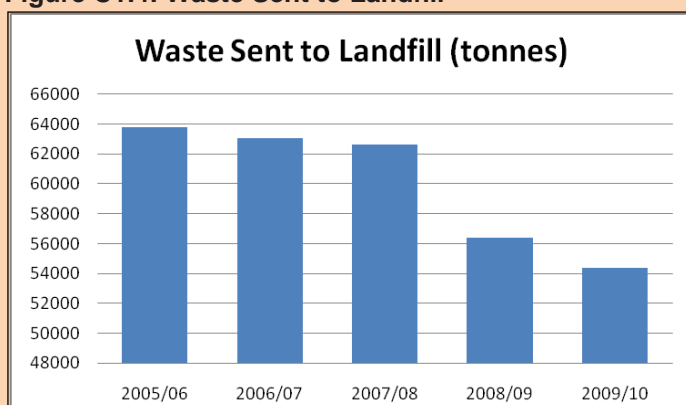
<sup>16</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2005: From Waste to Resource, Municipal Waste Strategy 2005-2021

<sup>17</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2005: From Waste to Resource, Municipal Waste Strategy 2005-2021

<sup>17</sup> Defra, 2011: Local Authority collected waste for England – annual statistics

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/environment/waste/wrfg23-wrmsannual/>

**Figure C1.4: Waste Sent to Landfill**



### **Telford**

1.1.10 In addition to the context provided above, Telford being a centre for commercial and industrial activity exhibits the following additional characteristics:

- Absence of storage area for segregated waste materials results in businesses paying unnecessary landfill costs particularly in the town centre and at Ironbridge.
- Access problems for both waste collection vehicles and street cleaning equipment.
- Fast food outlets generating both food and cardboard wastes in the town centre and the Gorge area.

### **Newport**

1.1.11 There is no information currently available on waste issues for Newport.

### **Rural Areas**

1.1.12 There is no information currently available on waste issues for the rural areas.

## **C1.2 Future Baseline**

1.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the assessment is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. In order to perform this assessment it is necessary to consider the future situation without the plan that is being assessed. This section provides a view on the future baseline for waste.

### **Authority-wide**

1.2.2 The Municipal Waste Management Plan<sup>18</sup> indicated that the quantity of biodegradable waste to be disposed in a landfill would increase to 61,519 tonnes in 2019-2020. There is no capacity constraint to the quantity of waste that can be sent to landfill sites.

<sup>18</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2005: Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2005-2021, From Waste to Resource.  
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### **Telford**

- 1.2.3 With the intent of delivering a night time economy to the centre of Telford so the nature of the wastes will change and pose new collection and recycling opportunities. Also, the increasing use of anaerobic digestion technology is creating a market for food waste collected separately at a reduced cost compared to landfill.

### **Newport**

- 1.2.4 There is no information currently available on waste issues for Newport.

### **Rural Areas**

- 1.2.5 There is no information currently available on waste issues for the rural areas.

## **C1.3 Challenges and Opportunities**

- 1.3.1 The challenge for the Council is to increase its waste recycling, composting or reuse to 50% of the household waste in the next 9 years. This may be achieved by reducing the amount generated and/or diversion of household waste from landfill.
- 1.3.2 With the increasing costs disposal to landfill, continued efforts are needed to move up the waste hierarchy and attempt to reduce and divert waste.
- 1.3.3 The ability to store segregated wastes is a function of whether adequate space was provided within the design of domestic property. While semi and detached housing can generally cope with the multiplicity of receptacles for waste segregation, the same is not true for those living in flats where space may be at a premium. Consequently the ability to divert waste from landfill is dependent upon the ability let alone the motivations of residents to play their part.
- 1.3.4 Two related issues are the increasing size of waste collection vehicles and an increasing difficulty in navigating waste vehicles around some neighbourhoods particular with parked cars restricting manoeuvrability. A further aspect associated with household waste management is that of kerbside clutter which can impede visually or mobility impaired residents. Provision of adequate space for the storage of segregated commercial waste streams can limit the ability to help businesses reduce their landfill tax payments. This represents an area where planning can help by ensuring adequate provision for waste management at new commercial premises.
- 1.3.5 Given the dominance of construction and demolition waste amongst the total waste generated, the aim is to encourage consideration of wastes during the project design stages. Consequently consideration of measures to design out waste can be considered as part of the impacts of development projects and thus amenable to consideration within planning policy.
- 1.3.6 Businesses face financial drivers to reduce the waste disposed at landfill however it is in the design phase where designing out of waste can assist. By encouraging development to be benchmarked using either using BREEAM or CEEQUAL sustainability award systems a further motivation can be placed to encourage the reduction of waste and increased use of recycled materials.



## C1.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 1.4.1 The following uncertainties and limitations were identified that have a potential influence upon the existing or future baseline situation and therefore the sustainability challenges and opportunities associated with waste management:
- The volume of waste that could be generated in future years as this is affected by the future population, the amount of packaging consumed and the quantities reused or recycled.
  - While population numbers are forecast to increase, the price of landfill and the ability to recycle may lead to a slight increase in the quantities of waste as presented in the Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
- 1.4.2 While no uncertainties affect the task of scoping future appraisals, it is envisaged that further information could be assembled to identify residential and commercial areas may encounter difficulties in catering for waste recycling.

## C1.5 Scoping

- 1.5.1 This section presents a view on whether waste ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either an authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### Authority-wide, Telford and Newport

- 1.5.2 The disposal of waste is an indicator of an unsustainable use of materials. Also, the manner in which buildings and urban areas are laid out can constrain the diversion of waste from landfill by inadequate space for segregated waste storage. For this reason, waste management has been **scoped into** appraisals of authority-wide plans as well as Telford and Newport focused plans.

### Rural Areas

- 1.5.3 No evidence has emerged to suggest that waste management in the rural areas presents any significant issues that can be influenced by the spatial planning process beyond those identified in the authority-wide section of this chapter. It is therefore considered that there are no significant issues hence waste is **scoped out** future appraisals of plans directed towards the rural area.

## C1.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

- 1.6.1 Having determined whether a theme is scoped in or out of future appraisals it is necessary to establish the sustainability objectives by which the performance of the plan will be assessed. It is also appropriate to propose the indicators that may be used to monitor any significant effects that might arise.
- 1.6.2 There are numerous indicators that are captured as part of the national waste reporting process including those used in this section. It is suggested that the following indicators continue to be used to monitor progress:

**Table C1.1: Waste Objectives & Indicators**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver continued reduction in the quantities of waste being generated and the quantities being disposed of at landfill.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quantity of household waste generated per annum.</li> <li>Quantity of household waste generated per person.</li> <li>Percentage of household waste recycled.</li> <li>Quantity of municipal waste sent to landfill.</li> <li>Number of retail/commercial centres with dedicated recycling storage areas.</li> <li>Quantity of food waste collected for anaerobic digestion.</li> <li>Number of people employed in resource/waste management.</li> <li>Number of "recycling on the go" facilities provided per annum.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimated quantity of household waste generated per person.</li> <li>Estimated percentage of household waste recycled.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

## C2. MINERAL RESOURCES

### C2.1 Baseline Conditions

- 2.1.1 There is currently no sand & gravel working in Telford & Wrekin, although a single site produces crushed rock. The Shropshire Core Strategy<sup>19</sup> advises that sufficient crushed rock aggregate resources exist from permitted sites, but that additional sand & gravel resources may be required up to 2026 to provide for flexibility and local competition.

### C2.2 Future Baseline

- 2.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the assessment is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. In order to perform this assessment it is therefore necessary to consider the future situation without the plan that is being assessed. This section provides a view on the future baseline for mineral resources.
- 2.2.2 As shallow coal measures are recorded in the Central Telford area, including Old Park and Malinslee character areas, development proposals should consider land stability and surface hazards resulting from past mining operations. Development in these areas could also lead to the sterilisation of the mineral resource. Consideration should be given to the extraction of any remnant shallow coal prior to development taking place, which would also enable the land to be stabilised and treated rather than the less sustainable option of attempting to fill any voids<sup>20</sup>. There are no current proposals for mineral extraction.

### C2.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 2.3.1 In the absence of any information it is proposed that where regeneration projects are being taken forward that the Council requires developers to demonstrate that the maximum amount of recycled materials has been used in the project and the amount sent to landfill has been minimised. Opportunities afforded through BREEAM and CEEQUAL for developers to demonstrate their performance in minimising the use of primary materials could be promoted.

### C2.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 2.4.1 In the absence of an up to date strategy, there is little available evidence to describe the current and future state of mineral assets in Telford & Wrekin and wider Shropshire beyond the Minerals Local Plan published in 2000. As a minerals strategic plan is in preparation, information on the baseline situation, where mineral resources would need protection from other development would become available.
- 2.4.2 There is an absence of information on the quantity of mineral resources consumed in Telford, however it is recognised that with the urban form, future development of housing and commercial land use will consume further resources. The impact of this demand is unknown. Also, the regeneration of areas of sub-standard housing and commercial premises give rise to opportunities to maximise the reuse and recycling of construction materials.

<sup>19</sup> Shropshire Council, 2011: Adopted Core Strategy

<sup>20</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Central Telford Area Action plan

## C2.5 Scoping

- 2.5.1 This section presents a view on whether mineral resources ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either a authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### Authority-wide

- 2.5.2 Given the quantities of construction and demolition waste (0.9m tonnes per annum) efforts to maximise reuse of materials and to reduce the quantity of land affected by mineral extraction forms part of the sustainability agenda hence mineral resources are **scoped in** for authority-wide plans.

### Telford

- 2.5.3 While the use of secondary aggregates has been **scoped into** appraisals for future development plans in Telford, the sterilisation of mineral resources may be excluded depending upon the scope of the plan particularly as mineral extraction may be programmed to occur in advance of the development.

### Newport

- 2.5.4 Given the absence of mineral extraction and the limited development proposed for Newport. There is little prospect of significant sustainability issues arising as a result of future spatial plans. Hence this aspect as well as a potential for the sterilisation of resources is **scoped out** from future appraisals.

### Rural Areas

- 2.5.5 There is no information concerning the availability or potential sterilisation of mineral resources in the vicinity of High Ercall, Tibberton or Waters Upton nor is there envisaged to be much opportunity to promote the use of secondary aggregates beyond the approach to be addressed through authority-wide initiatives. For these reasons, this subject has been **scoped out** from further consideration.

## C2.6 Objectives & Indicators

- 2.6.1 The sustainability objective and indicators seek to focus upon the relationship between revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents and minerals rather than mineral plans (see Table C2.2).

**Table C2.2: Mineral Resources Objectives & Indicators**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the quantities of primary aggregate required for building and infrastructure projects by maximising the use of secondary aggregates to allocate sand and gravel sites for future working to contribute towards sub regional apportionments, to protect mineral resources from sterilisation.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The quantity of materials specified in Site Waste Management Plans of major projects undertaken in Telford &amp; Wrekin that are made available for reuse in future developments.;</li> <li>The tonnage of mineral that is extracted prior to being otherwise sterilised by urban development.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The quantity of materials specified in Site Waste Management Plans of major projects undertaken in Telford &amp; Wrekin that are made available for reuse in future developments.</li> <li>The tonnage of mineral that is extracted prior to being otherwise sterilised by urban development.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

## C3: ENERGY

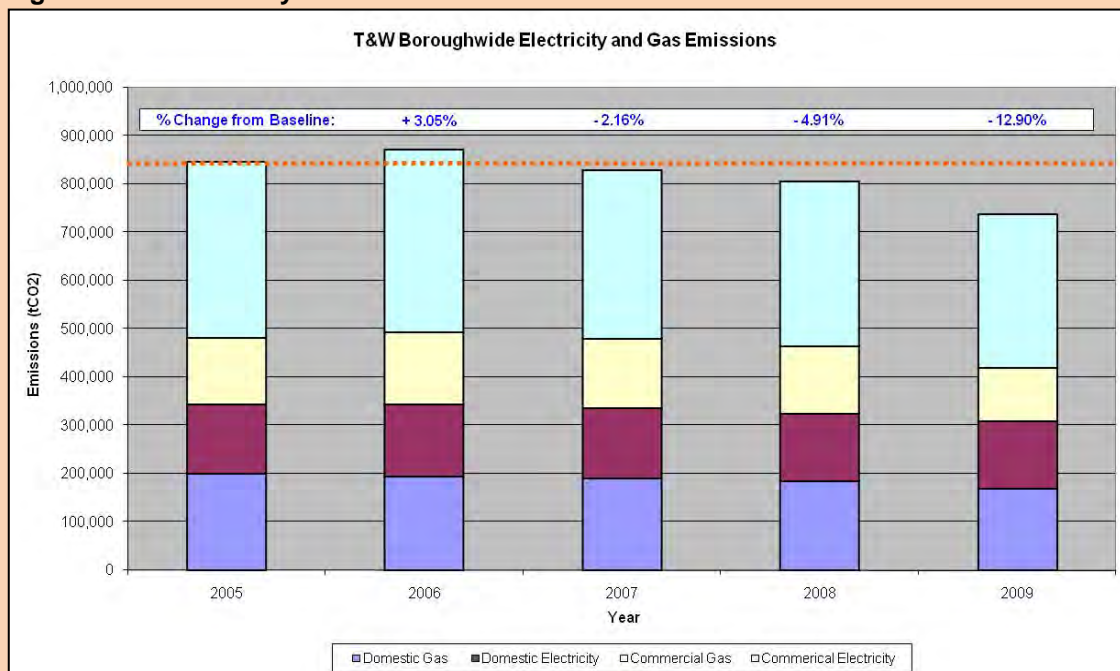
### C3.1 Baseline Conditions

- 3.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline situation concerning energy consumption and fuel poverty conditions across Telford & Wrekin before then considering the situation in Telford, Newport and the rural areas.

#### Authority-wide

- 3.1.2 Over the period 2005 to 2009 there has been reduction in the amount of domestic energy and gas consumed across the Telford & Wrekin (see Figure C3.1). In 2009 the average domestic electricity consumption was 3,992kWh<sup>21</sup> a reduction from the 4,352 kWh consumed in 2002. The average domestic gas consumption in 2009 was 14,175 kWh down from the 19,037 kWh consumed in 2002.

**Figure C3.1: Electricity & Gas Carbon Dioxide Emissions<sup>22</sup>**



- 3.1.3 The physical electricity supply cable network is insufficient to enable some companies to run all their machines at the same time and research showed examples of businesses only operating certain machines in the morning or afternoon and of having created their own generation facilities to 'top up' that available from the Grid<sup>23</sup>. The electrical networks therefore currently face the challenge of renewal and reconfiguration to adapt to the needs of renewable and low carbon technologies.
- 3.1.4 Figure C3.2 shows the heat demand across Telford & Wrekin providing an insight into where interventions to address energy demand could be targeted.

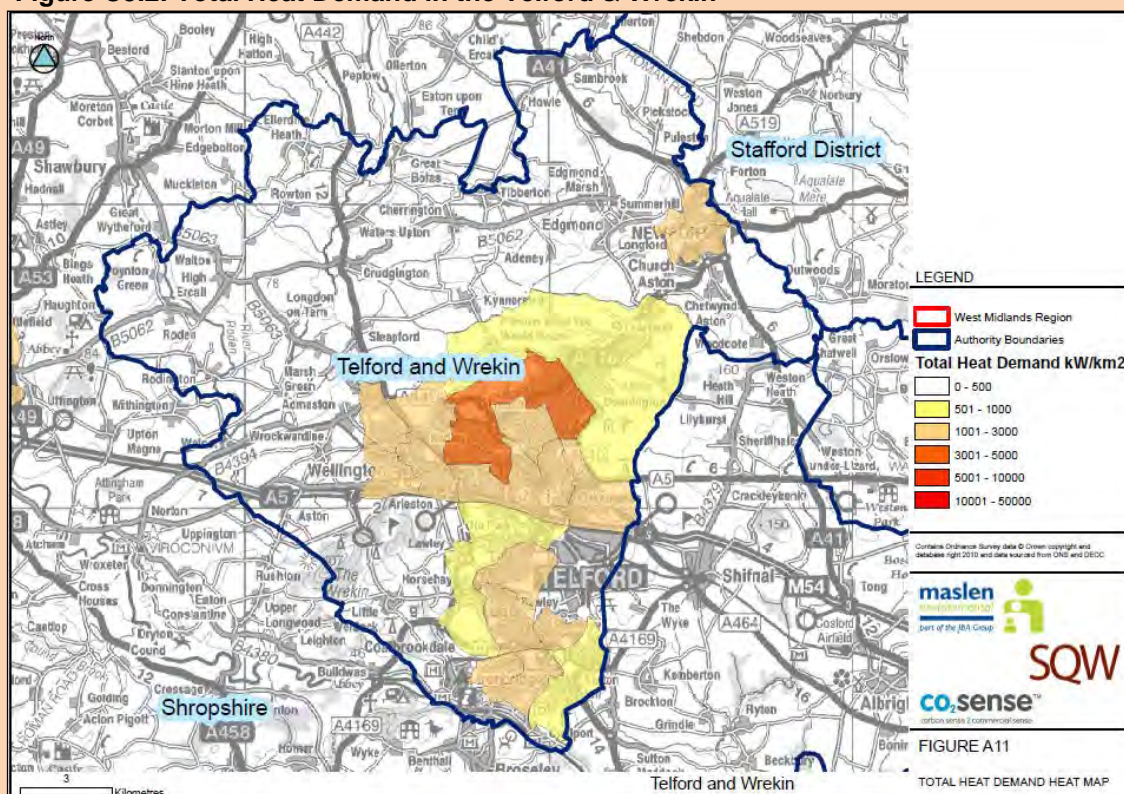
<sup>21</sup> DECC, 2011: Sub-National Energy Consumption Statistics 2009  
[http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy\\_stats/regional/regional.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/regional/regional.aspx)

<sup>22</sup> Prepared by Telford & Wrekin Borough Council

<sup>23</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Local Economic Assessment Supporting Information  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

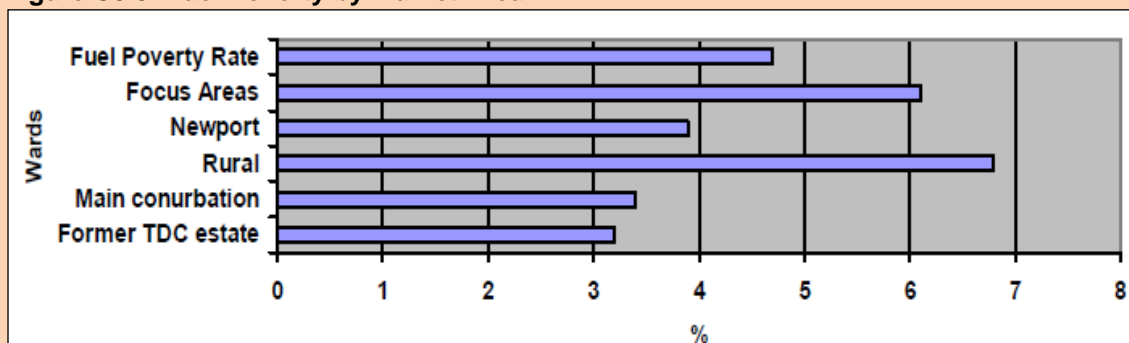


Figure C3.2: Total Heat Demand in the Telford & Wrekin<sup>24</sup>



3.1.5 In 2008 there were an estimated 3200 (4.7%) households in fuel poverty<sup>25</sup>, which compared to approximately 13.9% in England based on the fuel poverty projection issued in the Sixth Annual Report of the Fuel Poverty Advisory Group (See Figure C3.3). Since 2008 energy prices have increased sharply.

Figure C3.3: Fuel Poverty by Market Area<sup>26</sup>



3.1.6 Unusually, the rate of fuel poverty in both owner-occupied and privately rented stock is very similar at 4.1% and 5.0% retrospectively. The rate in social housing properties is 6.1% (reflecting the fact that incomes are lower although energy efficiency may be slightly higher). The 2008 stock condition survey also indicated higher relative levels of fuel poverty in:

<sup>24</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Renewable Energy Capacity Study for the West Midlands, prepared by SQW, Maslen environmental and CO<sub>2</sub>sense

<sup>25</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2008: Affordable Warmth Strategy

<sup>26</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2008: Affordable Warmth Strategy 2008.



- Pre 1919 stock;
- Dwellings which are non decent and in particular those which are unfit;
- Elderly households, and single parent households;
- Economically vulnerable households.

3.1.7 The geographical areas most strongly associated with fuel poverty are the rural wards: Donnington, Wrockwardine Wood, Trench, St Georges, Ketley, Oakengates, Malinslee, Dawley Magna and Madeley. Although these areas exhibit the highest incidence of fuel poverty there is evidence to suggest that fuel poverty occurs across Telford & Wrekin.

### **Telford**

3.1.8 A review of the average domestic electricity consumed in 2009 in Telford revealed that residents in Woodside consumed 70% as much electricity per year as those in Malinslee (12,464 KWh and 7,338 KWh). The average domestic electricity consumption for the Borough was 9,697 KWh<sup>27</sup>.

3.1.9 Brookside exhibited the lowest average domestic gas consumption in 2009 at 11,670 KWh, while Priorslee consumed the highest at 19,187 KWh. The average annual domestic gas consumption for Telford & Wrekin was 15,000 KWh<sup>28</sup>.

3.1.10 In terms of total average domestic energy consumed in 2009, the Telford & Wrekin average was estimated to be 24,687 KWh, with Priorslee consuming 28,429 KWh and Malinslee consuming 19,350 KWh. Priorslee is in the 10% least deprived areas nationally, while Malinslee is in the 10% most deprived areas nationally.

3.1.11 With regard to fuel poverty in Telford the following issues exist:

- An ageing population;
- 30% of housing stock was built between 1965 and 1974 using non-traditional construction techniques making energy efficiency upgrading more difficult.

### **Newport**

3.1.12 A review of the average domestic electricity consumed in 2009 in Newport revealed that residents consumed less electricity per year than the average for Telford & Wrekin (approx 8,600 KWh as opposed to 9,697 KWh)<sup>29</sup>.

3.1.13 In terms of average domestic gas consumption in 2009 Newport North virtually matched the average annual domestic gas consumption for Telford & Wrekin at 15,032 KWh. While Newport South consumed a lower amount at 14,253 KWh.

3.1.14 In terms of total average domestic energy consumed in 2009, the Telford & Wrekin average was estimated to be 24,687 KWh, with Newport North consuming 23,680 KWh and Newport South consuming 22,828 KWh.

<sup>27</sup> Based on DECC Middle Layer Super Output Area (MLSOA) domestic electricity estimates 2009

<sup>28</sup> Based on DECC Middle Layer Super Output Area (MLSOA) domestic electricity estimates 2009

<sup>29</sup> Based on DECC Middle Layer Super Output Area (MLSOA) domestic electricity and gas estimates 2009

## Rural Areas

- 3.1.15 Rural average annual domestic electricity consumption is higher than the Telford & Wrekin average in the Ercall (11,289 KWh) and Edgmond (12,103 KWh)<sup>30</sup>. In terms of average domestic gas consumption, Edgmond and The Ercall consume 17,941 KWh and 16,818 KWh, both above the Telford & Wrekin average of 15,000 KWh. Not surprisingly, Edgmond residents consume the highest amount of energy. At 30,043 KWh consumption is 55% above that of the lowest in Telford & Wrekin (Malinslee).

## C3.2 Future Baseline

- 3.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the assessment is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. In order to perform this assessment it is therefore necessary to consider the future situation without the plan that is being assessed. This section provides a view on the future baseline for energy although a view is only available at the authority-wide level.
- 3.2.2 The UK Renewable Energy Strategy published in 2009, demonstrated that the 2020 target of 15% renewable energy could be achieved and suggested that this would require 30% of electricity; 12% of heat and 10% transport to come from renewable sources.
- 3.2.3 In a regional Renewable Energy Capacity study to assess the potential accessible renewable energy resources at 2030 (undertaken by SQW, Maslen Environmental and CO2sense<sup>31</sup> and part sponsored by Telford & Wrekin) revealed a potential energy capacity of 1,300 MW comprising:
- 799MW commercial wind;
  - 52MW small scale wind;
  - 374MW micro-generation (243MW air source heat pumps, 61MW ground source heat pumps 39 MW solar PV);
  - 43 MW biomass and waste (municipal solid waste 7MW).
- 3.2.4 Currently, the total micro-generation installed in Telford & Wrekin is 0.081MWe (86% photovoltaic and 14% wind)<sup>32</sup>. This compares with 0.496 MWe for Stafford, 0.881 MWe for Shropshire and 1.59 MWe for Sedgemoor. Figure C3.4 indicates the area where the greatest potential for commercial wind energy exists.
- 3.2.5 The coal-fired power station at Ironbridge is due to be decommissioned in 2016<sup>33</sup>.

<sup>30</sup> Based on DECC Middle Layer Super Output Area (MLSOA) domestic electricity and gas estimates 2009

<sup>31</sup> [http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Solihull\\_Data\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Solihull_Data_Sheet.pdf)

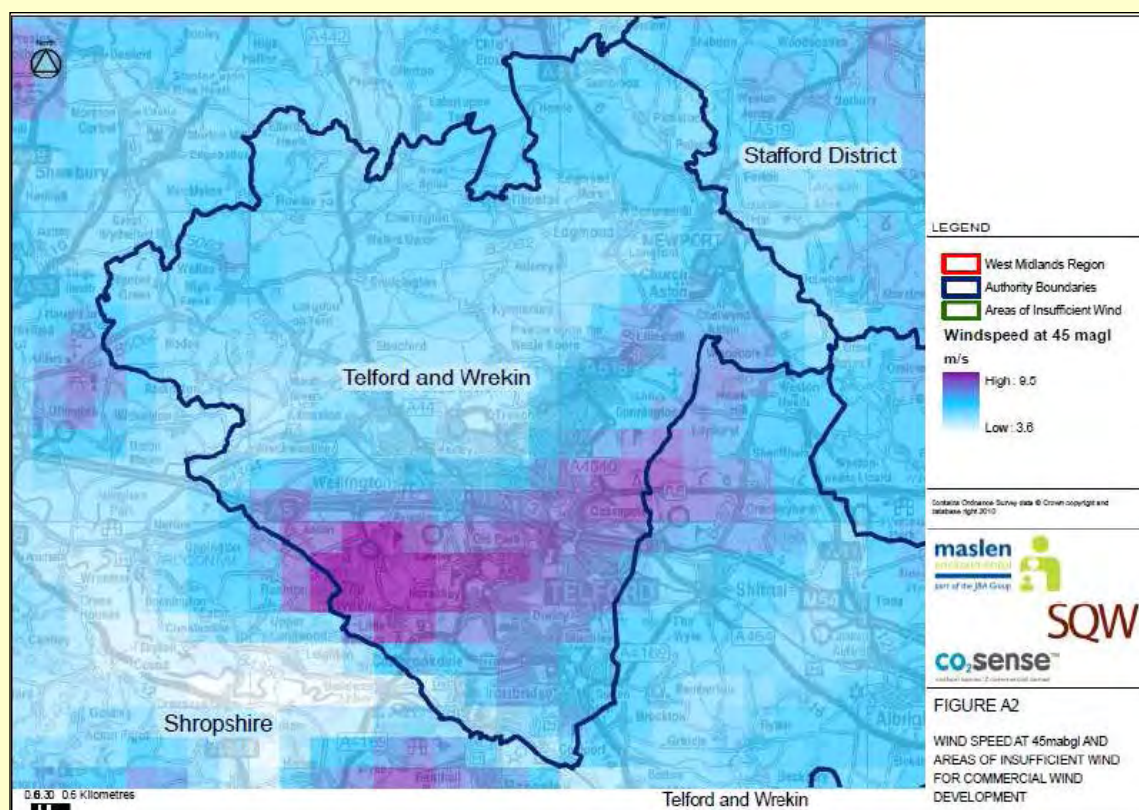
<sup>32</sup> <http://www.aeat.com/microgenerationindex/>

<sup>33</sup> Shropshire 2011: Core Strategy

### C3.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 3.3.1 A challenge is to encourage new development projects to not only fulfil their individual potential in adopting renewable energy technologies, but also to deliver integrated approaches that link heat producers with consumers. While the provision of retrofit decentralised energy networks may not be commercially viable at present, provision could be made for future installation in high priority areas to assist in lowering the costs of implementing such systems in the future.
- 3.3.2 The Council could look to assist the adoption of renewable energy technologies by seeking opportunities to secure:
- Decentralised energy to meet the needs of new development;
  - Integration of waste management with decentralised energy;
  - Co-location of potential heat suppliers and users; and
  - Renewable energy, surplus heat and biomass district heating networks.

**Figure C3.4: Potential for Commercial Wind Energy**<sup>34</sup>



- 3.3.3 Opportunities to work with developers were identified to regenerate older industrial parks with a “Green Energy” theme through hydrogen cells, solar power and heating, ground source heating and possibly biomass heat and power systems. Following a detailed assessment, it may be possible to identify spatially specific development policies and also review site allocations to contribute towards addressing heat demand by low carbon means.

<sup>34</sup> [http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Solihull\\_Data\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Solihull_Data_Sheet.pdf)

### C3.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 3.4.1 The following uncertainties and limitations were identified that have a potential influence upon the existing or future baseline situation and therefore the sustainability challenges and opportunities.
- No information is available on resource efficiency across Telford & Wrekin.
  - A lack of information on the location and practicality of decentralised energy networks and the delivery of renewable technologies for Telford.

### C3.5 Scoping

- 3.5.1 This section presents a view on whether energy ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either a authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

#### Authority-wide

- 3.5.2 The importance of energy use and renewable energy in particular to reduce carbon emissions is recognised and hence is **scoped into** the appraisal requirements for authority-wide plans.
- 3.5.3 Transmission line capacity has been **scoped out** of consideration as they are considered under energy rather than spatial planning legislation. Also, it is unclear whether the capacity constraints are or have been resolved.

#### Telford

- 3.5.4 As the Telford community represents the largest user and also a significant part of the means by which low carbon energy systems can be delivered, it is correct that energy be **scoped into** future appraisals.

#### Newport

- 3.5.5 Given average performance in energy consumption and the limited development that is anticipated for Newport this theme has been **scoped out** of future plans.

#### Rural Areas

- 3.5.6 Renewable energy is **scoped in** for future appraisals in the rural area given the potential for wind and biomass power generation reflecting upon the situation where many houses are not connected to the gas network.

### C3.6 Objectives and Indicators

- 3.6.1 The objectives and indicators are set out in Table C3.1.

**Table C3.1: Energy Objectives & Indicators**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute towards the reduction in the use of carbon intensive energy.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual average domestic electricity and gas consumption per consumer.</li> <li>MWe of renewable energy consented each year based on schemes that have applied for Feed-in Tariff accreditation.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>

## C4. WATER SUPPLY & WASTE WATER TREATMENT

### C4.1 Baseline Conditions

- 4.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline situation concerning water supply and waste water treatment consumption and fuel poverty conditions across Telford & Wrekin before then considering the situation in Telford, Newport and the rural areas.

#### Authority-wide

- 4.1.2 The River Severn is the principal source of surface water, and has a 5km stretch running along the Authority's southern boundary. Stretches of the rivers Tern, Roden, Meese and Strine also lie within Telford & Wrekin and form part of the Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment. The principal local groundwater source is the north Shropshire aquifer. However other aquifers underlie Telford & Wrekin and are subject to numerous public and private abstractions.
- 4.1.3 Severn Trent Water (ST) and the Strine Internal Drainage Board (IDB) are responsible for drainage in parts of the north of Telford & Wrekin. Environment Agency designated main rivers are also within the study area, including the River Severn which flows along the Authority's Southern boundary. The majority of the other watercourses are located in the rural north of Telford & Wrekin, where they have an active role in land drainage and surface water drainage from the northern half of Telford Town.
- 4.1.4 In addition to the main rivers, smaller watercourses play an active role in the surface water drainage system. The majority are in small urban catchments that receive a large amount of surface water runoff and discharges from the surface water sewer network. Several of these watercourses have been culverted to allow for development<sup>35</sup>.
- 4.1.5 Telford & Wrekin is broadly split in two in terms of drainage catchments by a watershed that loosely follows the route of the M54 Motorway. Small watercourses located to the north of the M54 eventually join the River Tern (via the River Strine) which meets the River Severn further upstream. Those to the south enter the Severn either at Coalbrookdale or Coalport, or flow east to meet the River Worfe which will then discharge into the River Severn.
- 4.1.6 Telford & Wrekin lies within an area of moderate water stress. Approximately 30% of the area's water supply comes from surface water abstracted from the River Severn and supported by upland reservoirs, such as Clywedog Reservoir and Lake Vyrnwy (both in mid-Wales)<sup>36</sup>. The remaining 70% comes from groundwater with the principal source being the North Shropshire Sandstone Aquifer. Other aquifers support public and private abstractions. The Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy<sup>37</sup> records that the groundwater resources are over-abstracted.

#### Telford

- 4.1.7 Telford lies within the Environment Agency's Water Resource Management Unit 2 with Sambrook East, Sambrook West and Adeney forming the groundwater management units (see Figure C4.1). Telford is mainly supplied by groundwater. The two main rivers near Telford are the River Worfe and River Tern, both of which are designated as being 'over abstracted' at times of low flow indicating unacceptable damage to the environment at low flow<sup>38</sup>.

<sup>35</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Telford and Wrekin Preliminary Water Cycle Study

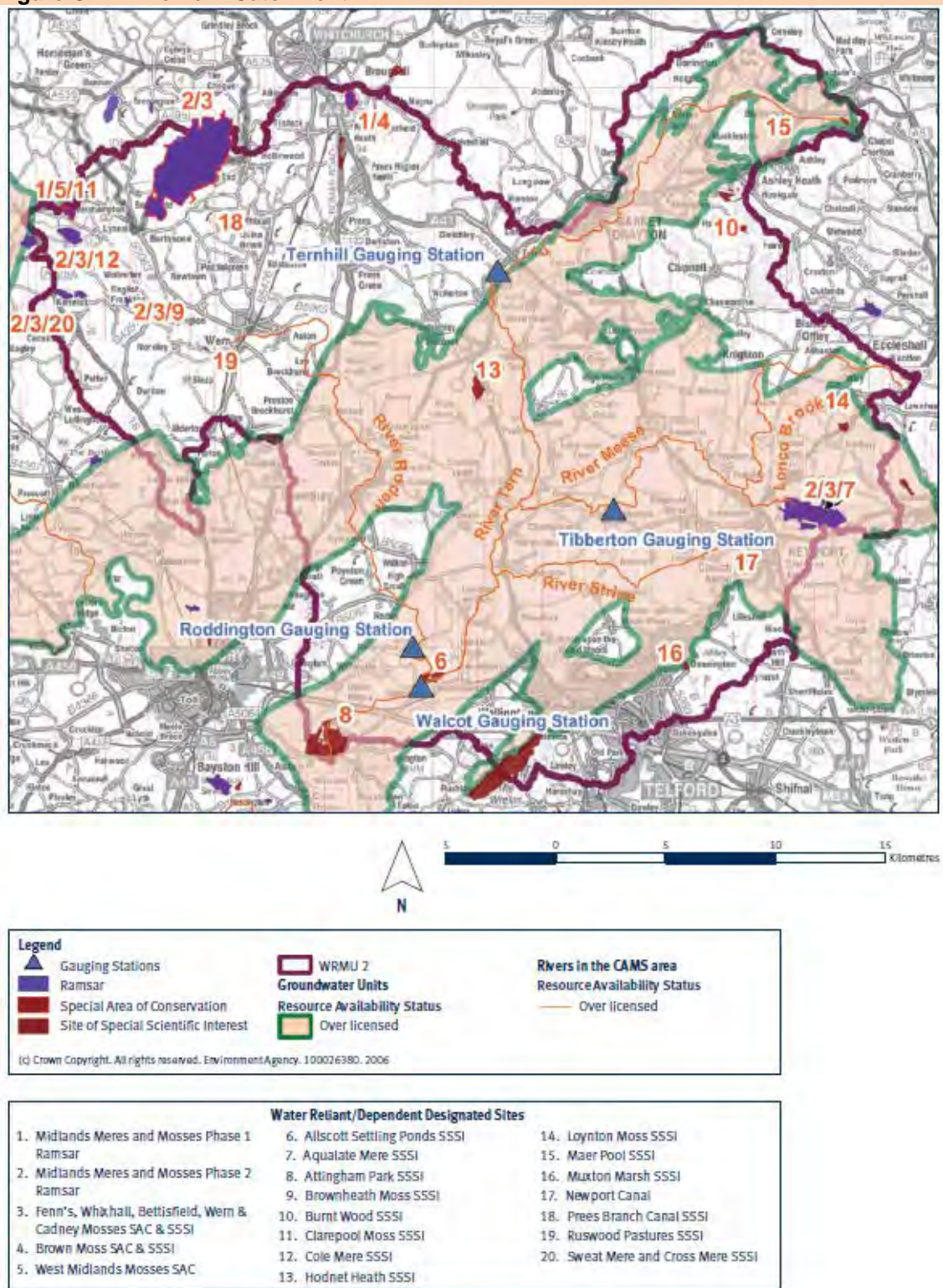
<sup>36</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Telford and Wrekin Preliminary Water Cycle Study

<sup>37</sup> Environment Agency, 2007: Water Abstraction: Getting the Balance Right, The Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy

<sup>38</sup> Severn Trent Water, 2010: Strategic Environmental Assessment Final Report for the Water Resources Management Plan



Figure C4.1: The Tern Catchment<sup>39,40</sup>



<sup>39</sup> Environment Agency, 2007: The Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy

<sup>40</sup> © Natural England copyright 2011



- 4.1.8 The Environment Agency note that a series of ecological sites may affect water availability (see Table C4.1).

**Table C4.1: Ecological Features Potentially Affecting Water Availability<sup>41</sup>**

Feature	Comment
Water related Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)	Brown Heath Moss, Maer Pool, Muxton Marsh, Prees Branch Canal, Newport Canal, Ruewood Pastures, Sweat Mere and Crose Mere
Water related Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Fenn's, Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem & Cadney Moss, Clarepool Moss, Brown Moss
Water related Ramsar sites	Midlands Meres & Mosses

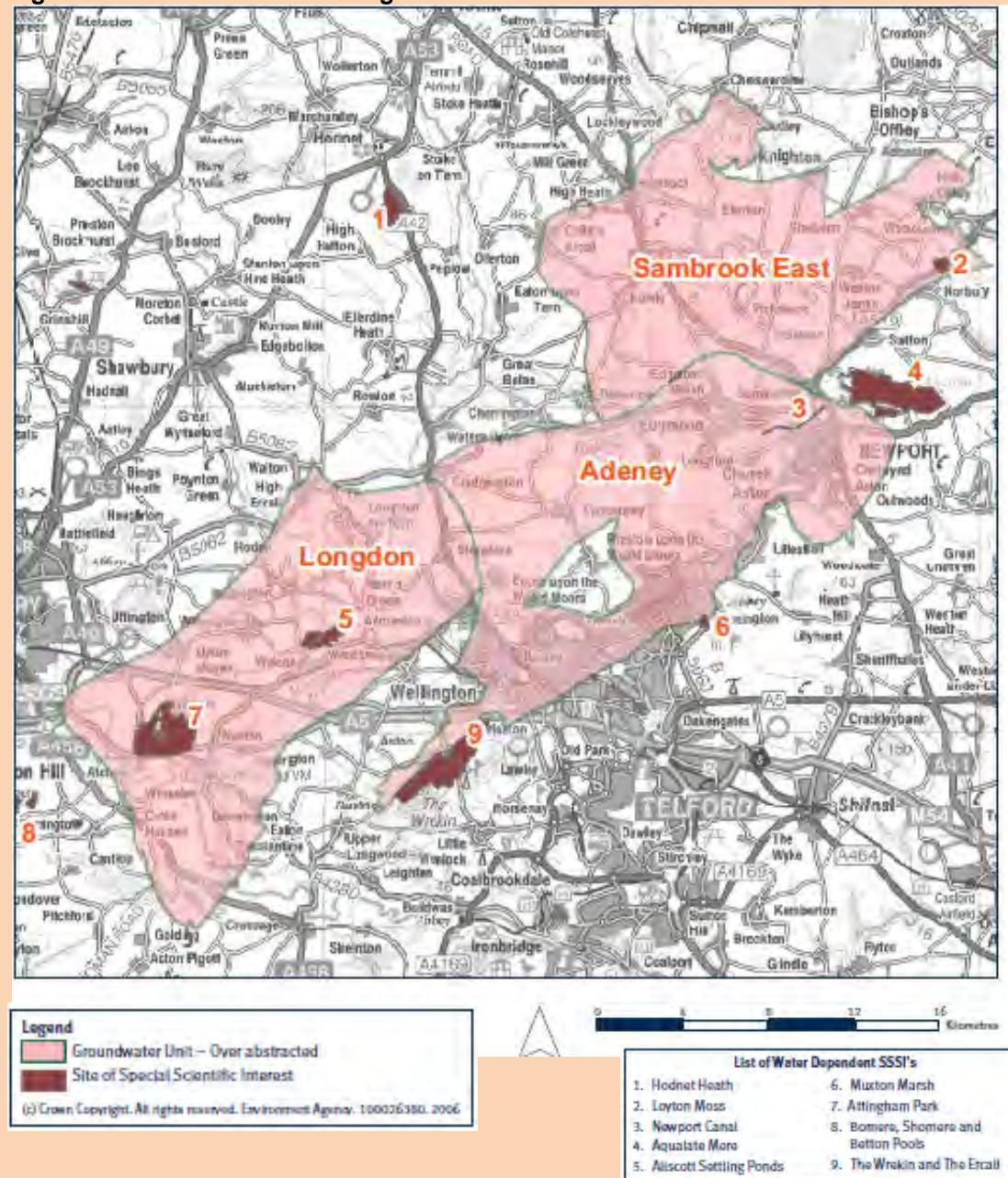
- 4.1.9 The water resource availability status is Over Licensed at low flows<sup>42</sup>. The following action is consequently being taken by the Environment Agency:
- Abstraction from the Rivers Tern, Meese, Roden, Strine and their tributaries must cease when the flow in the River Tern falls below 290 Ml/d as measured by our gauging station at Walcot on the River Tern.
  - For groundwater licences will be available from three of the groundwater aquifers in this Management Unit (Radmoor, Sambrook West and Wistanswick) on a short term basis. Time limited licences will be issued with an end date of the next cycle of CAMS (2013). Unlike normal practice there will be no presumption of renewal. This approach will therefore enable short-term development of groundwater resources.
- 4.1.10 In terms of the Groundwater management unit – Sambrook, East, Adeney and Longdon (see Figure C4.2) the situation is one of over abstraction hence no new licences will be granted
- 4.1.11 In the case of existing licences, no additional water will be granted. Licences due for renewal will only be approved providing they pass the three tests of demonstrating need, being water efficient and being environmentally sustainable.
- 4.1.12 The Hydrology of Soil Type (HOST) classification for the central Telford area is HOST class 18, which represents impermeable soils<sup>43</sup>. Therefore, even though the area does not lie within a Source Protection Zone (SPZ), infiltration SuDS will be difficult to operate effectively and surface storage SuDS are more likely to be suitable to attenuate surface water runoff.
- 4.1.13 The northern part of Telford is partially underlain by a small area of SPZ3, which represents the total catchment area for a public water supply near Lilleshall. Here the presence of impermeable soil types means that infiltration SuDS are likely to be ineffective and hence surface storage SuDS methods should be considered.
- 4.1.14 The southern part of Telford is generally free from public water supply and Groundwater SPZs. Some parts of the Groundwater Vulnerability Map (Sheet No. 22) indicate the presence of non-aquifers (i.e. of negligible permeability). The HOST soil class in this area is 24, indicating the presence of impermeable soils. Infiltration SuDS are likely to be ineffective in southern parts of Telford and surface storage SuDS methods should be considered.

<sup>41</sup> Environment Agency, 2007: The Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy

<sup>42</sup> Environment Agency, 2007: The Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy

<sup>43</sup> Telford and Wrekin 2009: Preliminary Water Cycle Study August 2009

Figure C4.2: Groundwater Management Units<sup>44</sup>



## Newport

- 4.1.15 The water supply and waste water treatment situation for Newport is not known at this stage.

## Rural Areas

- 4.1.16 The situation concerning water supply and waste water treatment for the rural communities is not known at this stage.

<sup>44</sup> Environment Agency, 2007: The Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

## C4.2 Future Baseline

4.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the assessment is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. In order to perform this assessment it is therefore necessary to consider the future situation without the plan that is being assessed. This section provides a view on the future baseline for employment.

### Authority-wide

4.2.2 Some spare capacity is available within the existing abstraction licences, providing the discharge quality is adequate. Increasing nitrate concentrations could mean that many of the groundwater sources are no longer suitable for water supplies in the future. Nitrate levels, the effects of climate change and the Water Framework Directive (WFD) issues may affect the amount of spare licence available in the future<sup>45</sup>.

4.2.3 The Preliminary Water Cycle Study<sup>46</sup> indicates that the southern part of Telford could support new development with relatively little capital expenditure in new infrastructure. It is assumed that growth will be directed towards the following treatment plant:

- South of the M54 will be discharged to and treated at Coalport;
- North of the M54 will be discharged to and treated at Rushmoor;
- Newport will be discharged to and treated at Newport;
- Tibberton and Waters Upton will be discharged to and treated at Waters Upton;
- High Ercall will be discharged to and treated at High Ercall.

4.2.4 The Water Cycle Scoping Study assesses three different housing growth options and suggests that the total number of dwellings highlighted under the maximum scenario could be achieved. There would however need to be a redistribution of the potential dwelling numbers to maintain current consent levels. It is noted that with sufficient time, the infrastructural requirements to prevent deterioration on the receiving water environment can be accommodated within STWL's business plan. This could result in a redistribution of the phasing in relation to the planned development, financed and completed in advance of the development.

### 4.2.5 Telford

4.2.6 Abstraction for most of the town's water comes from groundwater sources. This source along with surface water abstractions is under a management regime that precludes new abstractions and imposes conditions on existing licences upon renewal.

4.2.7 The town is in an area where water resources are already subject to over abstraction and over licensing during low flows. Severn Trent Water reported that across the Water Resource Zone there is a surplus of 10 Ml/d by 2019/20<sup>47</sup>. The supply / demand strategy for this zone is now based on reducing demand through encouraging more water efficiency and driving leakage down over time. An increase in water metering penetration is expected to reduce the gap in the supply/demand balance in this area<sup>48</sup>.

<sup>45</sup> Telford and Wrekin 2009: Preliminary Water cycle study August 2009

<sup>46</sup> Telford and Wrekin 2009: Preliminary Water cycle study August 2009

<sup>47</sup> Severn Trent Water, 2010: Water Resource Management Plan

<sup>48</sup> Severn Trent Water, 2010: Water Resource Management Plan

4.2.8 It is assumed that the waste water flows from growth in Telford would be directed towards the following treatment plant:

- South of the M54 will be discharged to and treated at Coalport;
- North of the M54 will be discharged to and treated at Rushmoor.

4.2.9 It is understood from the preliminary water cycle study that there may be emerging constraints at Coalport to meet future housing growth.

### **Newport**

4.2.10 It is assumed that the situation at Newport would reflect the overall increasing constraints on water supply and waste water treatment.

### **Rural Areas**

4.2.11 As noted above constraints to water treatment affect some of the rural settlements. It is assumed that these constraints will continue until development pressures and regulatory requirements stimulate investment in the waste water treatment works.

## **C4.3 Challenges and Opportunities**

4.3.1 Challenges include ensuring that future development is not compromised by limitations on either water resource use or the implications of discharges on water quality.

4.3.2 Abstraction of water appears to present a potentially increasing constraint upon Telford. Hence a challenge will be to secure reductions in demand particularly within the new residential and commercial development sectors. An opportunity exists to develop planning policies that promote water conservation.

## **C4.4 Uncertainties and Limitations**

4.4.1 Considerable uncertainties exist in the forecast future demand and the capacity of both the water supply and treatment assets to cater for such demand. However for the purposes of the appraisal there is enough information to inform the scoping exercise.

4.4.2 It is not known whether potential constraints on waste water treatment at Coalport will become evident within the current planning horizon given the lower rate of housing completions, potentially lower levels of in-migration and investment decisions made by Severn Trent.

4.4.3 Water resources are an increasing constraint, particularly given the links between the available water resources and sites of international ecological importance. Further it is possible that water quality constraints on the discharge from waste water treatment works may affect the scheduling of housing schemes if upgrades are not in-place.

## **C4.5 Scoping**

- 4.5.1 This section presents a view on whether water supply and waste water treatment ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either a authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### **Authority-wide**

- 4.5.2 Water supply and waste water treatment are **scoped into** appraisals of authority-wide plan appraisals given the potential for both to give rise to constraints to development.

### **Telford**

- 4.5.3 Given that Telford dominates the area's water consumption and generation of waste water, so water supply and treatment is **scoped into** to plans focused upon the town.

### **Newport**

- 4.5.4 As water supplies are to be addressed by leak reduction and domestic metering, and there also is adequate capacity to cope with waste water from the proposed additional housing, these subjects have been **scoped out** of further consideration for Newport.

### **Rural Areas**

- 4.5.5 Based on the information provided for the authority-wide analysis, it would and the prospect of 3,200 homes being located centred on the larger villages there may be capacity issues associated with the waste water treatment plants that could require further consideration. As such matters are best considered at a project level the subject has been **scoped out** from further consideration.



## C4.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

4.6.1 The sustainability objectives and indicators are provided in Table C4.2.

**Table C4.2: Objectives & Indicators**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To minimise demand upon water resources (surface and groundwater) and to enable the timely provision of adequate waste water treatment to support increased housing provision.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of development projects for which water conservation measures are part of the design.</li> <li>Number of objections received from water companies over the ability to meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and accommodate the waste water from additional housing.</li> <li>Progress the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, incorporating the findings of the Water Cycle Study.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver significant reductions in water demand from public supplies across development proposals through a combination of water harvesting and water conservation measures.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The total quantity of water saving per day delivered through planning consents as evidenced by means such as CEEQUAL, BREEAM or other recognised methods.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

## C5: TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

### C5.1 Baseline Conditions

- 5.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline transport conditions for Telford & Wrekin before then considering the situation in Telford and the rural areas. No details were found for Newport.

#### Authority-wide

- 5.1.2 In the 1960s the car was viewed as the vehicle of choice in the future. As a result, Telford & Wrekin's road infrastructure both within its boundaries and as it connects other locations is of high quality. The same quality and range of services does not extend to public transport, although quality bus routes and a rail freight terminal have been established. Telford & Wrekin is situated on the Wolverhampton to Shrewsbury - Aberystwyth rail line with 3 stations at Telford Central, Wellington and Oakengates. The line has regular services to Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton and Birmingham New Street. The direct service to London provided by Wrexham & Shropshire Railway has ended and the Council is actively pursuing a new direct service.
- 5.1.3 Inward commuting involves about 6,000 people (4,500 from Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth 2,000 each from Wolverhampton and North Shropshire and 1,100 from South Staffordshire). External commuting with Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth and Wolverhampton being the most popular external locations for the 18% of Telford & Wrekin residents at out-commute.
- 5.1.4 The low density of development across Telford & Wrekin makes the provision of public transport services difficult. Combined with previous policies promoting the segregation of land uses in Telford, travel other than by car is less attractive and in many cases prohibits access to jobs and services e.g. retail, education, health and community facilities.
- 5.1.5 The 2005 travel to school patterns shows that the most common mode is walking 43.3% down from 50.3% in 2000; second is by car which rose slightly 36.9% to 40.8%. There has been a small increase in the proportion that cycle, 9.3% in 2000 from 12.7% in 2005. However the trend has fluctuated<sup>49</sup>.
- 5.1.6 Access is a key issue for the unemployed as 8.6% of households are without access to a vehicle. Accessibility to post offices has declined since 2008 with just over half of the population with access a post office within 800m<sup>50</sup>. Access to employment by public transport is improving, although the rate is still in the worst third compared to all other English councils. The 2005 travel to work patterns<sup>51</sup> shows that:
- 67.5% employees travel singly by car;
  - 7.1% by car with passenger;
  - 8.2 % by car as passenger;
  - 8.3% travel by foot;
  - 2.8% by bicycle;
  - 3.1% by bus;
  - 0.8% by train;
  - 0.5% by motorcycle;
  - 0.4% by taxi; and
  - 0.9% work from home<sup>52</sup>.

<sup>49</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted.

<sup>50</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Third Local Transport Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Health Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Environmental Report. December 2010

<sup>51</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted.

<sup>52</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted.



5.1.7 Bus patronage has fallen from just under 6.3 million journeys in 2003/04 to just over 5.9 million journeys in 2009/10. Satisfaction levels have fallen and punctuality is also an issue. A total of 96% of households are within 30 minutes of Telford, Wellington and Newport Town Centres compared with only 89% in 2006/07<sup>53</sup>.

5.1.8 A relatively high proportion of people (16.4% in 2005) have difficulty accessing health services when looking at the national comparator (12.1%)<sup>54</sup>. Increasing rural accessibility is a major issue since 73% of Telford & Wrekin is classified as rural, with a sparse population density of 0.7 people per hectare. A series of bespoke public transport initiatives exist for the rural area.

## Telford

5.1.9 Telford was designed and built around the use of the private car with an extensive road network. Facilities and services are provided in locations where access is predominantly made by car. Associated with this, Telford & Wrekin has a high level of car ownership. Transport surveys undertaken in 2009 as part of the development of the Telford Strategic Transport Model show that during the period 0700-1900 hours 89% of all person trips made by motorised transport are made by car, 5.3% by bus, 4.7% by LGV and only 2% by HGV.

5.1.10 Walking, cycling and rail trips were not surveyed in 2009, however the 2001 journey to work census figures are as follows:

- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| • Car/van – 74%;         | • Walk -8%;         |
| • Bus -5%;               | • Train -1%;        |
| • Bicycle -3%;           | • Work at home -7%; |
| • Motorcycle/moped – 1%; | • Taxi – 1%.        |

5.1.11 Overall fewer households in Telford have no car in comparison with the national average (22.4% compared with 26.8%), but concentrations low car ownership occur in Woodside, Madeley and Cuckoo Oak<sup>55</sup>. High car dependency and limited public transport reduces accessibility for those without a car, mainly rural inhabitants, young and elderly. Some 16.4% of people have difficulty accessing health facilities and 9.4% have difficulty accessing public transport<sup>56</sup>.

5.1.12 Telford & Wrekin is less dependent on road transport compared to the region as a whole. There was an estimated 8,300 vehicle kilometres per head in terms of road traffic flow in 2006, representing a 0.5% decrease compared with 8,340 in 2002<sup>16</sup>. Both these figures are below the regional average. This relatively low vehicle km per head estimate suggests that residents of Telford only have to travel relatively short distances to access both employment and services<sup>57</sup>.

5.1.13 The Shopping Centre is ringed by the Town Centre Box Road that contributes to the limited pedestrian accessibility to the Centre. Also, links through the site are generally poor, it being reported that there are no cycle links through the Centre which is only available for use by pedestrians during opening times. When the Shopping Centre is closed then pedestrians must use routes via the car parks<sup>58</sup>.

<sup>53</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Third Local Transport Plan

<sup>54</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Third Local Transport Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Health Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Environmental Report. December 2010

<sup>55</sup> WSP, 2005: Public Transport and Town Centre Transport Strategy for Telford, Summary Report

<sup>56</sup> WS Atkins, 2010: Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) Draft Environmental Report

<sup>57</sup> West Midlands Regional Observatory (October 2008). West Midlands Regional Assessment Telford & Wrekin. Version 3.0.

<sup>58</sup> Drivers Jonas, 2008: Telford Town Centre Masterplan Statement Telford Trustees No1 & Telford Trustees No 2

- 5.1.14 Telford town centre lacks the variety and fine grained character of the older settlements and is not an easy place to walk. Few people live in the centre and is reported as having no night time economy. Elsewhere, the town has an extensive areas of green space with an extensive rights of way and cycle network collectively amounting to 40% of the town's land area.
- 5.1.15 The older parts of the town have traditional town centres with their own distinct characteristics and identity. These areas have lower capacity roads, significant levels of frontage development and high levels of associated pedestrian and parking activity.
- 5.1.16 Bus services operate on a 'star' system in and out of Telford centre; moving across neighbourhoods involves journeys into and out of the centre, which greatly extends journey times.

### **Newport**

- 5.1.17 No information was available at the time of preparing the Scoping Report.

### **Rural Areas**

- 5.1.18 Telford & Wrekin has an extensive rural hinterland covering some 30 square miles where transport problems are mainly related to the isolation of non-car owning households. Commercial public transport services are relatively sparse and the area is better suited to demand responsive services. Cycle networks extend out from the main urban centre linking into the existing country lane network.
- 5.1.19 The bus service between the rural hinterland and Telford appears insufficiently regular to be capable of taking employees to and from work; this latter point has been raised by employers.

## **C5.2 Future Baseline**

- 5.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the assessment is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. In order to perform this appraisal it is therefore necessary to consider the future situation without the plan that is being assessed. Information was only available at the authority-wide level and for Telford.

### **Authority-wide**

- 5.2.2 The future baseline conditions for transport across Telford & Wrekin are detailed in the Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3) Environmental Report<sup>59</sup>. The Environmental Report identifies the future trends without the transport plan. Forecasts of the future transport situation are provided dependent on future development patterns and will be addressed through the LDF process.

<sup>59</sup> WS Atkins, 2010: Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) Draft Environmental Report  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

**Table C5.1: LTP3 Baseline Trends**

SEA Objective	Baseline & Trend
Equitable access to services etc	Good but declining
Air quality	Good but may decline
Greenhouse gas emissions	Moderate but declining
Adaptation to climate change	Moderate but declining
Noise & vibration	Moderate but declining
Biodiversity	Moderate but stable
International scale habitats & species	Moderate but stable
Historic environment	Moderate likely to decline
Landscape	Poor and likely to decline
Use of natural resources	No data likely to Improve
Water quality	Moderate likely to improve
Crime	Moderate but stable
Physical and mental health	Moderate but stable

5.2.3 Based upon section 11 of the LTP3 Environmental Report, the following actions are envisaged to form part of the baseline for the appraisal of subsequent plans:

- **Economic growth and reduce congestion:** A series of measures to reduce congestion, improve journey time reliability, improving access to the strategic road and rail networks and existing and new employment areas;
- **Improve accessibility:** Measures to improve and increase opportunities by public transport and non-motorised modes.
- **Area based measures:** Traffic management, walking, cycling, park and ride as well as public realm improvements in Dawley, Ironbridge, Oakengates, Wellington, Telford and Newport.
- **Climate change:** Support for low carbon vehicles and energy efficient buses and switching off street lights.
- **Road safety:** Local safety schemes, safety education, training and publicity, safe routes to schools and speed management.
- **Asset management:** Undertake highway repair and construction is carried out in a resource efficient way and use of recycled materials.
- **Quality of life measures:** Safeguards to protect the environment.

5.2.4 It is envisaged that through the actions of the third Local Transport Plan that there will be increasing opportunities for the residents of Telford to access employment and services through non-motorised modes and by public transport.

5.2.5 As people retire so their use of transport changes as:

- Car ownership declines with increasing age;
- Older women are less likely to have access to a car;
- Shopping and other personal business are the most common reasons for travel by older people; and

- Older people, specifically those over state pension age, are more reliant than younger people on public transport, as it is available free of charge<sup>60</sup>.

- 5.2.6 An expectation of increasing costs of transport over the plan period may impact hardest on those on fixed incomes with poor public transport services. The centralisation of community services increase rather than reduces the need to travel further adversely affecting those on fixed incomes. Increasing broadband services for the elderly and rural communities may offset this to an extent.
- 5.2.7 While broad levels of accessibility are not envisaged to change this assumes that service levels remain as they are. It also masks a situation where the accessibility of older people, young, elderly and minority groups may well experience change over the period of the plan particularly if changes in community service provision is not matched by changes in transport provision.
- 5.2.8 As older people tend to report concerns about crime and safety preventing them from using public transport that is available, so declining standards of maintenance may also induce greater levels of insecurity.

## Telford

- 5.2.9 The Central Telford Area Action plan will increase development which will increase the level of traffic growth to 46% compared with the base situation<sup>61</sup>. This will stress the network even more and without transport interventions the network will be at gridlock with average speed dropping to almost 2 mph (average delay per vehicle of 18 min). With the proposed CTAAP transport mitigation strategy, the average speed in the AM peak will be 27 mph (average delay per vehicle of 66 secs) and 20 mph (average delay per vehicle of 69 secs) in the PM peak.
- 5.2.10 The traffic level in Telford Town Centre area is predicted to increase by 26% by 2016 due to the level of committed developments which have already been granted planning permission. As a result, the average vehicle speed in the study area will drop from the current 35 mph (average delay per vehicle of 28secs) to 21 mph (average delay per vehicle of 67 secs) in the AM peak and from 32mph (average delay per vehicle of 35secs) to 5 mph (average delay per vehicle of 11 mins) in the PM peak. The existing network will, therefore, struggle to handle this level of traffic as almost all the junctions will be performing over capacity in the AM peak and grid locking in the PM peak<sup>62</sup>.
- 5.2.11 CTAAP sets out a suitable transport mitigation strategy in support of a modal shift objective of 10%. Measures include the introduction of shared space highway designs in accordance with the design ethos set out in Manual for Streets 2, reduced parking standards for new developments and a modal shift target of 10%. A bid for the necessary works has been submitted to the DfT through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.
- 5.2.12 Cycle and pedestrian network improvements are identified to improve connectivity and accessibility to the Town Centre. The network will provide safe and reliable access between the new developments, existing residential areas and the Town Centre bus and rail services. A new iconic £2m pedestrian and cycle bridge linking Central Park with Telford Town Centre is to be the centrepiece of these initiatives. Cycling is to be will further be encouraged through the adoption of improved parking standards and travel plans for new developments<sup>63</sup>.

<sup>60</sup> ODPM, 2006: A Sure Start to Later Life: Ending Inequalities for Older People, A Social Exclusion Unit Final Report,

<sup>61</sup> Pell Frischmann, 2010: Central Telford Area Action Plan Design Development Report

<sup>62</sup> Pell Frischmann, 2010: Central Telford Area Action Plan Design Development Report

<sup>63</sup> Pell Frischmann (March 2010). Central Telford Area Action Plan (CTAAP) Design Development Q30035/VAA/R003.

5.2.13 Major improvements to public transport services have been designed to provide priority through the use of public transport only links and through signal control technology and potentially these measures could include a new public transport only route on Woodhouse Central. Increased use of bus services will also be through Travel Plans and revised parking standards for all new developments<sup>64</sup>.

5.2.14 It is envisaged that through the actions of the third Local Transport Plan that there will be increasing opportunities for the residents of Telford to access employment and services through non-motorised modes and by public transport.

### Newport

5.2.15 No information was available at the time of preparing the Scoping Report.

5.2.16 As service sector jobs and the retail sector are located in the centre of the town, it is presumed that accessibility particularly for the elderly community is unlikely to be a major concern.

### Rural Areas

5.2.17 It is envisaged that with an increasingly proportion of elderly people making up the rural population along with the centralisation of services within the main population centres, that rural transport will emerge as an ever more important issue.

5.2.18 The development strategy for the rural area is to concentrate new development, sufficient to meet local needs, in the four Newport, High Ercall, Tibberton and Waters Upton. Development outside these settlements will be strictly controlled<sup>65</sup>.

## C5.3 Challenges and Opportunities

5.3.1 The Priority Plan Environment and Rural Areas 2010<sup>66</sup> identifies the following objectives:

- Design, deliver and manage a transport network which supports sustainable economic growth and promotes travel for all;
- Minimise increase in levels of congestion;
- Optimise accessibility to local facilities including healthcare, education and employment in Telford Town Centre, Borough Towns and the rural area;
- Satisfaction with mobility in the rural area;
- Keeping transport moving in adverse/extreme weather.

5.3.2 The key challenges facing the Council include:

- Increasing accessibility;
- Surface access to the rail stations needs improving together with improved facilities at the stations;

Quicker and more reliable rail services required for business users to key economic hubs and international gateways<sup>67</sup>.

<sup>64</sup> Pell Frischmann (March 2010). Central Telford Area Action Plan (CTAAP) Design Development Q30035/VAA/R003.

<sup>65</sup> <sup>65</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Third Local Transport Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Health Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Environmental Report. December 2010

<sup>66</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Priority Plan: Environment and Rural Areas.

<sup>67</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2010, Third Local Transport Plan 2011 – 2026.

5.3.3 The LTP3 identified a set of wider issues and challenges and then some specific transport issues and challenges. These are summarised below in Table C5.2 and C5.3.

**Table C5.2: Wider Issues and Challenges**

Wider issues		Challenges
<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Above average educational attainment.</li> <li>• Excellent higher education facilities, such as Telford College of Arts &amp; Technology (TCAT),</li> <li>• University of Wolverhampton and Harper Adams University college.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing safe and sustainable access to schools and higher education facilities.</li> </ul>
<b>Social Exclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telford is ranked as the 113th most deprived area nationally out of a total of 354 local authority areas.</li> <li>• Over one fifth of the towns population live in areas classified in the top 20% of the most deprived areas nationally. These are mainly located in south Telford.</li> <li>• Eleven of these areas feature in the top 10% of the most deprived areas nationally.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Several wards have low car ownership levels and a reliance on public transport.</li> <li>• Bring about the regeneration of the more deprived residential areas through enhancement of the local environment and improved transport linkages.</li> </ul>
<b>Health, Safety and Security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 70% of people in Telford and Wrekin consider themselves to be in good health, the same as the national average.</li> <li>• Life expectancy rates are similar to the national average and are increasing.</li> <li>• Premature mortality rates are falling but the rate for circulatory disease remains significantly higher than the national average.</li> <li>• 28% of adults are obese which is higher than the national average of 24%.</li> <li>• Almost 30% of 4-5 year olds are overweight or obese which is higher than the national average of 22%</li> <li>• 64% of people have a fear of crime. Over 25% of crime victims had experienced harassment in a public place compared with 19% in the West Midlands. Over half of the incidents were reported to the police.</li> <li>• An average of just under 48 people were Killed or Seriously Injured on Telford's roads over the last three years compared with the 1994-98 rolling average of 140.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving access to hospital and GPs.</li> <li>• Encouraging more walking and cycling.</li> <li>• Improving night time security for pedestrians including public transport hubs and interchanges and improved perception of safety on public transport itself.</li> <li>• Resolving security issues on existing isolated / segregated rights of way, footways and cycle routes.</li> <li>• Reconciling need for increased lighting on existing segregated routes with the impact on sensitive environmental areas and associated energy/global warming considerations.</li> <li>• Maintaining ongoing reduction in road accidents in light of increasing traffic levels and vehicle speeds, particularly for vulnerable road users.</li> </ul>



Wider issues		Challenges
<b>Air Quality and Carbon Emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and to prepare for the consequences of climate change.</li> <li>• No air quality management areas at present but traffic levels forecast to rise significantly during plan period</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accommodating future growth in travel demand without increasing carbon and other vehicle emissions.</li> <li>• To work in partnership to put in place the necessary infrastructure to encourage the use of electric and other low carbon vehicles.</li> </ul>
<b>Tourism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing visitor pressure on sensitive environmental sites.</li> <li>• Competitive conference centre market.</li> <li>• Need to boost local employment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing sustainable access to the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site and The Wrekin.</li> <li>• Improving transport links to Telford International Centre, Southwater and Telford Town Park.</li> <li>• Promoting existing attractions to help with regeneration of local economy whilst protecting the local environment.</li> </ul>
<b>Environment and Quality of Life</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growing traffic levels and development pressures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balancing protection of the built and natural environment with growth and regeneration aspirations.</li> <li>• Enhancing the quality of the public realm to improve quality of life and encourage inward investment.</li> <li>• Improving the journey experience.</li> </ul>

**Table C5-3: Transport Issues and Challenges**

Wider issues		Challenges
<b>Cycling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telford has excellent cycling infrastructure, but has a relatively low level of cycling to work compared with the other towns in the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership area.</li> <li>• A fragmented network is a issue in some areas.</li> <li>• Cycling levels have increased by 6% since 2003/04.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create an urban form and density that is better suited to cycling, infill gaps in the cycle network and develop an appropriate culture through promotion and publicity.</li> </ul>
<b>Walking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Telford, there are extensive off-road walking routes, but few traditional streets to walk along, linking centres of activity. The distributor roads are far less conducive to walking, even where they include pedestrian facilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve footways and other walking infrastructure and create an urban form and density that is better suited to walking.</li> </ul>



Wider issues		Challenges
<b>Equestrians</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whilst there is a network of bridleways across Telford &amp; Wrekin, some of the road network is unsuitable for equestrians due to the speed and flow of traffic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To cater for equestrians on the road network where it is safe and practical to do so, and through the Rights of Way Improvement Plan develop and extend the bridleway network</li> </ul>
<b>Taxis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taxis provide a useful role for visitors, and for residents who are unable to access their own or public transport or choose the convenience of taxis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the continuing role of taxis in a balanced transport strategy.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Transport and Accessibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bus patronage has fallen from just under 6.3 million journeys in 2003/04 to just over 5.9 million in 2009/10.</li> <li>Satisfaction levels have fallen and punctuality is also an issue.</li> <li>96% of households are within 30 minutes of Telford, Wellington and Newport Town Centres compared with only 89% in 2006/07.</li> <li>Surface access to the rail stations needs improving together with improved facilities at the stations.</li> <li>Quicker and more reliable rail services required for business users to key economic hubs and international gateways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Radically enhancing the image and profile of public transport.</li> <li>Preventing further bus patronage decline in the light of increasing car ownership.</li> <li>Ensuring new developments are adequately served by buses as soon as practical after they open.</li> <li>Meeting the needs of rural residents.</li> <li>Improving access to key services such as healthcare and employment.</li> </ul>
<b>Road Traffic and Car Parking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The road network operates reasonably satisfactorily at the moment but congestion will increase during the plan period leading to delays for local businesses and commuters at peak times and rat running along inappropriate roads.</li> <li>Limited amount of public off street parking under local authority control, particularly in Telford Town Centre</li> <li>Enforcement of existing restrictions.</li> <li>Pavement parking in some areas creates hazards for pedestrians</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing measures to facilitate the efficient movement of people and goods on main roads and deterring traffic movements through more sensitive areas.</li> <li>Introducing measures to address future congestion hot spots whilst minimising impact on local environment and carbon emissions.</li> <li>Managing supply of car parking in light of increased demand from growing car ownership and new developments.</li> <li>Consider the introduction of civil parking enforcement.</li> </ul>

Wider issues		Challenges
Freight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No significant problems at the moment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing use of the existing Railfreight Terminal.</li> <li>• Improving road condition in face of increasing HGV traffic.</li> <li>• Avoiding rat running of HGV traffic through sensitive areas as traffic congestion increases.</li> <li>• Potential shortage of off road overnight lorry parking facilities as HGV traffic increases.</li> </ul>
The Transport Asset Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whilst the condition of the worst footways has been improved, those in the second category have remained relatively constant.</li> <li>• Until recently the carriageway repair regime has matched but not exceeded deterioration.</li> <li>• Whilst A&amp;B roads have improved over recent years, the percentage of C roads requiring structural maintenance has remained static.</li> <li>• Unclassified roads (67% of the total road network) have deteriorated over the last four years.</li> <li>• New town assets are deteriorating at the same rate, resulting in an increasingly high demand for maintenance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining carriageways against a background of traffic growth, particularly HGVs.</li> <li>• The management and maintenance of networks for cycle ways, footways and footpaths and bridleways, whether alongside a road or elsewhere. Need to integrate this with the Rights of Way Implementation Plan where relevant.</li> <li>• Developing and maintaining an accurate asset inventory and adopting a more cyclic method of maintenance, taking into consideration the whole lifecycle of all assets.</li> <li>• Reducing street furniture clutter, particularly in the Borough Towns.</li> </ul>

5.3.4 The Strategic Environmental Assessment accompanying the Local Transport Plan identified the following key sustainability issues:

- Predicted population increase resulting;
- Inequitable access to town and district centres;
- Rural deprivation and poor accessibility to services and facilities;
- Threat of decline in bus services;
- Increase in access to sustainable modes for Travel to Work;
- Decline in sustainable travel to school;

- Inequalities in health;
- Fear of crime;
- Reduction in road traffic accidents and casualties;
- Poor Public Rights of Way Network in rural areas leading to low levels of accessibility by walking and cycling and low levels of physical activity; Poor legibility in the cycle network;
- Decrease in tranquillity levels and landscape quality;
- Loss of Green Network to development;
- Contributions to greenhouse gas emissions;
- Threat to water quality from development;
- Air pollution potential at WHS;
- Noise pollution;
- Threat to protected and unprotected heritage assets;
- Threat to biodiversity assets from development;
- Need for climate change adaptation;
- Inequitable access to natural and semi-natural greenspace; amenity greenspace and open space for children and young people; and
- Making efficient use of land, including reusing brownfield sites and protecting agricultural land.

5.3.5 The accessibility challenges and opportunities in Telford include:

- Modifying the Box Road to encourage walking, bus and cycle modes and to facilitate the development of the town centre.
- Diversion of traffic way from the town centre by construction of the Greyhound Link road and improvements to the Outer Circular road.
- Further enhancements of the environment of the public realm to complement the development of non uses in the town centre.
- ☐ Improving sustainable access to existing and new major employment sites arising out of the LDF Core Strategy.
- Implementing the South Telford Area Action Plan which is likely to include improves access to housing and regenerated community facilities in the area.
- Access to the Borough Towns will be improved in a way that conserves the cultural and historic assets of these areas as laid out in the policy CS14 "Cultural, Historic and Built Environment" of the adopted LDF Core Strategy. This will involve removing unnecessary highway signage<sup>68</sup>.

5.3.6 Fast train links with London and direct trains to Birmingham International Airport are seen as crucial to future development. The Donnington Rail Freight project would allow freight trains to reach the national network, addressing this block to local growth and investment.

5.3.7 The Drivers Jonas (2008) Telford Town Centre Masterplan identified numerous opportunities to deliver benefits. Those of relevance to the scoping exercise are summarised below:

- Introducing a mix of uses including residential with good transport links;

<sup>68</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Third Local Transport Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Health Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Environmental Report.  
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- New street patterns;
- Generate an improved active edge around internalised shopping to frame 24 hour streets, squares and gateways;
- Enhance links and relationship with Telford Town Park and the Southwater site;
- Strengthen radial connections for pedestrians and cyclists;
- Downgrade the Box Road;
- Enhance the public realm and gateways to the town centre and provide an identifiable roof profile.

5.3.8 Rural area residents face increasing isolation for non-car owning households with the challenge being to provide improved access to key services within available revenue budgets. The challenge will be to contribute towards the viability of the larger rural settlements with the intention of increasing the viability of some rural services.

## C5.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

5.4.1 The following uncertainties and limitations were identified that have a potential influence upon the existing or future baseline situation and therefore the sustainability challenges and opportunities associated with the employment theme.

### Authority-wide

5.4.2 The key uncertainty in considering the future baseline is that the current reductions in public spending pose a risk to satisfactory mitigation, increasing the risk of congestion occurring in the latter part of the LTP3 period. Reductions in the availability of public funding also makes it harder to provide access by public transport to services to facilities that people in new developments need. LTP Policy 4 refers to the need to attract developer funding to supplement public funds. LDF may consider this through the Community Infrastructure Levy policy.

5.4.3 Despite the constraints there is adequate information for this Scoping Report and to appraise future plans.

### Telford

5.4.4 The main uncertainty is the extent of the town's population growth and the extent to which the recent transport forecasts are robust in the light of the increasing price of fuel.

5.4.5 A broad appreciation of those wards within the New Town with accessibility issues currently exists. However, it is not clear whether the enhancements outlined above fall within the future baseline, that is are they being delivered through existing plans rather as an output of future plans that would be subject to sustainability appraisal.

5.4.6 It is assumed that measures identified for the town centre would form the future baseline, but measures to be taken in the surrounding areas would emerge from future development plans.

### Newport

5.4.7 No specific transport information was available for Newport.

## Rural Areas

- 5.4.8 While there is an absence of local information on rural accessibility issues, nationally there are several sources of guidance that can inform the rural transport agenda.

## C5.5 Scoping

- 5.5.1 This section presents a view on whether transport ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either a authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### Authority-wide

- 5.5.2 Transport provides the means by which the economy functions and hence is an essential component of a sustainable community and hence is **scoped in** for authority-wide plans.

### Telford

- 5.5.3 The town's transport infrastructure both supports development of the local economy and creates a barrier to the movement of pedestrians. There is a need therefore for spatial and transport plans to address this challenge. For these reasons transport is **scoped into** future appraisals.

### Newport

- 5.5.4 Through traffic is well catered for both on the east-west A518 corridor and the A41 north-south corridor. Recent environmental works on the High Street have also enhanced the public realm. As the LTP3 does not identify any specific issues associated with Newport, so the transport issues are proposed to be **scoped out** of future appraisals.

### Rural Areas

- 5.5.5 Given that rural transport is important to the viability of communities and with the provision of additional housing into the rural area, transport is a key issue to be considered in future plans. Hence for this reason it has been **scoped into** future appraisals insofar as the extent to which it supports employment and enhances accessibility.

## C5.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

- 5.6.1 Given that the LTP3 is a recent document, there is little to be gained from re-working the LTP3 goals. Hence the objectives and indicators of relevance to spatial planning are adopted.

**Table C5.4: Objectives & Indicators**

Authority-wide
Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make travel more reliable and efficient, as well as enhance access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.</li> </ul>

<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of key pedestrian corridors which demonstrate increased quality through a quality benchmarking system (such as the Pedestrian Environment Review System) and which are demonstrating increased use levels;</li> <li>Number of parking spaces and vehicle recharging points dedicated to low carbon vehicles;</li> <li>Modal share of journeys to school;</li> <li>Accessibility of local services by public transport or walking;</li> <li>Working age people with access to employment by public transport and non-motorised modes;</li> <li>Area of highway assigned temporarily and permanently to public space;</li> <li>Length of highway where de-cluttering has occurred.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make travel more reliable and efficient, to attract jobs and support growth and regeneration as well as allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.</li> <li>To deliver an urban fabric that aids the mobility of all residents within the town and enhances the sense of place and coherence of the town.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of key pedestrian corridors which demonstrate increased quality through a quality benchmarking system (such as the Pedestrian Environment Review System) and which are demonstrating increased use levels.</li> <li>Number of parking spaces dedicated to low carbon vehicles.</li> <li>Number of vehicle recharging points delivered through development projects.</li> <li>Modal share of journeys to school.</li> <li>Accessibility of local services by public transport or walking.</li> <li>Working age people with access to employment by public transport and non-motorised modes.</li> <li>Area of highway assigned temporarily and permanently to public space.</li> <li>Length of highway where de-cluttering has occurred.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To moderate as far as is practicable the effects of an ageing population and the centralisation of services upon rural communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accessibility of local services by public transport or walking.</li> </ul>

## C6: BROADBAND COMMUNICATIONS

### C6.1 Baseline Conditions

- 6.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline broadband conditions before then considering the situation in Telford, Newport and the rural areas.

#### Authority-wide

- 6.1.2 Telford & Wrekin, particularly in the rural areas is poorly served by broadband networks. The Council has announced its intention to explore a private sector partnership aimed at enabling remote parts to access broadband while delivering major savings for the authority. This was taken forward through the Broadband Improvement Pilot (BIP) scheme in the Kinnersley Moor area, during 2010. The £120,000 project aimed to assess the potential for wireless broadband technology to bridge the current gap in broadband provision in more remote areas. The key outcome is that a local IT company will look to create a bespoke network for the local residents in the Kinnersley and Preston Moor areas that otherwise would not be provided by established network providers.

#### Telford

- 6.1.3 It is presumed that broadband communications are well established across Telford.

#### Newport

- 6.1.4 No information was available at the time of preparing this report.

#### Rural Areas

- 6.1.5 No information was available at the time of preparing this report.

### C6.2 Future Baseline

- 6.1.1 The only information available is to note that BT are introducing superfast broadband to Dawley (more than 5,000 homes), and Newport (around 4,800 homes).

### C6.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 6.3.1 The challenge is to ensure that a superfast broadband network is made available across Telford & Wrekin. A further challenge is to deliver services particularly to businesses and the rural elderly for who broadband may offset some of the access to service difficulties they may experience.
- 6.3.2 Another challenge is to encourage developers to deliver IT smart homes and workplaces.



## C6.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 6.4.1 There is a lack of available information on the distribution of broadband services for this Scoping Report. Also, there is an absence of information on the manner in which local public and commercial services are capable of being delivered via broadband networks.
- 6.4.2 While cabled broadband is seen as a constraint, the potential for other wireless technologies to deliver services create uncertainties as to the penetration of IT based services.

## C6.5 Scoping

- 6.5.1 Broadband access will be a key determinant of whether places can be sustainable in the future, particularly for local businesses. Choice of where to live or set up a business may increasingly be influenced by where broadband is available. Consequently, the potential to improve access for businesses would align with objectives to support sustainable economic development.

### Authority-wide

- 6.5.2 The draft National Planning Policy Framework identifies broadband infrastructure as an activity authorities should be planning for. However, it is considered that the case for including broadband communications within future appraisals needs to be taken in the context of the plan being assessed. For example broadband would not be relevant to a minerals and waste plan but it would be to a core strategy and site allocations.

### Telford

- 6.5.3 It is presumed that broadband communications are well established across the Town and hence this subject is **scoped out** from future appraisals.

### Newport

- 6.5.4 There is no information on which to suggest that broadband communications in Newport represents a problem that is amenable to action through the spatial planning system. Hence the subject is **scoped out**.

### Rural Areas

- 6.5.5 Apart from recognising that access to broadband communications is of greater difficulty in rural areas, there is little evidence to detail how some of the transport and access to service issues experienced in rural areas may be addressed by broadband and other technologies.
- 6.5.6 As there is uncertainty as to the potential for spatial planning to influence the provision of the network, "wired" homes or the delivery of services to rural communities, so it is concluded that scoping is **deferred** and should be taken in the context of the plan being assessed.

## C6.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

- 6.6.1 Whether broadband issues ought to be included in the appraisal of authority-wide or Rural Area plans is to be determined for the specific plans being developed. Appropriate sustainability objectives and indicators should be proposed at that stage.

## C7. HEALTH CARE, SCHOOLS, SPORT, LEISURE & COMMUNITY CENTRES

### C7.1 Baseline Conditions

7.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline conditions for health care, schools and community centres.

#### Authority-wide

7.1.2 The Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust provides for the acute care needs through two hospitals, one of which, Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) is within Telford & Wrekin. Located on a large purpose-built site in the north-west of Telford, PRH opened in 1989 and currently accommodates approximately 360 beds, with a full-range of acute care services.

7.1.3 Telford & Wrekin is comparatively well-served for facilities offering further and Higher Education with a well respected College of Further Education. There are two Higher Education establishments in Telford & Wrekin. The Wolverhampton University (Telford Campus) at Priorslee is home to the Polymer Cluster Centre, part of the Wolverhampton Telford Technology Corridor (WTTC).

7.1.4 Over 90% of all the contacts that people have with the NHS are through GPs or other community health services rather than in acute hospitals such as the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and Princess Royal Hospital in Telford<sup>69</sup>. Good community health services contribute to reducing future hospital related costs. Acute services are also secured from other hospitals across the Midlands, but is dominated by the

- Robert Jones (Orthopaedic) Oswestry;
- University Hospital North Staffs;
- University Hospital Birmingham.

7.1.5 The Telford & Wrekin PCT Strategy Plan<sup>70</sup> provides the following albeit dated information on the state of the health care assets:

- Twenty general medical practices (of which 5 are single handed);
- A walk-in centre in Telford Town Centre;
- Twenty five general dental practices;
- Thirty-five community pharmacies;
- Twenty-seven opticians.

7.1.6 NHS data on the provision of doctors shows that there are 20 GP practices in Telford (with an additional 5 branch surgeries), 2 in Newport (with 1 additional Branch surgery at Harper Adams University College) and 2 branch surgeries in the rural area<sup>71</sup>.

7.1.7 The condition of schools and other operational buildings was assessed in 2007/08. The Council's Asset Management Plan has identified a condition backlog in excess of £23 million for education

<sup>69</sup> Shropshire NHS Community Health Trust, 201: <http://www.telford.nhs.uk/Newsroom/Latest-News/Information-about-Shropshires-new-NHS-Community-Trust/>

<sup>70</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT: 2008 Strategy Plan

<sup>71</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted December 2007.

properties (reduced from £25 million in 06/07) and £8 million for operational properties (reduced from £12 million in 06/07)<sup>72</sup>. In the 2010 Corporate Asset Management Plan recorded that there was a backlog of £25 million for schools and £11 million for operational properties.

- 7.1.8 Telford & Wrekin is well served for sport and leisure facilities, including an ice rink and dry ski slope. It without any major sporting events or clubs which give the area a profile at a national level. The extensive Town Park which runs south of the Town Centre is a major asset serving the sport, recreation, open space, leisure and recreational needs of both Telford & Wrekin and the sub region.

### **Telford**

- 7.1.9 In recent years Telford & Wrekin has experienced a decline in the primary school population, which has been in part due to larger year groups leaving school and smaller year groups starting in reception year. This has been exacerbated by a much lower number of completions of new homes over the last decade. At the school populations highest point in 2002 the figure stood at 15,000; as of 2011 the figure now stands at 13,500.

### **Newport**

- 7.1.10 The school situation at Newport is one where secondary school demand exceeds capacity for example the Adams Grammar & Newport High is over-subscribed by 4:1. There is however a surplus of primary school places.

### **Rural Areas**

- 7.1.11 No information was available during preparation of the Scoping Report.

## **C7.2 Future Baseline**

- 7.2.1 There is uncertainty over the future of services at Telford's hospital with plans to redistribute services between Telford and Shrewsbury with a potential down-grading of clinical capability in Telford. This is to be offset by an improvement in specialist services overall e.g. for cancer patients.
- 7.2.2 The current and potential synergy between the tertiary education and the local economy is significant, but this may face contraction with reduced funding to higher education.
- 7.2.3 In terms of schools, there are increasing numbers of primary-aged pupils and thus increasing pressure on secondary schools after a lapse time of 7 years.

### **Telford**

- 7.2.4 Details concerning future health care services or future community services were not located for this Scoping Report.
- 7.2.5 The trend of declining school roles is expected begin to reverse over the next 5 year period as larger numbers to begin to enter the primary phase in reception and will eventually affect secondary pupil numbers.

<sup>72</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2007: Planned Building Maintenance Programme 2007/09,  
<http://www.telford.gov.uk/demservices/DisplayDocument.asp?type=pdf&ref=7285>  
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7.2.6 Although there are expected to remain pockets of surplus places in certain areas, in other areas the following additional classbases/extensions are expected to be required to meet increases in the primary school population:

**South West Telford:**

- Newdale Primary 2 Class Extension/Children's Centre rationalisation (60 Places). To open September 2013.
- Ironstone Primary (Lawley) New School (210 Places, rising to 420). Expected to open September 2015.

**North East Telford:**

- Teagues Bridge Primary 4 Class Extension (120 places). Expected September 2013.
- Additional 2 or 3 Class Extension (60-90 Places) to cope with additional pupils generated from Redlands Quarry development/Celestica development. Earliest expected need 2015.
- 2 Class Extension in Muxton/Donnington area (60 Places). Unknown date of need.

**North Central Telford:**

- Meadows Primary 3 Class Extension (120 Places). Possibly September 2014.
- Hadley/LeegomeryNew Provision/Extension (at least 90 places) to cope with additional pupils from Haldey area housing development. Possibly September 2014.
- Hadley Quarry New School (210 Places initially). Development not planned until after 2018.

**North West Telford:**

- Wellington Area School Extension 2-4 classbases, possibly after 2015.

**Newport**

7.2.7 The Strategic Housing Land Assessment Study indicated a supply of 410 houses by 2021 which depending upon the provision of further secondary school capacity may make the situation more difficult.

**Rural Areas**

7.2.8 No information was available during preparation of the Scoping Report.

## C7.3 Challenges and Opportunities

### Authority-wide

7.3.1 The undoubted challenge facing the community is to provide facilities and services in a manner that not only maintain current levels of education and public health, but that also lead to improvements in both.

7.3.2 With increased parental choice in the selection of school, so there is a challenge of reversing the trend of increasing motorised travel to school over large distances.

### Telford

7.3.3 Among the challenges faced is the secondary education provision made by neighbouring authorities. For example Shifnal Idsall School competes with Wrockwardine Wood Arts College and Much Wenlock William Brookes competes with South Telford.

### Newport

- 7.3.4 The challenge will be to coordinate the housing delivery with the availability of secondary school places within the Telford & Wrekin and neighbouring Local Education Authority.

### Rural Areas

- 7.3.5 No information was available during preparation of the Scoping Report.

## C7.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 7.4.1 There is an absence of information concerning the emerging need for hospitals and community centres. However in the case of schools, academies and free schools poses challenges for LEA funded schools.

### Telford

- 7.4.2 There is considerable uncertainty concerning the baseline situation for health care, schools and community centres and thus how future spatial plans might affect.

### Newport

- 7.4.3 There is little current information on the extent to which the planned delivery of housing may impact upon secondary education, in part being a function of the type of houses constructed and the provision being made by the education authorities.

- 7.4.4 There is no information currently available to indicate whether the spatial plans would have any significant impact upon health care facilities or community centres.

### Rural Areas

- 7.4.5 No information was available during preparation of the Scoping Report.

## C7.5 Scoping

- 7.5.1 This section presents a view on whether health care, schools and community centres ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either a authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### Authority-wide

- 7.5.2 The implications of plans on the community assets of health care, schools and community centres are unknown, but all are important to the delivery of sustainable communities. For this reason the appraisal of the effects of plans upon community assets is **scoped in**.

### Telford

- 7.5.3 The effects upon future plans on the accessibility, capacity and level of service provided by health care facilities, schools and community centres can be many and varied. For this reason they have been **scoped into** future appraisals.

### Newport

- 7.5.4 Given that the consequences upon health care, education and community centres can be addressed at a project level through planning agreements, and there is no immediate evidence of significant effects, these subjects have been **scoped out** of further consideration.

### Rural Areas

- 7.5.5 There is little information to add on the range of community services within the rural areas beyond noting a gradual reduction in availability as services are centred on settlements with larger populations. Nevertheless, this is an important issue for rural communities and the scoping decision is **deferred** to be taken in the context of the plan being assessed.

## C7.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

- 7.6.1 The sustainability objective and indicators proposed for the appraisal of health care, schools and community centres are set out in Table C7.1:

**Table C7.1: Health Care, Schools and Community Centres Objectives & Indicators**

<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate the timely provision of community facilities to accord with the delivery of new houses.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of communities with a poor service level from community facilities (to reflect over-crowding or above average distance to them).</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate the timely provision of facilities to accord with the delivery of new houses.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of communities with a poor service level from community facilities (to reflect over-crowding or above average distance to them).</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined in relation to the plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined in relation to the plan.</li> </ul>

## C8. SCOPING RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY

### C8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 This section provides a summary of the following:

- The scoping recommendations accompanied by the justification.
- A summary of the trends, objectives and potential indicators.
- The consultation questions.

8.1.2 It should be noted that while authority-wide objectives apply to all areas, specific objectives may also apply to Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

**Table C8.1: Resource Management & Material Assets Scoping Recommendations**

Sustainability Objectives	Authority wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas	Reason
Waste					
Waste generation	In	In	In	Out	• The three waste topics are scoped into plans that may be prepared for Telford & Wrekin and the urban areas reflecting the strong policy and financial needs to reduce the amount of waste to be disposed.  • Rural areas are excluded since there was no evidence to suggest that rural waste management generated unique problems beyond those addressed authority-wide.
Recycled materials	In	In	In	Out	
Waste management	In	In	In	Out	
Mineral Resources					
Use of secondary aggregates	In	In	Out	Out	• Given the importance of maximising reuse of materials to reduce the impact from new mining activity as well as avoiding sterilising the future winning of minerals, mineral resources is scoped in at an authority-wide level.  • As development is centred on Telford so there is potential to consider promoting secondary aggregates, whereas for Newport and the rural areas the scale of development is unlikely to be large enough to make minerals a significant issue for future sustainability appraisals.
Sterilisation of resources	In	Out	Out	Out	



Energy					
Power transmission networks	Out	Out	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• While the capacity of the power supply network is reported to be limited in places and there is a need for renewal for low carbon generation, these are not primarily planning issues. Nevertheless, assisting in the reduction of energy consumption and helping renewable energies are relevant authority-wide and for Telford where specific policies may be prepared.</li><li>• It is not thought that Newport generates issues that would be different from the authority-wide situation hence the scoping out opinion.</li><li>• In the case of rural areas, some renewable energy technologies can have a rural dimension such as wind and biomass and hence this topic has been scoped in.</li></ul>
Energy consumption	In	In	Out	Out	
Renewable energy	In	In	Out	In	
Water Supply & Treatment					
Water supply	In	In	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water supply and waste water treatment are scoped into the authority-wide and Telford plans reflecting the volume of water consumed.</li><li>• The situation in Newport is uncertain pending a water-cycle study.</li><li>• While there could be a waste water treatment issue associated with the proposed new homes in the rural areas, this is a matter to be addressed at the project level and is scoped out.</li></ul>
Waste water treatment	In	In	Out	Out	
Transport Infrastructure					
Support employment	In	In	Out	In	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transport is essential to the operation of modern life with the policies mainly being set through the Local Transport Plan. Nevertheless spatial planning has a role to play at the authority-wide scale and for Telford in particular and hence all of the topics are scoped in.</li><li>• No specific issues were identified for Newport hence the scoping out of the topics.</li></ul>
Reduce carbon emissions	In	In	Out	Out	
Enhance accessibility	In	In	Out	In	
Health & safety	In	In	Out	Out	

Environmental impacts	In	In	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For rural areas the importance of transport to support rural employment and access to services merit the inclusion of these topics in future appraisals.</li> </ul>
<b>Broadband Communications</b>					
Community services	?	Out	Out	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether future appraisals should consider broadband communications cannot be determined at this stage, since it is the nature of the plan that is needed to inform the decision.</li> <li>As broadband in the rural areas is more likely to be challenging, so this is the aspect where planning policy may be more effective.</li> </ul>
<b>Health, Schools Etc</b>					
Community facilities	In	In	Out	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The implications of plans on the community assets of health care, schools and community centres are unknown, but all are important to the delivery of sustainable communities. For this reason the appraisal of the effects of plans on community assets are scoped in for authority-wide and Telford focused plans.</li> <li>No specific issues have been identified for Newport that could not be addressed at a project scale; hence the exclusion of the subject from future plans.</li> <li>Provision and access to community facilities is important for rural communities, but the relevance of the issue to rural plans is to be determined once the scope of each plan is understood.</li> </ul>

## C8.2 Trends, Indicators and Objectives

- 8.2.1 Based on the information presented within this chapter, the following tables provide an overview of the anticipated trends for the various topics across the different spatial areas.
- 8.2.2 The anticipated trends are provided for the Telford, Newport and Rural area planning areas only where there is a difference to those presented for the authority-wide situation. In such circumstances a “no information on trends” entry is provided.

**Table C8.2: Summary of Waste Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, ☹ Negative		
Waste		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😊 Quantities of municipal waste declining</li> <li>😊 Quantities of household waste per person declining</li> <li>😊 Percentage of waste recycled increasing</li> <li>😊 Waste sent to landfill declining</li> <li>☹ Not in the top performing authorities – Staffordshire Moorlands recycles 62% of household waste in 2009/10</li> <li>☹ Landfill tax costs set to increase.</li> <li>😊 Satisfaction with recycled and waste collections as a combined service has increased to 81%.</li> <li>😊 Kerbside collection of plastics was rolled out in June</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver continued reduction in the quantities of waste being generated and the quantities being disposed of at landfill.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quantity of household waste generated per annum;</li> <li>Quantity of household waste generated per person;</li> <li>Percentage of household waste recycled;</li> <li>Quantity of municipal waste sent to landfill;</li> <li>Number of retail/commercial centres with dedicated recycling storage areas;</li> <li>Quantity of food waste collected for anaerobic digestion;</li> <li>Number of people employed in resource/waste management.</li> <li>Number of “recycling on the go” facilities provided per annum.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😐 No information on trends</li> <li>☹ Absence of storage areas for segregated wastes limits commercial recycling opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😊 Community recycling centre well used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimated quantity of household waste generated per person;</li> <li>Estimated percentage of household waste recycled.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😐 No information on trends</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As the subject has been scoped out so no sustainability objectives or indicators are proposed</li> </ul>	

**Table C8.3: Summary of Mineral Resource Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Mineral Resources		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 Sufficient crushed rock resources from permitted sites</p> <p>😐 Additional sand &amp; gravel may be required up to 2026</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the quantities of primary aggregate required for building and infrastructure projects by maximising the use of secondary aggregates to allocate sand and gravel sites for future working to contribute towards sub regional apportionments, to protect mineral resources from sterilisation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The quantity of materials specified in Site Waste Management Plans of major projects undertaken in Telford &amp; Wrekin that are made available for reuse in future developments;</li> <li>The tonnage of mineral that is extracted prior to being otherwise sterilised by urban development.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😐 No mineral extraction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😐 No mineral extraction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😐 No mineral extraction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

**Table C8.4: Summary of Energy Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Energy		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 Reduced domestic electricity and gas consumption.</p> <p>😐 3,200 homes estimated to be in fuel poverty (4.7%) better than nationally (13.9%).</p> <p>😊 1,300MW of potential renewable capacity but lack of take up despite financial help (FIT &amp; RHI).</p> <p>😊 First phase of part-night switching off of street lights has been implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute towards the reduction in the use of carbon intensive energy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual average domestic electricity and gas consumption per consumer.</li> <li>MWe of renewable energy consented each year based on schemes that have applied for Feed-in Tariff accreditation.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😞 Donnington, Wrockwardine Wood, Trench, St Georges, Ketley, Oakengates, Malinslee, Dawley Magna and Madeley have highest incidence of fuel poverty.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>

30% of housing stock built with non-traditional construction techniques between 1965-1974 experience difficulties with energy efficiency upgrading.	As authority-wide.	As authority-wide.
<b>Newport</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
No information on trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Area</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
No information on trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>

**Table C8.5: Summary of Water Supply & Waste Water Treatment Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend  Positive,  Same,  Negative		
Water Supply & Waste Water Treatment		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
Telford & Wrekin within an area of moderate water stress. Groundwater resources are over abstracted. Sewerage network capacity constraints Waste water treatment works have capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To minimise demand upon water resources (surface and groundwater) and to enable the timely provision of adequate waste water treatment to support increased housing provision.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of development projects for which water conservation measures are delivered as part of the design;</li> <li>Number of objections received from water companies over the ability to meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and accommodate the waste water from additional housing.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
Waste water treatment works have capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver significant reductions in water demand from public supplies across development proposals through a combination of water harvesting and water conservation measures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The total quantity of water saving per day delivered through planning consents as evidenced by means such as CEEQUAL, BREEAM or other recognised method.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
Waste water treatment works have capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uncertain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uncertain</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
Waste water treatment works have capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

**Table C8.6: Summary of Transport Infrastructure Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Transport Infrastructure		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😞 Urban and rural communities reliant upon car use 82% of people commute to work by car.</li> <li>😞 Inward commuting involves about 6,000 people from Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth.</li> <li>😊 Satisfaction with parking has increased from 39% to 47% and satisfaction with the maintenance of pavements has risen from 34% to 38%.</li> <li>😞 Restricted access for the ageing population to services due reduced mobility with an increase in age.</li> <li>😞 Increased transport costs affecting elderly and those on fixed incomes degrading levels of access.</li> <li>😞 Declining access to school through walking</li> <li>😞 16.4% of population have difficulty accessing health services – worse than nationally</li> <li>😞 Potential that change in the provision of community services will not be matched by changes in transport provision.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make travel more reliable and efficient, as well as enhance access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of key pedestrian corridors which demonstrate increased quality through a quality benchmarking system (such as the Pedestrian Environment Review System) and which are demonstrating increased use levels.</li> <li>Number of vehicle recharging points and parking spaces dedicated to low carbon vehicles.</li> <li>Modal share of journeys to school.</li> <li>Accessibility of local services by public transport or walking.</li> <li>Working age people with access to employment by public transport and non-motorised modes.</li> <li>Area of highway assigned temporarily and permanently to public space.</li> <li>Length of highway where de-cluttering has occurred.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😊 Continued reliance on the car</li> <li>😊 High accessibility to employment</li> <li>😞 Urban infrastructure designed for high levels of car use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver an urban fabric that aids the mobility of all residents within the town and enhances the sense of place and coherence of the town.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>😊 No information on trends</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
No information on trends Anticipate increasing rural isolation Low accessibility to community services including access to a GP. Rural areas have lower access to hospitals. Decline in public transport services in rural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accessibility of local services by public transport or walking.</li> </ul>




**Table C8.7: Summary of Broadband Communications Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend  Positive,  Same,  Negative		
Broadband Communications		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
No information on trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined in relation to the plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined on a plan by plan basis.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
No information on trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
No information on trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
No information on trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined in relation to the plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined on a plan by plan basis.</li> </ul>

**Table C8.8: Summary of Health Care, Schools & Community Centre Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend  Positive,  Same,  Negative		
Health Care & Schools etc		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
Declining secondary school population, but increasing primary school enrolment that will pass through into secondary schools. Information on trends in health care provision has not been obtained. Citizen Survey indicate that the satisfaction with leisure and culture facilities in Telford & Wrekin overall has risen from 49% to 55%. Customer satisfaction with Libraries remains high at 88%, similarly with Oakengates Theatre (90%) and with sports and leisure facilities (73%).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate the timely provision of community facilities to accord with the delivery of new houses.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of communities with a poor service level from community facilities (to reflect over-crowding or above average distance to them).</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
Information on trends in health care provision has not been obtained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>



Newport	Objectives	Indicators
 Need for collaboration with neighbouring Local Education Authorities and independent sector  Information on trends in health care provision has not been obtained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
 Information on trends in health care provision has not been obtained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined in relation to the plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined in relation to the plan.</li> </ul>

## C8.3 Consultation Questions

8.3.1 It would assist the appraisal process if responses could be made to the questions presented below.

- Do you agree with the scoping findings?
- Are there any significant issues that ought to be addressed that have been omitted?
- Are there any other information sources that ought to be considered?
- Do you have any views on the objectives and indicators that could be used during appraisals?

## PART D: SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

### D0: INTRODUCTION

0.1.1 This chapter sets out the policy context for the following themes:

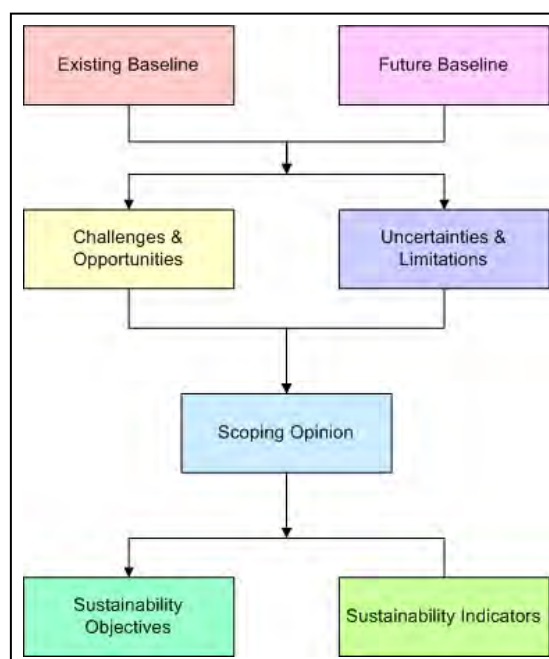
- Population - demography;
- Community deprivation;
- Public health;
- Crime and safety.

0.1.2 These themes have been brought together to represent those aspects in which future plans may affect the communities rather than the natural environment which is addressed in the following chapter. The objective of this part is to bring together an understanding of the implications of changing demographic factors, public health as well as crime and safety.

0.1.3 For each theme the following are examined to determine those to be scoped in or out of the appraisal for revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents:

- Existing baseline;
- Future baseline;
- Challenges & opportunities;
- Uncertainties & limitations;
- Scoping; and
- Objectives and indicators.

0.1.4 For each of the above themes, a description of the existing and future baseline is presented to derive a series of challenges and opportunities. These together with any data limitations then inform the scoping decision, the sustainability objectives and the initial proposals for sustainability indicators. This process is illustrated in the adjacent figure. For ease of reference the text representing each of the steps in the sustainability process is set within a box coloured in a similar manner to the diagram above.



0.1.5 Before considering the individual themes, a brief review of relevant policies, programmes and plans within Telford & Wrekin as required by the regulations is presented. The purpose of this section is to expand upon the context established by the European and National policy framework as well as the local policy context set by neighbouring authorities as described in Chapter A3.

0.1.6 A summary of the scoping recommendations, sustainability objectives and indicators as well as questions posed to the consultees conclude this chapter.

## Authority-wide Policies, Programmes & Plans

- 0.1.7 This section summarises the key local policy documents that affect population the array of community themes identified above.

### Sustainable Community Strategy

- 0.1.8 The Sustainable Community Strategy for Telford & Wrekin is currently being updated with a target date for publication of September 2011.

### Population – Demography

- 0.1.9 Plan-making processes do not have specific effects upon the equality themes of religion, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment. Consequently these are not addressed in the Scoping Report. Planning or rather the design of buildings and external spaces can give rise to differential effects across genders often through matters of perceptions of safety. In addition, planning can have strong influence on how the needs of the elderly, children, the young and those with disability are addressed. For these reasons, this section deals with these three members of society.
- 0.1.10 A Children and Young Peoples Plan is in place for 2008 to 2011 and an Older People's Strategy was refreshed to cover the period 2010 to 2014. No specific strategy been prepared or proposed for the disabled members of society.
- 0.1.11 Neighbourhood planning for three neighbourhood plans: Waters Upton Rural Parish Council 2011-12; Madeley Urban Parish Council and Ercall Magna Rural Parish Council is anticipated to commence. A further 8 parish council's have expressed interest in preparing plans.

### Public Health

- 0.1.12 The Telford & Wrekin NHS Primary Care Trust and Telford & Wrekin Council have published a Health & Well-Being Strategy in 2009<sup>1</sup>. The Health and Well-being Strategy was based on a Strategic Needs Assessment, including the Telford and Wrekin Health and Well-being Demographic Foundation Report 2007 and engagement with the local community and key stakeholders.
- 0.1.13 The overall priorities in the Health and Well-being Strategy are:
- To reduce health and social inequalities;
  - To provide personalised care;
  - To reflect evidence based best practice in care pathways.
- 0.1.14 The PCT's aims and objectives are to:
- Improve the mortality rate for all circulatory diseases;
  - Reduce childhood obesity;
  - Reduce the physical harm caused through alcohol abuse.
  - Provide independent living for all
  - Provide more choice and control
  - Promote dignity and quality of life; and

<sup>1</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT & Telford & Wrekin Borough 2008: Health & Well-Being Strategy Priority Plan: Promoting Healthy Communities & Improving the Quality of Life for Vulnerable and Older People  
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- Support carers.
- 0.1.15 The Older Adults Strategy 2006-2016 sets out the following vision for older adults in Telford & Wrekin:
- **Holistic** - covering all aspects of older adults lives;
  - **Preventative** - there to support older adults before they reach a crisis;
  - **Accessible** – information on how to access services is clear and readily available;
  - **Flexible and inclusive**– services which change to meet the needs of the individual not the other way round and which take into account the diverse and changing needs of older adults;
  - **Person centred** – are developed in consultation with the people who use them and their relatives and carers where appropriate;
  - **Value** and positively promote older adults within the community.
- 0.1.16 The top priorities identified in the Older People's Strategies are:
- Having public transport routes which reflect older adults needs;
  - Accessibility (physically and financially) to public transport;
  - Accessible transport provision for those people needing to visit hospital;
  - Promotion of Extra Care Housing including for those people with dementia;
  - The provision of Assistive Technology irrespective of house tenure;
  - Assistance and advice to owner occupiers.

### Crime and Safety

- 0.1.17 The Council has not prepared a plan to address crime and safety.

### Telford Policies, Programmes & Plans

- 0.1.18 The Central Telford Area Action Plan (CTAAP), adopted by in March 2011, sets out the planning framework to guide future development and regeneration across the Central Telford area comprising the town centre Old Park, Central Park, Hollinswood and Malinslee.
- 0.1.19 Policy CT21 (Protection of Green Space) of the Central Telford Area Action Plan provides a green spaces designation for Central Telford following the Green Spaces Review. Through this designation, the policy identifies sites and areas to be protected. The policy also recognises that other spaces with value may lie outside this designation and that where development affects these their impacts on the space must be addressed. This is particularly the case for the types of green space that the PPG17 Assessment has identified as deficient in Central Telford
- 0.1.20 Policy CT22 (Provision of new Green Space) uses evidence from the Green Spaces Review and from the Assessment of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities to identify the types of green space are required to be provided in Central Telford over the plan period, and in which locations.

### Newport Policies, Programmes & Plans

- 0.1.21 The Core Strategy Development Plan notes that development focused on Newport, will seek to contribute to a network of accessible centres across Telford & Wrekin. Each centre is to contain a range of services and facilities to meet the need for homes, jobs, sport, recreation, leisure and

transport, without undermining the value of built and natural resources. The plan thus envisages approximately 60 new dwellings per annum for the town.

- 0.1.22 In seeking to increase the accessibility of key services and facilities for Newport residents and those living within its hinterland, the Core Strategy notes that the loss of existing services and facilities is to be resisted, the enhancement of existing, and the creation of new, facilities within the town supported. This is to include services and facilities such as schools, doctors surgeries, shops (particularly convenience), sports, recreation and leisure facilities, and will specifically aim to strengthen the quantity and variety of the town's retail provision and address any deficiencies in accessible open space.

#### **Rural Area Policies, Programmes & Plans**

- 0.1.23 The Core Strategy<sup>2</sup> notes that a declining and restructuring agricultural sector coupled with greater personal mobility has led to rural employment opportunities being extremely limited and rural housing being the least affordable across the authority. The level of provision of services and facilities in many areas is also insufficient to meet daily needs. This is a situation that will not sustain vibrant rural communities.
- 0.1.24 The Development Strategy aims to help sustain rural communities, by focusing development on a limited number of rural settlements that offer rural residents a number of key local services and facilities. By focussing housing, employment, service and facility development, a pattern of development is to be created that maximises the accessibility to services and facilities for rural residents, whilst reducing the need to travel by car, and enhancing local identity and character.
- 0.1.25 High Ercall, Tibberton and Waters Upton are intended to be the service centres on which the majority of development required to meet local rural needs will be focussed.

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<sup>2</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted December 2007  
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## D1: POPULATION - DEMOGRAPHY

### D1.1 Baseline Conditions

1.1.1 This section provides a review of the population profile of Telford & Wrekin to identify the trends and emerging pressures that could affect the prospects of delivering sustainable communities.

#### Authority-wide

1.1.2 The population of Telford & Wrekin has grown in the past 40 years due to Telford's New Town status with the mid 2009 population being 162,300 having a growth rate greater than elsewhere in the region. The population in 2009 comprised

- 33,400 under 15 year olds;
- 105,200 in the working age population ;and
- 23,700 over 65 years old.

1.1.3 The age profile reveals a lower percentage of people over 65 years (14.6%) than the national average of 16.3%<sup>3</sup>. Nevertheless, the proportion of the population over 65 increased by 22.8% between 2000 and 2009. Over the same period there has been slight decrease in the population aged between 0-15 years and a slight increase in the population aged between 15-65+ years.

1.1.4 The population of Telford & Wrekin exhibited a net outward migration in 2009, working against the objective of increasing the area's population. Until then population growth has been driven primarily by in-migration, principally to Telford. As a result, Telford & Wrekin contains the third highest proportion of migrants in the West Midlands (13.3% in 2001).

1.1.5 The closeness of Telford & Wrekin to the Birmingham and Black Country conurbations provides the potential for high levels of in-migration to continue to be a feature of the area's population dynamics.

1.1.6 Proportionately more of the area's 80,000 economically active residents work in lower skilled jobs and less work in higher skilled and managerial positions than elsewhere in the region. In-part reflecting the high dependence on the manufacturing-sector.

1.1.7 Compared with the national figure of 15.4% of the working age population with no or limited qualifications, Telford & Wrekin has a figure of 12.4%<sup>4</sup>. The workforce is mainly employed in public administration, education and health, all sectors facing financial constraints.

1.1.8 The headline unemployment rate (total Jobseeker allowance) is 4.2% for Telford & Wrekin, lower than the regional (4.7%) figure but higher than the national one (3.7%)<sup>5</sup>.

1.1.9 Approximately one third of all claimants (1,400) are 18 – 24 age, slightly above regional and national averages. This number has almost doubled since 2007. This is probably accounted for by the younger age profile of Telford & Wrekin. In May 2011, 9.2% of the people in the age range 18 to 24 were receiving JSA compared to 4.5% of those aged 25 to 49.

<sup>3</sup> Office for National Statistics, 2011: Painting Pictures of Place Series: Local Profiles – Demography

<sup>4</sup> Telford & Wrekin: 2011: Local Economic Assessment. Strengthening the Borough's Competitive Advantage. Supporting Information. Final Draft v.14.

<sup>5</sup> Nomis, 2011: Out of Work Benefits July [https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431950/report.aspx?town=Telford & Wrekin#tabempunemp](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431950/report.aspx?town=Telford%20Wrekin#tabempunemp)

1.1.10 Telford & Wrekin has a higher than national and regional average rate of young people not in employment, education or training. One in five residents live in deprived communities and one in four of those under 16 years old live in low income households.

1.1.11 Cultural diversity within the population includes African; Bangladeshi; Caribbean; Chinese; Indian; Japanese and Pakistani communities. This diversity represented 5.5% of the population in 2001, the overwhelming majority of which was located in Telford.

### **Telford**

1.1.12 Telford has a population of 139,000 or 86% of the Telford & Wrekin total<sup>6</sup>.

### **Newport**

1.1.13 As a Twelfth Century planned town, Newport has a long established history as a market based rural settlement. It continues to act as the economic and social centre for its residents and those of its rural hinterland. The town currently accommodates 11,900 residents in 4,500 dwellings<sup>7</sup>.

1.1.14 While Telford's population has almost doubled since its designation in the late 1960s, Newport's has increased three-fold in the last forty years<sup>8</sup>. Alongside this growth, its population and the immediate rural hinterland has been ageing faster than that of Telford. This older population structure is contributing to the changing nature of the market town and influencing its vitality and viability.

1.1.15 In 2001, the Newport population had an age structure that is older than the authority-wide profile. In particular, 18% of the population were aged 15 years or less, compared to 22% authority-wide, and some 16% of the population were aged 65+ compared with 12.4% authority-wide. At 3.3%, Newport North had the second highest number of people aged 85+ in 2001 in Telford & Wrekin. Today, the 85+ group is estimated to comprise up to some 12% of the ward population.

1.1.16 The age profile of the Newport South ward's population is considerably older than Telford & Wrekin profile. Only 17% of the population were aged 15 years or less compared to 22.3% authority-wide, whilst some 18.3% were aged 65 or more, compared to 12.4% across Telford & Wrekin.

1.1.17 The Newport West ward was found to have a lower than proportion of people aged 15 years or less across Telford & Wrekin (16.8% compared with 22.3%) and a higher proportion of 65+ residents (16.5% compared with 12.4%). There were, however, a larger proportion of residents aged between 16 and 29 (20.7%) than authority-wide (17.8%).

1.1.18 Newport East has a similar age structure to Telford & Wrekin, however, there were proportionately fewer 0 to 9 year olds in the ward (12.1% compared with 13.6%) and more 45 to 64 year olds (27.8% compared with 24.2%).

1.1.19 As of 2007, Newport had 5,600 residents in work, 3.1% unemployed, today the proportion of the population receiving Job Seekers Allowance in May 2011 was:

- Church Aston and Lilleshall: 2.0%;

<sup>6</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Local Economic Assessment, Supporting Information

<sup>7</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted December 2007

<sup>8</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted December 2007



- Newport East: 2.1%;
- Newport North: 1.5%;
- Newport South: 2.1%;
- Newport West: 2.2%<sup>9</sup>.

## Rural Areas

- 1.1.20 The rural area comprises the four wards which exhibit a lower proportion of under 15 year olds (on the basis of 2001 Census) and generally a higher than average number of people over 65 than Telford & Wrekin (see Table D1.1).

**Table D1.1: Population Cohorts across the Rural Wards (2001 Census)**<sup>10,11</sup>

Cohort	Edgmond	Ercall Magna	Wrockwardine	Church Aston and Lilleshall	Borough	Rural Average
15 or less	14.61	16.74	20.89	17.17	22.31	17.81%
18-65	68.92	60.36	64.97	60.98	62.6	64.10%
Over 65	13.74	20.18	12.16	19.67	12.4	15.75%
Over 85	1.6	4	0.7	2.64	1.33	1.99%

- 1.1.21 The proportion of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance in May 2011 is set out in Table 6.2 below.

**Table D1.2: Rural Job Seekers Allowance Claimants (May 2011)**<sup>12,13</sup>

JSA Claimants (%)	Edgmond	Church Aston & Lilleshall	Ercall Magna	Wrockwardine
All people	1.0	2.0	1.2	1.6
Males	1.4	2.5	1.6	2.1
Females	0.6	1.5	0.7	1.1

## D1.2 Future Baseline

- 1.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the assessment is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. In order to perform this assessment it is therefore necessary to consider the future situation without the plan that is being assessed. This section provides a view on the future baseline for waste.

### Authority-wide

- 1.2.2 While Telford & Wrekin had a target population of over 200,000 by 2026, it is now predicted to reach 170,500 in 2023, and to 177,200 by 2026, mainly due to natural change as in-migration is anticipated not to deliver a positive contribution (see Figure D1.1).
- 1.2.3 The forecasts of different age groups through until 2029 is:

<sup>9</sup> Nomisweb: Ward Labour Market Profiles accessed July 2011

<sup>10</sup> ONS, 2011: Neighbourhood Statistics,

<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadAreaSearch.do?a=7&r=1&i=1001&m=0&s=1309953702812&enc=1&areaSearchText=Telford+and+Wrekin&extendedList=false&searchAreas=>

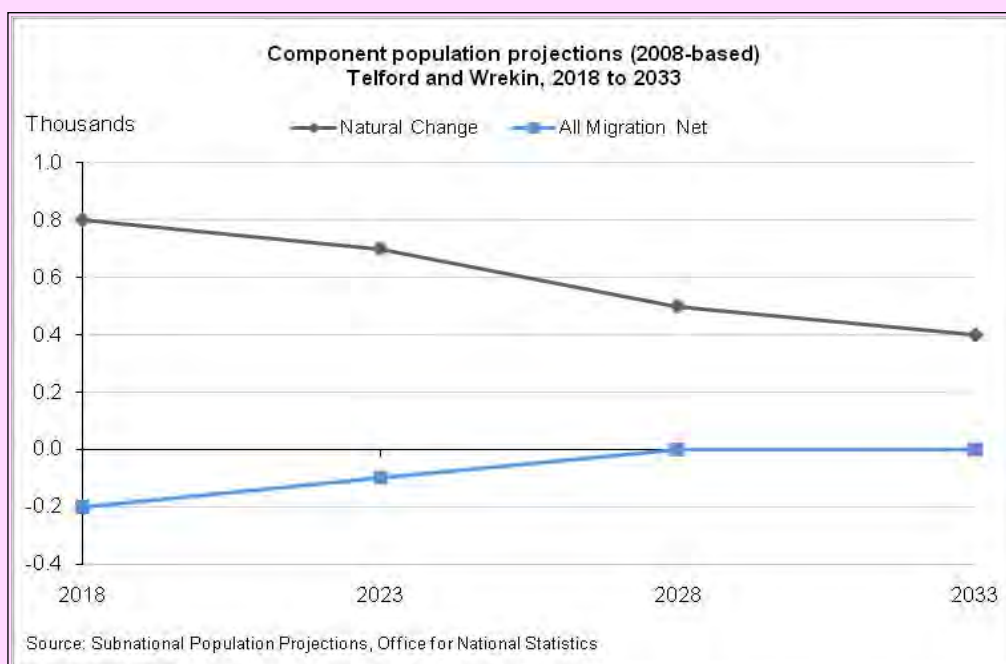
<sup>11</sup> <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/>

<sup>12</sup> Nomisweb, 2011: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/ward/1308627488/report.aspx>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/>

- The 0 to 15 year aged population is projected to decline until 2016 and stabilising through to 2029;
- The proportion of children is projected to increase by 10% (0-4 year olds) and 20% (5-9 year olds);
- A 60% increase for 75-89 year olds;
- A 112% increase in those over 85 from 2,500 to 5,300<sup>14</sup>;
- Just above 17% (28,000) of the population will be beyond the standard retirement ages, slightly lower than the regional and national averages;
- The number of people of working age is projected to increase by 3.6%, but the overall percentage workforce decreasing from 61.1% to 56%.

**Figure D1.1: Population Projection for Telford & Wrekin between 2018 – 2023<sup>15,16</sup>**



1.2.4 These changes in the age profile could have implications for public services providing health, social care and also the housing needed. The changing age profile also affects the transport requirements for access to services, employment, health and disability.

1.2.5 The proportion of the population from African, Bangladeshi, Caribbean, Chinese, Indian, Japanese and Pakistani communities is expected to increase to 6.5% by 2026<sup>17</sup>.

## Telford

1.2.6 Telford is assumed continue to grow in forthcoming years due to the additional households generated by both its more youthful resident population and the consolidation and development of the town's role as a centre for sub-regional growth<sup>18</sup>.

<sup>14</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2011: Local Economic Assessment: Supporting Information

<sup>15</sup> ONS, 2011: Painting Pictures of Places, Local Profiles: Demography

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/>

<sup>17</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2011: Local Economic Assessment: Supporting Information

<sup>18</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted.

## **Newport**

- 1.2.7 In the absence of population statistics more recent than 2001, it is observed that the largest cohort was in the 45-59 age group which will be in the retired group in 10 years' time.

## **Rural Areas**

- 1.2.8 While an increasing proportion of the rural population are retired or will be retiring in the next 10 years or so, the population aged less than 15 as of 2001 now entering the labour market is less than the Telford & Wrekin average with Edgmond being approximately two thirds of the Telford & Wrekin average (14.6% Edgmond and 22.3% Telford & Wrekin). The working population is judged to be now roughly half of that recorded in the 2001 Census, excluding any effects from migration.

## **D1.3 Challenges and Opportunities**

- 1.3.1 The challenges and opportunities that face the Council are summarised below.

### **Authority-wide**

- 1.3.2 A fall in housing-led population growth might mean that the number of children in the authority area would begin to fall (despite an increase in the birth rate to 1.84 children for the average UK born woman). This may then affect education, leisure and health services and in the medium to long term the labour force.
- 1.3.3 Although the population of Telford & Wrekin is likely to rise, the proportion of the population of working age may decline, as it will across the rest of the UK. This can be seen as an incentive to increase productivity and gives a further emphasis to the need for more jobs and businesses with higher Gross Value Added.
- 1.3.4 Sectors such manufacturing in general and engineering in particular, and key public services such as health, education and public administration have a high concentration of people over the age of 45. Whereas the tourism sector is dependent upon younger age groups. Changes in the population age profile could differentially affect the cohort from which recruitment occurs.
- 1.3.5 A key challenge facing the Council is to cater for an elderly population. Based on the population profile, at the end of the plan period, the Council will face a peak in the number of retired persons. Provision of the housing and care home provision will need to be addressed.

### **Telford**

- 1.3.6 Key challenges include:
- Ensuring that the skill levels of the young meet the needs of local employers;
  - To get more people, particularly young people into employment; and
  - Pressures created on the green infrastructure.

### **Newport**

- 1.3.7 With an increasingly elderly population and fewer people entering the workforce, there could be a reduction in the working age population unless in-migration occurs. The challenge will be to provide housing to recruit families into the economy.

## Rural Areas

1.3.8 Key challenges for the rural areas include:

- Isolation of ageing populations in the rural areas;
- A decline in working population;
- Low levels of younger age groups living in the rural areas.

## D1.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

1.4.1 While there are no significant uncertainties affecting the scoping process, a review of updated census information on the age profile of the population and the businesses in Newport would help inform the appraisal of future plans.

1.4.2 Given that Newport is virtually equidistant between Telford and Stafford the extent to which demographic effects can be moderated by recruitment from these areas may need exploration.

1.4.3 While there are no significant uncertainties affecting the scoping process, a review of updated census information on the age profile of the population and the businesses in the rural area would help inform the appraisal of future plans.

## D1.5 Scoping

1.5.1 This subject is **scoped into** the appraisal of all plans since plans must respond to the forecast demographic trends.

## D1.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

1.6.1 The sustainability objective for population is the same for authority-wide plans, Telford, Newport and the Rural Areas. The objective is:

- To achieve a population profile in balance with the employment opportunities that the travel to work area is able to provide.

1.6.2 The indicator selected needs to reflect the average over a 5 year period in order to smooth out fluctuations in the economy and house building activity. The indicators proposed are:

- The percentage of job seeker allowance claimants in the 18-24, 25-49 and 50-64 age bands averaged over a rolling 5 year period;
- The number of people in the working age population;
- The population aged over 65 years old;
- The proportion of employment opportunities filled by people not locally resident.

1.6.3 An additional objective to reflect rural areas is set out below:

- To aid the viability of rural services by managing the distribution of new housing.

## D2: COMMUNITY DEPRIVATION

### D2.1 Baseline Conditions

2.1.1 This section provides a review of the extent of community deprivation providing an insight into the economic and housing circumstances of Borough's population.

#### Authority-wide

2.1.2 Key deprivation characteristics of Telford & Wrekin include:

- Telford & Wrekin is in the top 30% most deprived districts in the West Midlands and in the top 40% most deprived nationally.
- Levels of deprivation across Telford & Wrekin vary considerably with some areas being in the 10% most deprived nationally and other areas of Telford & Wrekin ranked in the 10% least deprived nationally.
- 13% of Telford & Wrekin population (20,600) now live in the 10% most deprived areas nationally in 2010 compared to 5% in 2007 (8,600).
- Some 38,600 people within Telford & Wrekin are living in the 20% most deprived areas in England, around a quarter (24%) of the area's total population<sup>19</sup>.
- In 2009 Telford & Wrekin had 9.4% of young people not in employment, education or training, a figure higher than the national and regional average<sup>20</sup>.

2.1.3 The more deprived areas of Telford & Wrekin are located around the urban areas and new town estates, with the rural parts tending towards the less deprived end of the scale (see Figure D2.1). Areas within Priorslee, Shawburch, Apley Castle, Newport North, Ercall, Newport West fall within the 10% least deprived areas nationally (see Tables D2.1 and D2.2).

**Table D2.1: Most Deprived Areas in Telford & Wrekin – Overall IMD 2010**

<b>SOAs in the 10% Most Deprived Nationally</b>	<b>SOAs in the 10-20% Most Deprived Nationally</b>
Woodside (3 SOAs) Malinslee (3 SOAs) Cuckoo Oak (2 SOAs) Brookside (2 SOAs) Hadley & Leegomery Dawley Magna College Donnington	Woodside (2 SOAs) Dawley Magna Hadley & Leegomery Madeley Donnington St Georges Cuckoo Oak Arleston Ketley & Oakengates (2 SOAs) The Nedge
<b>Total = 14 (Total of 6 in 2007)</b>	<b>Total = 12 (Total of 17 in 2007)</b>

<sup>19</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Indices of Deprivation 2010

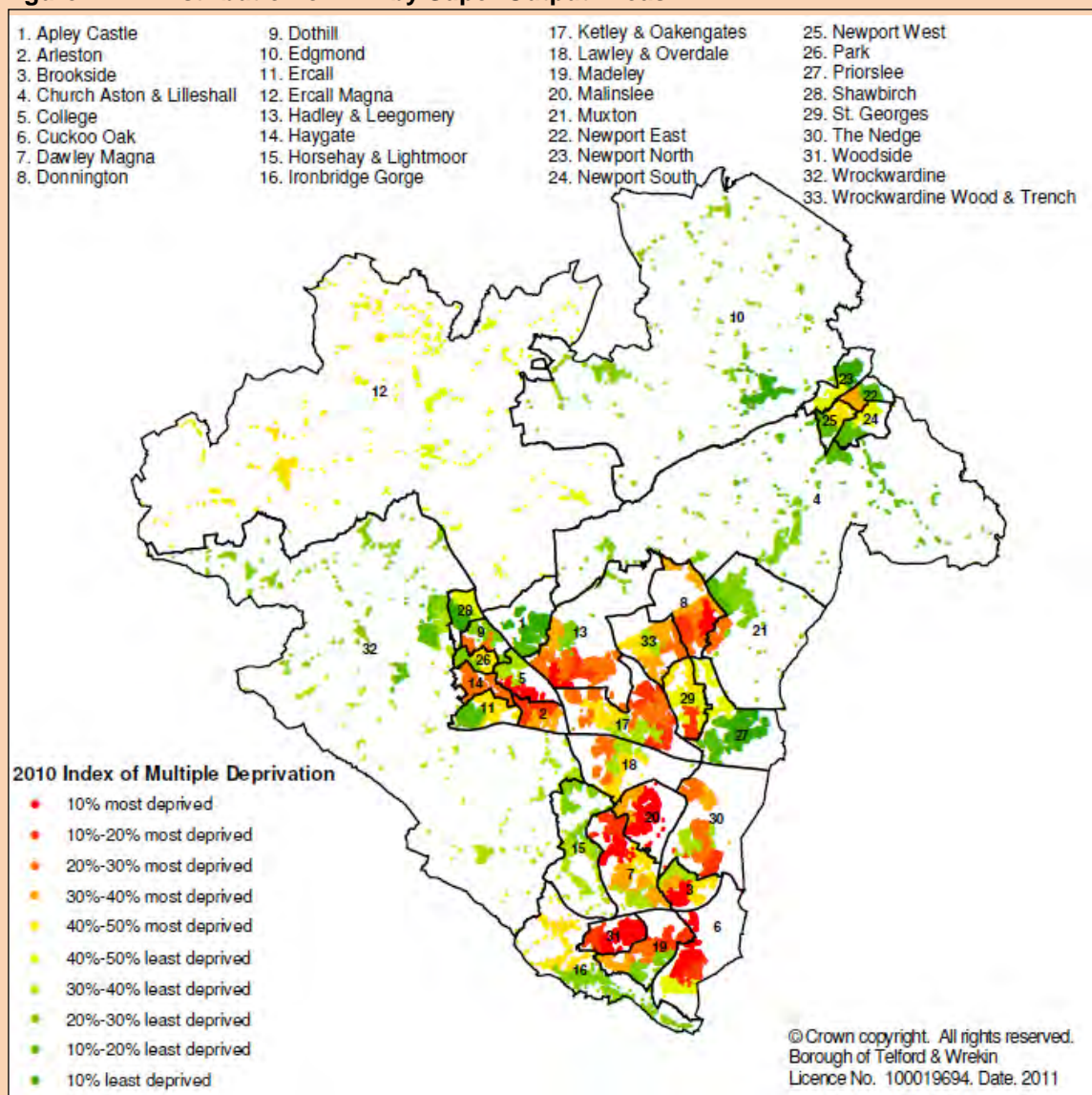
<sup>20</sup> Office of National Statistics, 2011: Local Profiles



Table D2.2: Least Deprived Areas in Telford & Wrekin – Overall IMD 2010

SOAs in the 10% Least Deprived Nationally	SOAs in the 10-20% Least Deprived Nationally
Priorslee (3 SOAs) Shawburch Apley Castle Newport North Ercall Newport West	Muxton Newport East Newport South Ercall Wrockwardine Apley Castle Church Aston & Lilleshall
Total = 8 (Total of 7 in 2007)	Total = 7 (Total of 8 in 2007)

Figure D2.1: Distribution of IMD by Super Output Areas



- 2.1.4 Overall, the population living in the 20% deprived areas has increased whilst the population living in the 20% top crime deprivation areas has decreased between 2007 and 2010 (see Table D2.3).

**Table D2.3: Population Living in 20% most and 20% Least Deprived Areas**

Domain	Population in 20% most deprived areas			Population in 20% least deprived areas		
	2010	2007	Change (%)	2010	2007	Change (%)
Overall IMD	38,600	34,600	+ 11.6%	23,300	23,700	- 1.5%
Income	41,800	39,100	+ 7.1%	19,500	28,600	- 31.8%
Employment (a)	30,000	20,300	+ 47.6%	11,000	10,900	+ 1.4%
Health deprivation and disability	40,500	37,300	+ 8.5%	7,500	1,800	+ 327.7%
Education, skills and training	61,600	53,700	+ 14.6%	19,800	22,800	- 12.8%
Barriers to housing and services	17,700	10,000	+ 78%	23,600	32,600	- 27.6%
Crime	34,500	41,800	- 17.5%	33,100	25,900	+ 28%
Living environment	0	0	-	79,900	99,200	- 19.4%
Income deprivation affecting children (b)	10,200	9,600	+ 6.5%	4,800	7,000	- 31%
Income deprivation affecting older people (c)	6,600	6,400	+ 3.3%	3,100	3,300	- 5.8%
(a) Working age population (18 – 59F/64M) (b) 0-15 population (c) 60+F/65+M						

- 2.1.5 There are several different dimensions to deprivation, some of which are summarised below:

- **Income Deprivation:** Overall, 41,800 people in Telford & Wrekin live within the 20% most income deprived areas nationally, just over a quarter of Telford & Wrekin's population (26%) with parts of Brookside being within the top 3% most deprived area nationally.
- **Income Deprivation affecting Children:** In total, 10,200 children (aged 0-15) in Telford & Wrekin are living in areas ranked in the 20% most deprived nationally for income deprivation affecting children, almost a third (31%) of the area's 0-15 population. The most deprived SOA<sup>21</sup> in Telford & Wrekin is Cuckoo Oak<sup>22</sup>.
- **Income Deprivation and the Elderly:** In terms of older people (65+m/60+f) there are 6,600 older people in Telford & Wrekin living in areas ranked in the 20% most deprived nationally for income deprivation affecting older people, almost a quarter (24%) of Telford & Wrekin's population of older people. The most deprived area being parts of Malinslee which is ranked in the 7% most deprived areas nationally.
- **Employment Deprivation:** There are about 14,100 people of working age in 16 areas that are in the 10% most deprived areas, with a third of Telford & Wrekin's population (30,000) being within the 20% most deprived areas nationally. Parts of Brookside are in the 2% most deprived areas nationally.
- **Health Deprivation:** This affects about 5,700 people within the top 10% most deprived areas in England and some 34,800 people being in the top 20%. There has been an increase of 9% between 2007 and 2010 in the working population in the 20% health deprived areas across the Telford & Wrekin. Parts of Malinslee, Dothill and Cuckoo Oak fall within the 10% most health deprived areas in the country.
- **Education and Skills Deprivation:** There are 22 areas in Telford & Wrekin which rank within the 10% most deprived areas nationally for education, skills and training, amounting to some 32,400 people (10-20% of the population). Nineteen areas feature in the 10-20% band. In total some 61,600 people are considered to experience education deprivation. This amounts to 38% of the population<sup>23</sup>. Parts of Malinslee are in the 1% most deprived areas in the country.
- **Barriers to Housing and Services:** Within rural areas some 17,700 people live within the 20% most deprived areas. This represents an increase from 2007 when the figure was 10,000. The most deprived SOA in Telford & Wrekin is located in Edgmond and is ranked in the 3% most deprived nationally, although areas of Ercall Magna and Woodside also feature in the 10% most deprived areas.

<sup>21</sup> Super Output Area – A geographical area designed for the collection and publication of small area statistics.

<sup>22</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2010

<sup>23</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2010



- **Crime and Disorder:** Some 34,500 people in Telford & Wrekin live in areas ranked within the 20% most deprived nationally for crime and disorder, over a fifth (21%) of the area's population. The most deprived area being located in parts of Cuckoo Oak ranked in the 2% most deprived nationally.
- **Living Environment:** No areas fall within the 20% deprivation band for this attribute.

### Telford

- 2.1.6 High levels of deprivation were reported for South Telford New Town estates in the consultation draft Sustainable Community Strategy issued in March 2011. Out of 108 Lower Level Super Output Areas 6 within Dawley, Malinslee and Woodside are identified as being in the top 10% of the most deprived communities in England.

### Newport

- 2.1.7 The Office of National Statistics, for statistical purposes, divides Newport into four areas (North, East, South and West). Newport North and Newport West fall within the 10% least deprived areas nationally with Newport East and Newport West being within the 10-20% least deprived areas.
- 2.1.8 Newport East and Newport North are both within the 20% least deprived areas in terms of employment and income. Newport North also features in the 10-20% band of least deprived on the grounds of health and disability. Newport East and North feature in the 20% least deprived areas for education, skills and training, while Newport South is in the 10% least deprived for barriers to housing and services. Newport West is in the 10-20% least deprived category<sup>24</sup> for housing and services.
- 2.1.9 All areas feature in the 20% least deprived in terms of crime and disorder with Newport East, West and North featuring in the 10% least deprived group. All of the Newport areas feature in the 10% least deprived with the exception of Newport South which is in the 20% least deprived.

### Rural Areas

- 2.1.10 The 2009 Rural Plan<sup>25</sup> recognises that disadvantage is commonly experienced by the older and most vulnerable people who find it difficult to access public services. Rural settlements next to large urban populations can have a double disadvantage, with the majority of interventions being aimed at the most severe problem areas based on area-based deprivation measures, which are frequently urban areas.
- 2.1.11 The percentage of rural residents in poverty has risen from 16% to 18% between 2004/5 and 2006/7. After housing costs are taken into account the increase is from 16% to 19%. This is a greater percentage rise than for urban areas<sup>26</sup>.

<sup>24</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2011: Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2010

<sup>25</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Rural Plan

<sup>26</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Rural Plan

## D2.2 Future Baseline

- 2.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline.

### Authority-wide

- 2.2.2 As the number of older people increase by 60% up to 2026, so off peak travel will grow for those with access to affordable transport while social isolation could increase for non-car owners.

- 2.2.3 The potential picture is one of a workforce that does not deliver the skills required by industry that itself needs to restructure to complete in a low carbon environment. Being reliant upon inward investors, businesses may choose to relocate to areas with the skills or a fill the skills gap with inward commuters rather than local residents. Also, internet sales could restrict the growth of retail and leisure employment.

### Telford

- 2.2.4 The future baseline is envisaged to be one of deprivation being offset by the extent to which the leisure and tourist sectors provide employment opportunities for local residents instead of in-commuters. Also, the impact of inward investments from businesses upon local deprivation levels will be influenced by the future skill levels of the workforce and the extent to which in-commuters take up job vacancies.

### Newport

- 2.2.5 Given the high proportion of professional, scientific & technical people employed in small businesses Newport ought to continue to feature well in the index of multiple deprivation.

### Rural Areas

- 2.2.6 It is envisaged that with an increasingly elderly population (and one where the cost of accessibility to urban areas is increasing) that isolated pockets of deprivation will occur with access to the care services being the most acute factor.

## D2.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 2.3.1 The sustainability challenges and opportunities are presented in Table D2.4.

**Table D2.4: Community Deprivation Challenges & Opportunities**

Authority-wide	
Challenges	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase income levels by higher value accessible employment through education, training and employment while reducing reliance upon car borne mobility.</li> <li>• Equip the communities of Malinslee, Dothill and Cuckoo Oak to address health deprivation.</li> <li>• Access to services for the rural communities.</li> </ul>	
Opportunities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver urban regeneration projects contributing a sense of place and the designing out of crime.</li> </ul>	

<b>Telford</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To stabilise and reverse the deprivation while resources are constrained.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploit the change in governance through neighbourhood level interventions and partnerships.</li> <li>To inform and define areas for multi-agency intervention</li> <li>To use the planning policy system to ensure that land use is directed towards meeting local needs.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While the statistics provided for Newport present a favourable situation relative to Telford &amp; Wrekin and the country, there may well be isolated pockets of deprivation meriting attention.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To cater for a diffuse but potentially increasing amount of rural deprivation principally focused on income and accessibility issues.</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>

## D2.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

2.4.1 The following uncertainties and limitations were identified to have a potential influence upon the existing or future baseline situation and therefore the sustainability challenges and opportunities.

- There are considerable uncertainties in forecasting the future economic health, however none constrains the ability to undertake the scoping exercise. Uncertainties also exist in forecasting future trends and the impact of spatial planning interventions.
- Details of the age profile and the challenges of an ageing population are not known for Newport.
- Use of the Index of Multiple Deprivation can be misleading when looking at rural areas, where the poor and the more affluent live side by side such that the index statistics give no clear picture of the underlying issues.

## D2.5 Scoping

2.5.1 This section presents a view on whether deprivation ought to feature in sustainability appraisals for future plans that operate at either a authority-wide scale or specifically for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

2.5.2 The inter-relationship between housing, employment and deprivation is a core focus of future sustainability appraisals. Consequently, deprivation is **scoped into** the sustainability appraisals for all plans.

- 2.5.3 Given the ranking of Newport across a range of multiple deprivation indices it is considered that deprivation is **scoped out** for Newport plans.
- 2.5.4 Rural deprivation is **scoped into** the appraisals on the basis that this is a hidden issue that is anticipated to increase in coming years.

## D2.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators

- 2.6.1 The objectives and Indicators proposed are set out in Table D2.5.

**Table D2.5: Community Deprivation Objectives & Indicators**

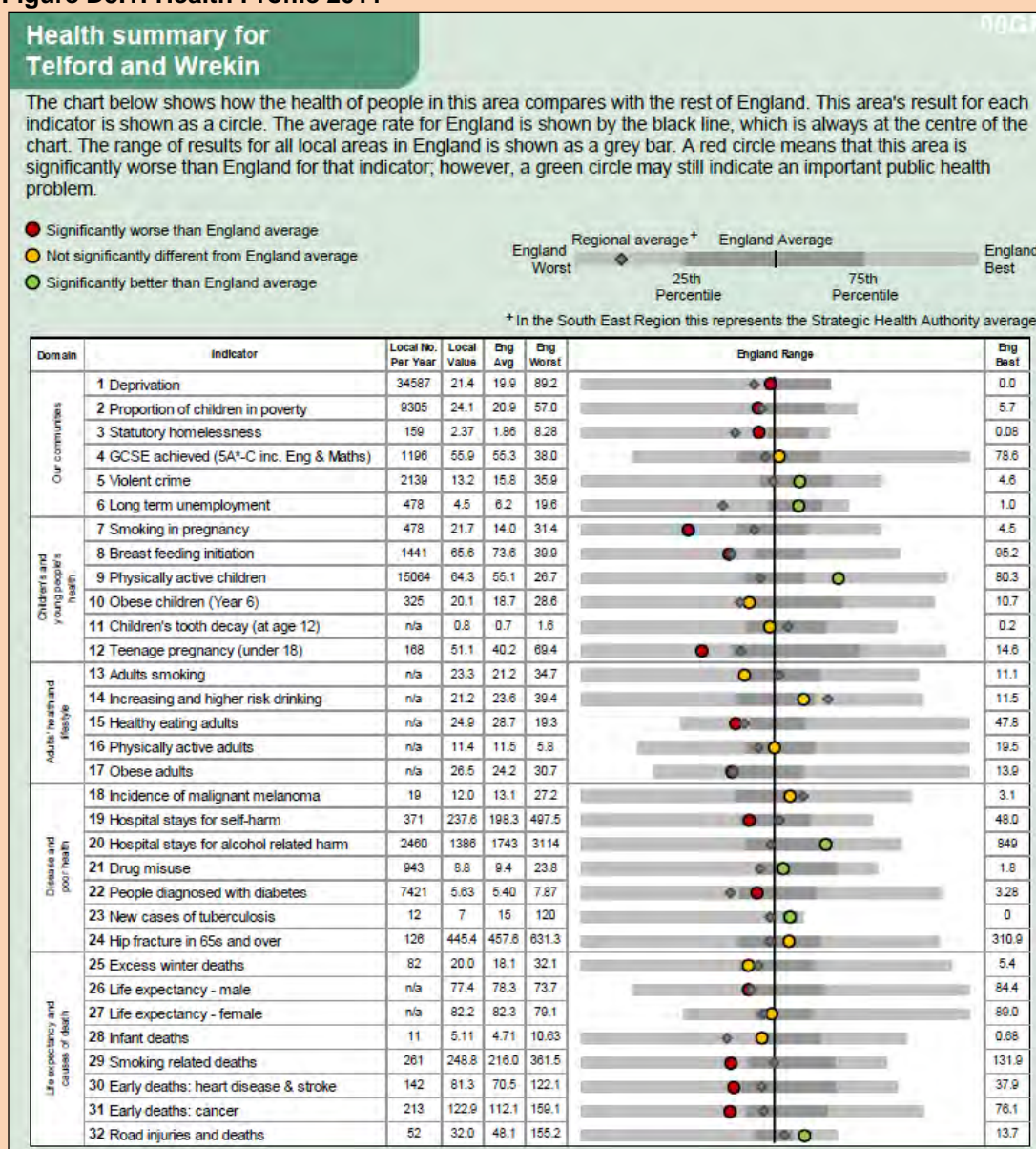
<b>Authority-wide</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide an environment that helps retain well-educated members of the work force.</li> <li>Assist in measures to address community deprivation.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of people who express satisfaction with their quality of the environment.</li> <li>Index of multiple deprivation and its subsets.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the population within the top 10% most deprived areas across each of the separate deprivation themes.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Index of multiple deprivation and its subsets.</li> <li>The number of wards where high numbers of elderly people are in the top 10% most deprived areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>
<b>Objective</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As the subject has been scoped out no sustainability objectives are proposed.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As the subject has been scoped out no sustainability indicators are proposed.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>
<b>Objectives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To help maintain the viability of rural communities and their ability to access care services.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The population in each ward receiving job seekers allowance by age group.</li> </ul>

## D3: PUBLIC HEALTH

### D3.1 Baseline Conditions

- 3.1.1 There is a wide variation across Telford & Wrekin between the more affluent and deprived areas. Some 48% of the population are classed as being on a low income in the more deprived areas with 1% in the more affluent areas. The areas with the highest levels of deprivation also have the highest numbers of people reporting poor health.
- 3.1.2 In general, the health of the population is generally poorer than the average for England (see Figure D3.1) performing statistically worse across 14 of the 32 indicators. However Telford & Wrekin performs statistically better for violent crime; physically active children; binge drinking; hospital stays for alcohol related harm; TB as well as road injuries and deaths.

Figure D3.1: Health Profile 2011<sup>27</sup>

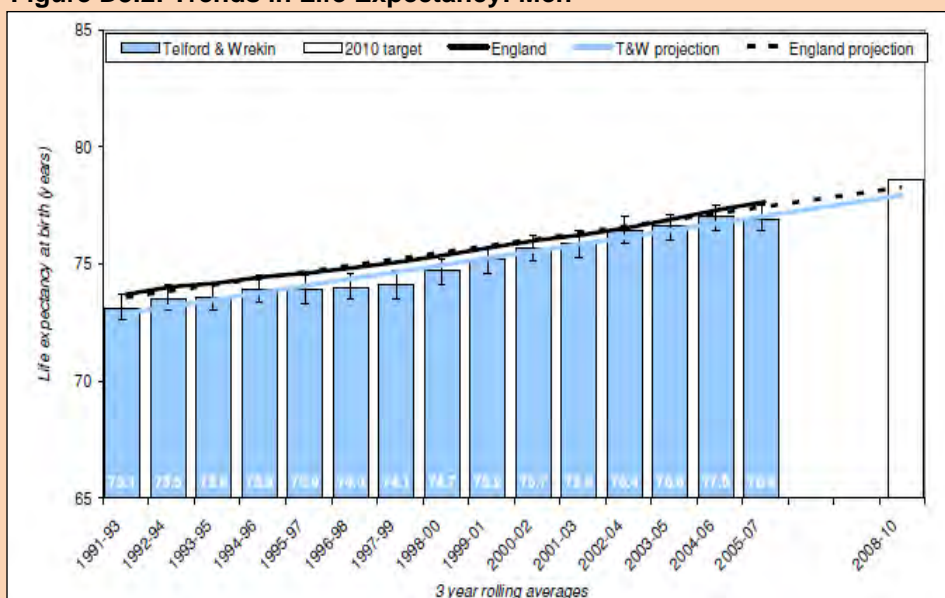


<sup>27</sup> Source: Department of Health. © Crown Copyright 2011'.  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

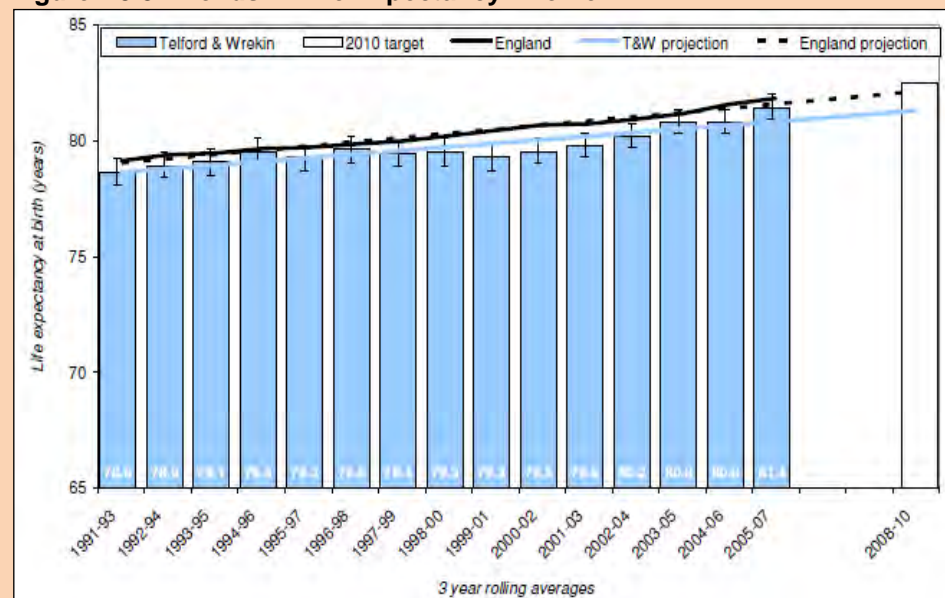


- 3.1.3 There has been a steady increase in life expectancy for people living in Telford & Wrekin, although it is still below the national average (see Figures D3.2 and D3.3). The live expectancy of residents over the period 2007-2009 is 77.4 years for males and 82.2 for females<sup>28</sup>. Live expectancy for males has increased by 0.4 years compared to a regional increase of 0.9 years from 2004-2006 up to to-date. Over the same period female life expectancy has increased by 1.4 years compared to a regional figure of 0.8 years.

**Figure D3.2: Trends in Life Expectancy: Men<sup>29</sup>**



**Figure D3.3: Trends in Life Expectancy: Women<sup>30</sup>**



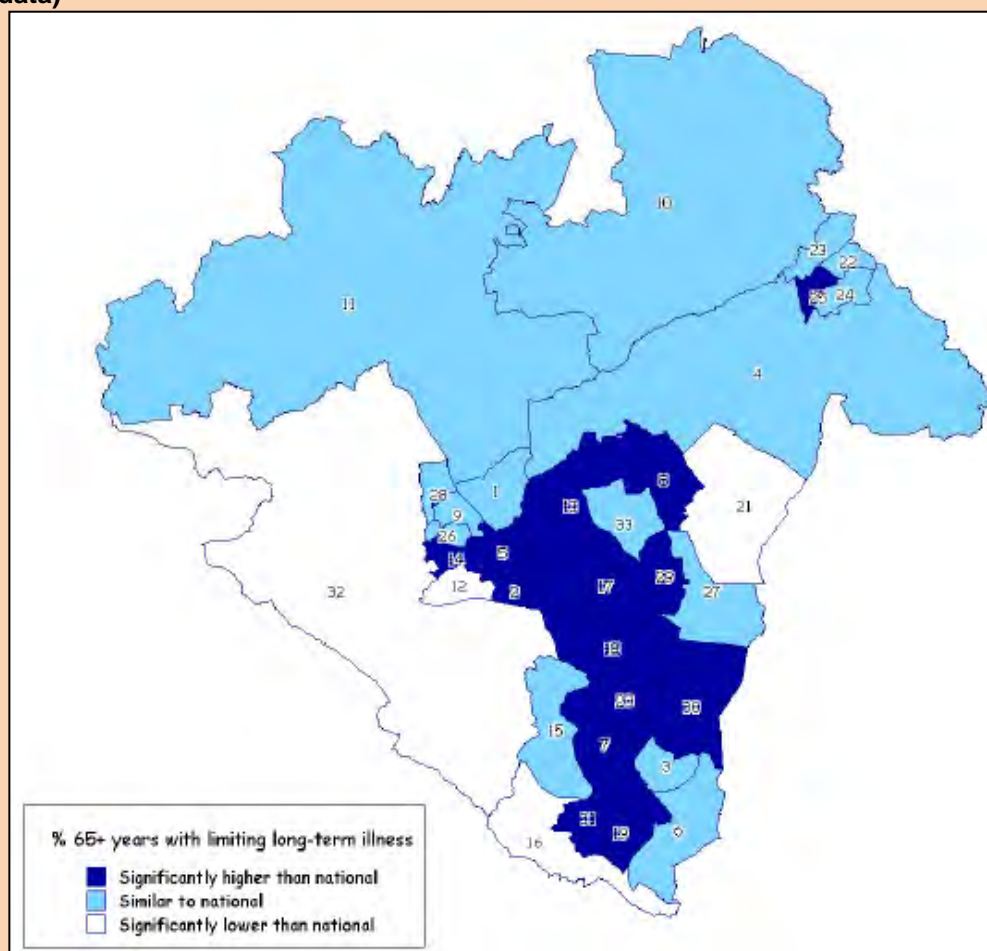
<sup>28</sup> Office for National Statistics, 2011: Painting Pictures of Place Series: Local Profiles – Demography

<sup>29</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Figure 1. Source: *Compendium of Clinical and Health Indicators / Clinical and Health Outcomes Knowledge Base* ([www.nchod.nhs.uk](http://www.nchod.nhs.uk) or [www.nchod.nhs.uk](http://www.nchod.nhs.uk)), The Information Centre for health and social care. © Crown Copyright.

<sup>30</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Figure 2. Source: *Compendium of Clinical and Health Indicators / Clinical and Health Outcomes Knowledge Base* ([www.nchod.nhs.uk](http://www.nchod.nhs.uk) or [www.nchod.nhs.uk](http://www.nchod.nhs.uk)), The Information Centre for health and social care. © Crown Copyright.

- 3.1.4 Life expectancy for men is significantly lower in the more deprived areas than in the more affluent areas. This is not the case for women as those living in the more affluent areas do not necessarily live longer than those in the more deprived areas.
- 3.1.5 The under 18 conception rate in Telford & Wrekin, although falling, remains significantly higher than the national average. The rate fell by 14.9% during the period 1998 to 2006, but there are still around 187 conceptions to the under 18s every year. The rates are highest in the most deprived communities.
- 3.1.6 Fewer people die from heart disease and stroke before the age of 75 years in Telford & Wrekin compared to ten years ago, but death rates are still higher than the national average. There is also a marked difference between deprived and more affluent areas. The all-age mortality rate from all circulatory diseases for 2007-09 is 188.2 per 100,000 persons considerably worse than for the West Midlands or England<sup>31</sup>.
- 3.1.7 Just over a half (55.1%) of the 65+ population had a long-term life-limiting illness – considerably higher than the area-wide rate of 18.0%. Females are slightly more likely to have a long-term limiting illness than males (52.45 and 57.1%)<sup>32</sup>. The 2004 distribution of those reporting a limiting long-term illness across Telford & Wrekin is represented in Figure D3.4 below.

**Figure D3.4: Percentage Aged 65 and over Reporting a Limiting Long-Term Illness (2004 data)<sup>33</sup>**



<sup>31</sup> Office for National Statistics, 2011: Painting Pictures of Place Series: Local Profiles – Inclusion

<sup>32</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2006: Older People's Strategy 2006-2016

<sup>33</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2006: Older People's Strategy 2006-2016



3.1.8 People aged 90+ with a long-term limiting illness are most likely to live in unsuitable accommodation (9.7% compared to 6.4%). The Census reveals a clear relationship between the tenure of an older resident's home and the likelihood of having either "not good" general health and or a long term life limiting illness.

3.1.9 The pattern of health inequalities shows that performance across virtually all indicators is worse than for England and Wales (see Figure D3.5). Premature mortality rates from circulatory diseases for both men and women are statistically significantly worse than the national average for men and women in the most deprived quintile and for men in the average deprivation quintile.

**Figure D3.5: Health Outcome Indicators (IMD 2007)<sup>34</sup>**

		Data period	England and Wales position	Telford and Wrekin position	IMD 2007 Deprivation Quintile				
					Most Affluent	Affluent	Average	Deprived	Most Deprived
Life Expectancy at Birth (years)	Males	2005-07	77.5	76.9	79.7	78.6	75.3	76.3	75.2
	Females		81.7	81.2	81.6	81.6	80.4	82.3	80.0
Premature Mortality from Circulatory Diseases (age-standardised death rate per 100,000 population <75 years)	Persons	2005-07	80	89	59	70	101	94	124
	Males		112	126	81	83	149	140	177
	Females		50	54	37	57	54	51	74
Smokers Quitter Rates (no. successful quitters per 100,000 population)	Persons	2008/09	813	1,091	674	828	1,144	1,498	1,513
Smoking 4 Week Quitters (% quit at 4 weeks)	Persons	2008/09	50%	51%	65%	61%	58%	59%	50%
Smoking in Pregnancy (% mothers smoking at delivery)	Females	2008/09	16%	23%	8%	12%	21%	26%	32%
Childhood Obesity (% children classified as obese)	4-5 year olds	2008	9.6%	11.9%	10.5%	8.2%	15.0%	12.6%	13.0%
	10-11 year olds		18.3%	18.6%	13.4%	17.5%	19.0%	20.7%	21.7%
Breastfeeding Initiation (% of infants breastfed at birth)	Births	2008/09	71%	66%	79%	76%	71%	62%	54%
Breastfeeding Duration (% of infants breastfed at 6-8 weeks)	Infants	2008/09	49%	31%	48%	43%	37%	28%	22%
Alcohol-Related Harm Hospital Admissions (age-standardised hospital admission ratio)	Persons	2007/08	105	105	81	91	97	124	140

**RAG Rating Categories**

<b>RED:</b> Telford and Wrekin current position statistically significantly 'worse' than the benchmark position
<b>AMBER:</b> Telford and Wrekin current position higher/lower than the benchmark position, but not statistically significantly higher/lower
<b>GREEN:</b> Telford and Wrekin current position similar to, or statistically significantly 'better' than, the benchmark position

3.1.10 In terms of obesity the JSNA Obesity Deep Dive Report<sup>35</sup> highlighted that:

- There are more than 4000 adults with a body mass index (BMI) of more than 40.
- Prevalence of obesity (28%) is above the national average (24%).
- The cost to Telford & Wrekin from adult obesity is in the region of £42million per year.

<sup>34</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Executive Summary

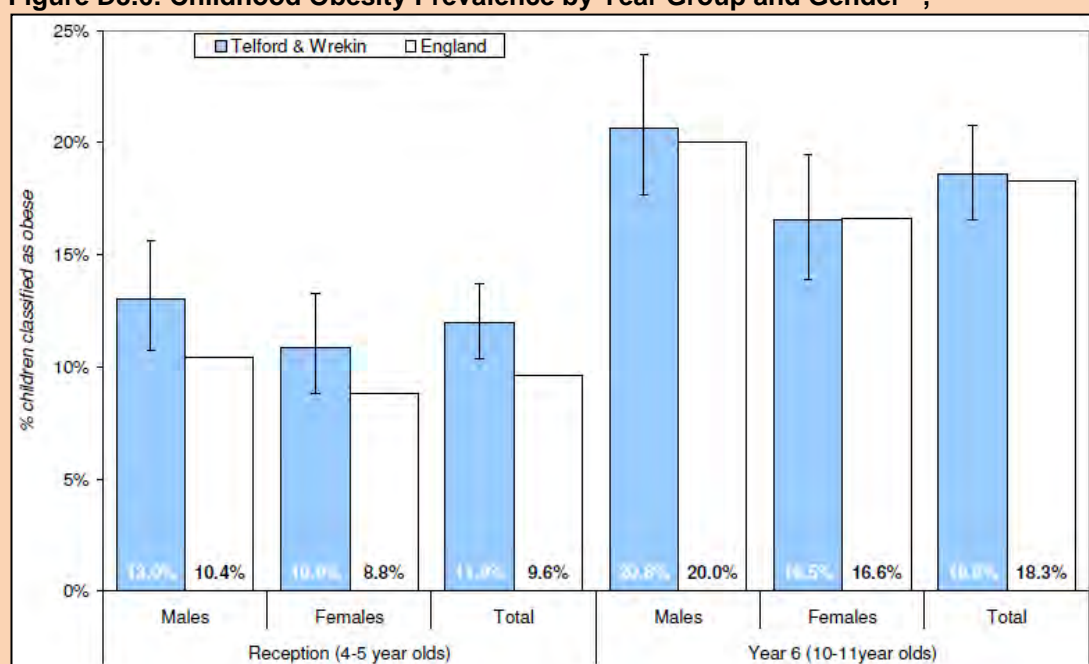
<sup>35</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Obesity Deep Dive Report

- Although use of local leisure facilities is generally on the increase, local people tend to take slightly less exercise than others in the West Midlands.
- There is some evidence to suggest that use of leisure facilities by particular groups (children & young people, and disabled people) has been decreasing.
- In general, local people tend not to eat their “five a day”.
- The needs of local BME communities may change in the future, but at present they appear to make up a relatively low proportion of the population at risk of obesity.

3.1.11 The prevalence of childhood obesity amongst 4-5 year olds is significantly higher than the national average<sup>36</sup> (see Figure D3.6).

3.1.12 Just 20% of Telford & Wrekin's adult population engage in thirty minutes of moderate intensity physical exercise three times a week (see Table D3.1). Participation is lower for some groups of people, particularly those who are likely to experience difficulty in accessing leisure services.

**Figure D3.6: Childhood Obesity Prevalence by Year Group and Gender<sup>37, 38</sup>**



**Table D3.1: Levels of Moderate Exercise, 30 Minutes 3 Times a Day<sup>39</sup>**

All adults	20%
People 55 years of age and over	11.5%
People with disabilities	8.2%
People on a low income	19%

<sup>36</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Health Inequalities

<sup>37</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2009: JSNA, Priority Health Outcome Summary Obesity

<sup>38</sup> Source: National Child Measurement Programme, The Information Centre for health and social care. © Crown

Copyright. <http://www.ic.nhs.uk/statistics-and-data-collections/health-and-lifestyles/obesity/national-child-measurement-programme:-resultsfrom-the-school-year-2007-08>

<sup>39</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2009: JSNA Obesity Deep Dive Report

- 3.1.13 Overall use of sports facilities appears to be increasing. The Active People Survey 2 (2007/08) reports a 76% satisfaction rate amongst Telford & Wrekin's population with local sports provision. However, use amongst children and young people has fallen from a high of almost 588,000 in 2005/06 to just over 514,000 in 2007/08. Use by disabled people is also about 1,200 lower than its peak in 2006/07<sup>40</sup>.
- 3.1.14 The 2009-2010 Active People Survey 4 reveals that there has been a statistical increase in the number of adults participating in 30 minutes moderate intensity sport since 2007-08 (11.2% to 17.3%)<sup>41</sup>. Recent information from Active People Survey 5 reveals a rolling 12 month activity rate of 18.1% (Jan 2010 to Jan 2011)<sup>42</sup> and 16.4% (Apr 2010 to Apr 2011)<sup>43</sup>.
- 3.1.15 One in ten of the housing stock of Telford & Wrekin failed to meet the Government's decent homes standard, although this is better than the national average<sup>44</sup>. However, there were 1,165 vulnerable households living in non decent homes in the private sector. In addition one in seven households (4,200) is in fuel poverty.
- 3.1.16 Public transport frequently does not meet the needs of residents particularly those living in rural areas and those with poor physical mobility. This situation is likely to get worse as the population ages, particularly within rural communities.
- 3.1.17 Public transport is crucial to older adults enabling them to continue to access essential amenities as well as maintaining social networks. The new town layout causes certain problems for older adults in some areas. Many bus routes now run around the perimeter of estates and the distance from the centre of the estate to the bus stop can be too far for some older adults.

### **Telford**

- 3.1.18 Malinslee, Dothill and Cuckoo Oak are identified as being within the 10% most health deprived areas in the country (see section D2 and Figure D3.4).

### **Newport**

- 3.1.19 Newport provides four super output areas in the 20% least deprived areas in the country and thus is likely to be currently amongst the healthiest parts of Telford & Wrekin.

### **Rural Areas**

- 3.1.20 The key issue for rural areas is access to health care and support for carers with the effects of the high price of housing and the lack of affordable homes having the potential for adverse effects on the health of the rural communities.

<sup>40</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2009: JSNA Obesity Deep Dive Report

<sup>41</sup> Sport England, 2011: Active People Survey 4,

[http://www.sportengland.org/research/active\\_people\\_survey/active\\_people\\_survey\\_4.aspx](http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/active_people_survey_4.aspx)

<sup>42</sup> Sport England, 2011: Active People Survey 5 Q1,

[http://www.sportengland.org/research/active\\_people\\_survey/active\\_people\\_survey\\_5/quarter\\_one.aspx](http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/active_people_survey_5/quarter_one.aspx)

<sup>43</sup> Sport England, 2011: Active People Survey 5 Q2,

[http://www.sportengland.org/research/active\\_people\\_survey/active\\_people\\_survey\\_5/aps5\\_quarter\\_two.aspx](http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/active_people_survey_5/aps5_quarter_two.aspx)

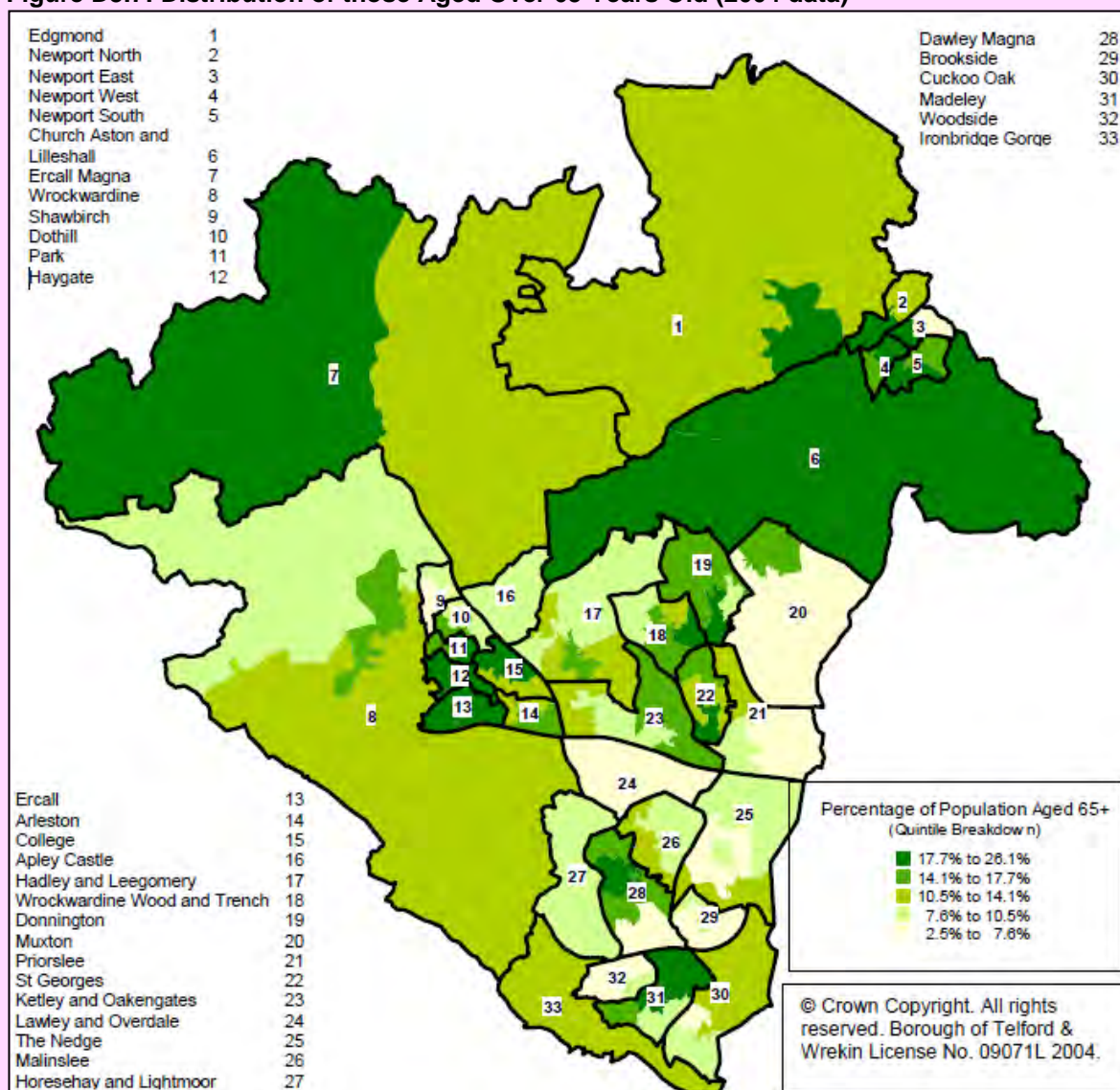
<sup>44</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT & Telford & Wrekin Borough 2008: Health & Well-Being Strategy Priority Plan: Promoting Healthy Communities & Improving the Quality of Life for Vulnerable and Older People



## D3.2 Future Baseline

3.2.1 By 2026, the population aged over 65 will have increased by 45% and significantly, people aged 85+ will have increased by 112% from 2,500 to 5,300<sup>45</sup> placing increased demand on health and care services<sup>46</sup>. The distribution of over 65 year olds based on 2004 data is presented in Figure D3.7.

**Figure D3.7: Distribution of those Aged Over 65 Years Old (2004 data)<sup>47</sup>**



<sup>45</sup> Inspira consulting, 2011: Local Economic Assessment, Supporting Information, Final Draft.

<sup>46</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2011: Sustainable Communities Strategy, Our Futures, Consultation Draft

<sup>47</sup> Telford & Wrekin Council and Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2006: Older Adults Strategy 2006-2016.

- 3.2.2 Other forecasts over the period 2010 to 2030 for people aged 65+ living alone with a long term limiting illness will increase from 4,712 to 8,794. Also, the number of people with dementia in Telford & Wrekin is forecast to increase from 1580 in 2010 to 2705 in 2025<sup>48</sup> posing a growing challenge to meet mobility needs particularly those in the rural areas<sup>49</sup>.
- 3.2.3 Changes in the age profile will have implications for public services providing health, social care and also meeting different types of housing need and adaptations. Adequate housing provision is in place to deal with the changing demographic profile of Telford & Wrekin.
- 3.2.4 There is a need to develop a range of specialist and supported housing and related services to meet the needs of the vulnerable and ageing population. The Council has plans to develop a significant programme of extra care housing<sup>50</sup> for older people and accommodation for other vulnerable groups including young people and adults with a learning difficulty.
- 3.2.5 As the local population gets older there will be an increasing need for traditional homes to be adapted to meet the needs of people who are disabled. Wherever possible new homes should be built to the Lifetime homes standard so that they meet people's changing needs and reduce the need for adaptations to the home at a later stage. Some of the new homes should be suitable for people who use a wheelchair. Best use needs to be made of the existing specialist housing stock.
- 3.2.6 Many older adults experience a fear of crime which can curtail their activities contributing to greater isolation and reduced activity which in turn leads to poorer health. The design of the environment is crucial not just in terms of security but also mobility. Poor quality pavements, potential trip hazards, difficult road crossings and lack of dropped curbs can all limit older adult's ability to access their communities.

## Telford

- 3.2.7 The 2009 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Demographic Foundation report identified the following forecasts for changes in population in Telford:
- Telford Central will experience, proportionately, the largest population growth from 2008 to 2026 – up from 43,500 by 19,300 people or 44% to 62,800. Reflecting this growth, it will have the youngest population age structure with 21% aged 0 to 15 and 15% aged 65+ - compared to the authority-wide figures (18% and 18% respectively).
  - In 2008, Telford North has the largest population at 56,500 people – by 2026 the population is forecast to have grown to 70,600 people – an increase of 14,100 or 25%. The number of people aged 75+ will have increased by two thirds from 900 to 1500, with the number aged 65+ increasing by 4600 or 60%. The number 0 to 15 year olds will increase over this period from 8,800 to 13,600 (an increase of 4,800 or 54%).
  - Telford South has a relatively young population – in 2008 21% of the population was aged 0 to 15 compared to 20% authority-wide with 13% aged 65+ compared with 14% authority-wide. The population is forecast to grow by 3,600 people or 17% between 2008 and 2026.

<sup>48</sup> <http://www.nepho.org.uk/mho/briefs>

<sup>49</sup> <http://www.nepho.org.uk/mho/briefs>

<sup>50</sup> Extra care housing refers to accommodation built within a complex that provides a range of facilities and services for residents. These may include social activities and meeting places as well as health and social care services.

## Newport

- 3.2.8 In 2008, Newport's population was 17,500 and over the period to 2026, growth by just 200 people is forecast. Over this period, the population will age – in 2008 18% of the population were aged 65+. By 2026 it is forecast that over 65 year olds will increase to 23% of the population. In real terms an increase of 1,000 to 4,100 people<sup>51</sup>.

## D3.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 3.3.1 The challenges facing the Council in addressing public health extends beyond the remit of health professionals to also include spatial planners. It is increasingly recognised that spatial planning has a role to play in managing the environmental determinants of health and influencing the social determinants. With the changing planning and public health frameworks brought about by the Coalition Government, there are the following challenges and opportunities:
- **Avoiding adverse health impacts from development:** Air and water quality, noise, dereliction and land contamination, waste management, light pollution and community severance.
  - **Providing a healthy living environment: Housing, accessibility, parks and greenspace,** community facilities, recreation and sports facilities, employment, education, walking and cycling routes, public transport and locally available fresh food.
  - **Promoting and facilitating healthy lifestyles:** Development pattern movement/ connectivity, physical activity, healthy eating and safety.
  - **Providing good access to health facilities and services:** Ensuring facilities are available to meet future needs.
  - **Responding to issues of climate change, energy and food security, resource depletion and waste management:** Sustainable design, urban heat island effect, energy security and more frequent severe/extreme weather events such as heat waves, and fluvial flooding.
  - **Ensuring community and stakeholder engagement in governance, delivery, implementation and management:** Community involvement, neighbourhood planning, monitoring, research and evaluation.
- 3.3.2 The greater number of older adults will put an increased pressure on adult social care and the challenge will be to target scarce resources to meet the needs of the 15%, or 4,215 people who will require support by 2016, but at the same time invest in services which promote independence and well being<sup>52</sup>.
- 3.3.3 The Older Persons Strategy<sup>53</sup> identified the need for locally based community health facilities as well as the use of Assistive Technology and home monitoring.
- 3.3.4 The JSNA Obesity Deep Dive Report<sup>54</sup> identified the following opportunities:
- Reduce dependence on cars.
  - Control the availability of unhealthy food outlets.
  - Improving existing cycle-ways or footpaths.

<sup>51</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Demographic Foundation.

<sup>52</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2006: Older People's Strategy 2006-2016

<sup>53</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2006: Older People's Strategy 2006-2016

<sup>54</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2009: JSNA, Obesity Deep Dive Report

## **Telford**

- 3.3.5 Telford has several design and access issues. The designs of some estates such as Woodside are now recognised as being problematic. During the regeneration and redevelopment of these areas the needs of older adults ought to be taken into consideration<sup>55</sup>.

## **Newport**

- 3.3.6 With a trebling in the number of people over 65 by 2026, there are anticipated to be an increasing preponderance of health issues associated with the elderly. The challenge will be to deliver the housing and community needs so they can continue to live independently.

## **D3.4 Uncertainties and Limitations**

- 3.4.1 There is a need to expand and develop information on the profile of older adults including demographics and needs assessments to inform future sustainability appraisals.
- 3.4.2 Data on the public health situation for Newport and details of the health trends that can be influenced by spatial planning have not been available for the Scoping Report.

## **D3.5 Scoping**

- 3.5.1 Public health is a key component for future sustainability appraisals and thus is **scoped into** future appraisals of plans for across the authority and for Telford.
- 3.5.2 While there is adequate housing land, the issue is one of catering for the needs of an increasing elderly population and for this reason public health is **scoped into** sustainability appraisals for Newport plans.
- 3.5.3 While it is possible that the delivery of housing for the elderly ought to be scoped into any sustainability appraisal for rural area plans, this is **deferred** since it is dependent upon the remit of the plan and the evidence available on local public health issues.

## **D3.6 Objectives & Indicators**

- 3.6.1 The sustainability objectives set for public health are:
- To improve the health and well-being of the population to meet the needs of the vulnerable and ageing population.
  - To create opportunities for the community to reduce levels of obesity.
  - To enable vulnerable people to live independently by supporting local retail and community services minimising the need to travel.
- 3.6.2 The proposed indicators are:
- Number of life time homes and homes adapted for independent elderly lifestyles.

<sup>55</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2006: Older People's Strategy 2006-2016  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report



- Percentage of adults participating in 3 days a week moderate physical activity.
- Number of vulnerable people able to maintain independent living each year.
- Obesity among primary school age children in year 6 at school.
- Extent of involvement of older people in spatial and transport planning.
- Accessibility of local services for elderly people.

## D4: CRIME & SAFETY

### D4.1 Baseline Conditions

- 4.1.1 The overall crime rate across Telford & Wrekin in 2009/10 was 42.9 crimes per thousand people (using types of crime comparable with the British Crime Survey). This represents a reduction from the 55.4 crimes per thousand in 2007/08<sup>56</sup>. The highest category was criminal damage at 16 per thousand persons followed by violence against the person. There has been an overall reduction in all offence types of 31.3% in 2006/07 compared to 2003/04<sup>57</sup>.
- 4.1.2 Nationally the risk of being a victim of any household crime was higher for households living in the most deprived areas compared with those in the least deprived areas in England (19% compared with 14%). In the most deprived areas:
- The risk of households being victims of vandalism is 8% as compared with 6% in the least deprived areas;
  - The risk of households being victims of vehicle-related theft is 7% as compared with 5% in the least deprived areas.
  - The risk of households being victims of burglary is 3% as compared with 1% in the least deprived areas<sup>58</sup>.
- 4.1.3 Other trends available on crime include:
- Burglary offences have declined from 1,358 in 2001/02 to 813 in 2009/10.
  - Reported violent crime in Telford is currently being projected as being equivalent to 15 crimes per 1000 residents per year, and the majority of these (some 80%) are estimated to be in the "Other Violence against the Person" category. The number of recorded incidents has reduced from 4,395 in 2003/04 to 2,139 in 2009/10<sup>59</sup>.
  - Estimates suggest that around 40% of the violent crime recorded by police is alcohol-related, and approximately the same percentage occurs in a public place.
  - Around 20% of incidents occurring are 'flagged' as being potential domestic abuse incidents.
  - 75% of respondents to the Telford & Wrekin Citizens Survey agree that people from different backgrounds get on well in their local neighbourhood, 25% disagree.
- 4.1.4 The Annual Monitoring Report illustrates the distribution of crime (see Figure D4.1 below).

<sup>56</sup> Office for National Statistics, 2011: Painting Pictures of Place Series: Local Profiles – Inclusion

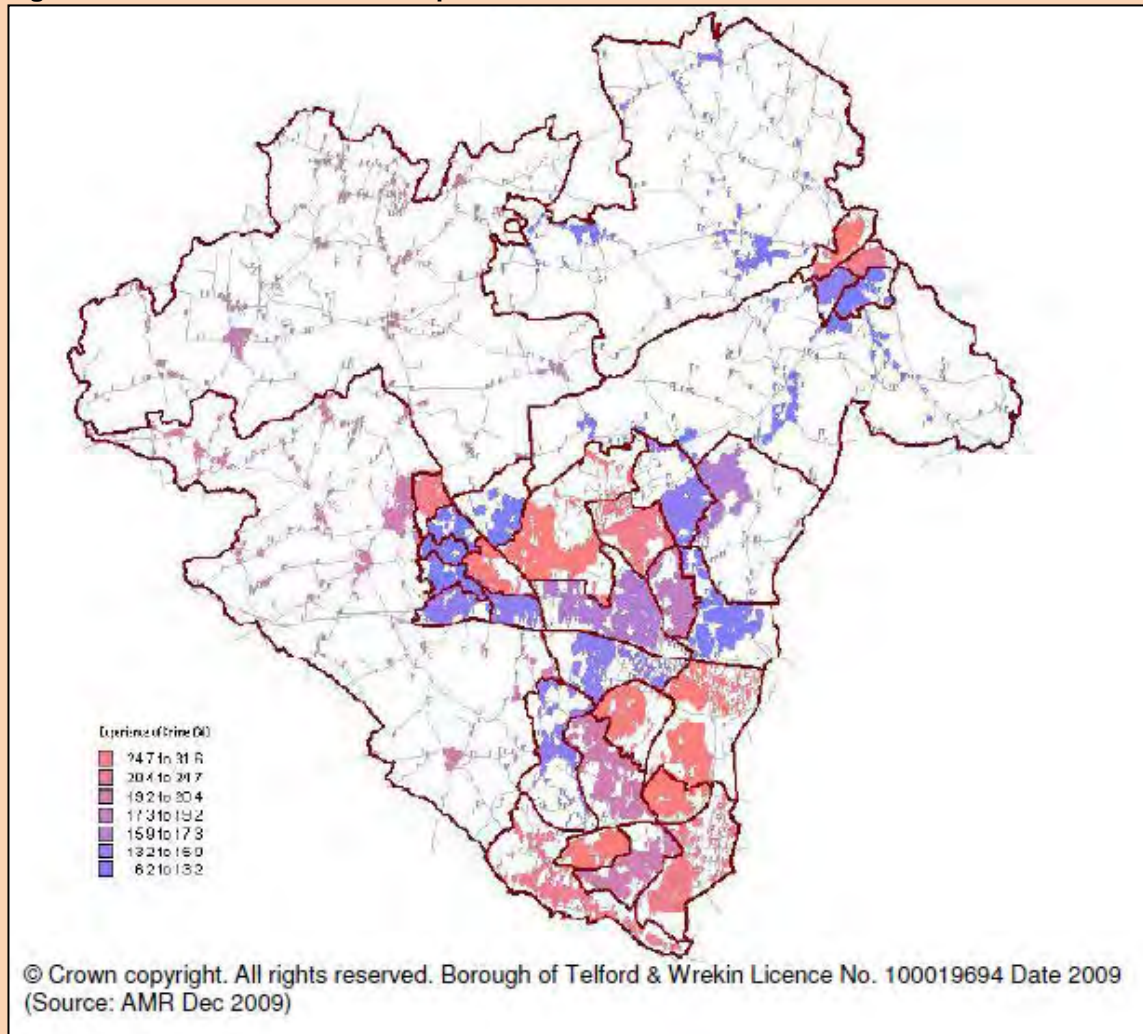
<sup>57</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT & Telford & Wrekin Borough 2008: Health & Well-Being Strategy Priority Plan: Promoting Healthy Communities & Improving the Quality of Life for Vulnerable and Older People

<sup>58</sup> Home Office, 2010: Crime in England and Wales 2009/10.

<sup>59</sup> Office of National Statistics, 2011:

<http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTrendView.do?a=7&b=276831&c=Telford+and+Wrekin&d=13&e=3&f=26601&g=396941&i=1001x1003x1004x1005&l=904&o=326&m=0&r=1&s=1309121893228&enc=1&adminCompld=26601&variableFamilylds=6182&xW=861>

**Figure D4.1: Distribution of the Experience of Crime**



## **D4.2 Future Baseline**

- 4.2.1 The 2010 Local Climate Impact Profile suggested an increase in anti-social behaviour in warmer weather.

## **D4.3 Challenges and Opportunities**

- 4.3.1 The challenge will be to deliver urban designs and to address the failures of the Radburn estate layouts to continue the reductions in crime while urban densities increase.

## **D4.4 Uncertainties and Limitations**

- 4.4.1 The Super Output Area data on crime do not provide robust datasets on which to discern trends to inform sustainability appraisals. There are no projections for the future level of crime.

## D4.5 Scoping

- 4.5.1 As crime is influenced, at least in part, by urban design that is a product of the planning policy regime, so it is appropriate to consider within appraisals how planning policy is directed towards reducing crime levels. Hence crime is **scoped into** the appraisals of authority-wide and Telford plans.
- 4.5.2 With few houses currently envisaged to be built in Newport, there is little influence that spatial planning will have upon designing the built environment to help reduce the incidence of crime. Hence the subject is **scoped out**. A similar situation exists for rural areas.

## D4.6 Objectives & Indicators

- 4.6.1 The sustainability objective is:
- To ensure urban design and layout contributes towards reducing the potential for crime.
- 4.6.2 The proposed sustainability Indicators are:
- The incidence of burglary and violence against the person.
  - Incidence of crime and anti-social behaviour associated with the night-time economy.

## D5. SCOPING RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY

### D5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This section provides a summary of the following:

- The scoping recommendations accompanied by the justification.
- A summary of the trends, objectives and potential indicators.
- The consultation questions.

5.1.2 While authority-wide objectives apply to all areas, specific objectives may also apply to Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

**Table D5.1: Environmental Sustainability Scoping Recommendations**

Sustainability Objectives	Authority wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas	Reason
Population					
Population profile in balance with employment opportunities	In	In	In	In	• Managing demographic trends are central to planning and helping to deliver sustainable communities where opportunities for employment, housing, education and recreation are in balance with local community needs.
Community Deprivation					
Retrain well-educated workforce	In	In	Out	In	• Links between housing, employment and deprivation are a focus for future appraisals recognising that spatially focused strategies are needed. • A low level of deprivation in Newport suggests the scoping out of deprivation, education and rural viability for the town.
Address cycle of deprivation	In	In	Out	Out	
Viability of rural communities & access to services	Out	Out	Out	In	
Public Health					
Housing the elderly	In	In	In	?	• There are several public health issues where spatial planning can make a contribution. The housing needs of the elderly, mobility and access to services as well as avoidance of fuel poverty are key topics for an ageing population. The other major objective is to address obesity by encouraging physical activity and managing fast food outlets.
Obesity in children	In	In	In	?	
Adult obesity	In	In	In	?	
Mobility & access to services	In	In	In	?	
Fuel poverty	Out	In	Out	Out	






Crime & Safety					
Reported burglary	In	In	Out	Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As spatial planning can contribute to reducing crime by designing out the conditions that aid crime, so it has been scoped into the appraisal of authority-wide plans as well as those focused on Telford.</li> </ul>
Violence against the person	In	In	Out	Out	

## D5.2 Trends, Indicators and Objectives

















5.2.1 The following tables provide an overview of the anticipated trends are provided for Telford, Newport and Rural Area planning areas only where there is a difference to those presented for the authority-wide situation. In such circumstances a "no information on trends" entry is provided.

**Table D5.2: Summary of Population Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Population		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decline in the number of 0-15 year olds.</li> <li>Increase in the numbers of 65 year olds.</li> <li>Lower percentage elderly population than national average</li> <li>Implications for public services providing health, social care, housing need and adaptations for ageing population.</li> <li>Smaller workforce with no qualifications than nationally</li> <li>% of young people who are classed as NEET has reduced from 9.7% in 2007 to current figure of 9.4% in 2009</li> <li>Decline in % of young people classed as NEET not as rapid as that for region.</li> <li>Changing pattern of age distribution has implications for transport requirements.</li> <li>Net out migration in 2009</li> <li>Good access to primary and secondary schools.</li> <li>Good access to employment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To achieve a population profile in balance with the employment opportunities that the travel to work area is able to provide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The percentage of job seeker allowance claimants in the 18-24, 25-49 and 50-64 age bands averaged over a rolling 5 year period.</li> <li>The number of people in the working age population;</li> <li>The population aged over 65 years old;</li> <li>The proportion of employment opportunities filled by people not locally resident.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High levels of deprivation with one in four under 16 year olds living in low income households.</li> <li>Higher than national and regional average rate of young people not in employment.</li> <li>Unclear population trend</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>

Newport	Objectives	Indicators
 Faster ageing population in comparison to Telford.  Impact on social and economic health of the rural area and its settlements due to an ageing profile.  Low level of job seekers in community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
 Ageing population  Low level of job seekers in community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To seek to aid the viability of rural services by managing the distribution of new housing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>

**Table D5.3: Summary of Community Deprivation Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend  Positive,  Same,  Negative		
Community Deprivation		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
 In the top 30% most deprived districts in the West Midlands  Increasing levels of deprivation  13% of the population live in the 10% (11 areas) that are the most deprived areas nationally compared to 5% in 2007  Some areas in 10% least deprived in country  41,800 people live in 20% most income deprived areas  Education, training, employment and health most prevalent problems of deprived communities  24.5% of under 16 year olds are living in income deprivation  Reduction in children in poverty 24.4% to 24.1% between 2007-2008  61,600 people experiencing education deprivation  17,700 people up from 10,000 in 2007 experience barriers to housing & services  34,500 people live in areas with 20% most deprived due to crime and disorder  10,200 children in areas ranked 20% most income deprived  13 wards within Telford & Wrekin have at least one are ranked with the 20% most deprived areas (over a third of the wards)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide an environment that helps retain well-educated members of the work force.</li> <li>Assist in measures to address community deprivation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of people who express satisfaction with their quality of the environment.</li> <li>Index of multiple deprivation and its subsets.</li> </ul>



Trend ☺ Positive, ☹ Same, ☹ Negative		
Community Deprivation		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☹ Educational attainment lower than for West Midlands</p> <p>☹ Improving education but behind national improvements</p> <p>☺ 3,200 households (4.7%) were in fuel poverty</p>		
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☹ Parts of Woodside in the top 3% most deprived area in England</p> <p>☹ Areas in Brookside in top 2% most employment deprived area</p> <p>☹ Parts of Malinslee, Dothill and Cuckoo Oak fall within the 10% most health deprived areas in the country</p> <p>☹ Parts of Cuckoo Oak ranked in top 2% most deprived due to crime</p> <p>☹ Parts of Malinslee ranked 7% most deprived area for older people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the population within the top 10% most deprived areas across each of the separate deprivation themes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Index of multiple deprivation and its subsets.</li> <li>The number of wards where high numbers of elderly people are in the top 10% most deprived areas.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☺ All wards feature in top 20% least deprived areas</p>	As the subject has been scoped out so no sustainability objectives or indicators are proposed.	
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☹ Percentage of rural residents in poverty has risen from 16% to 18% between 2004/5 and 2006/7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To help maintain the viability of rural communities and their ability to access care services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The population in each ward receiving job seekers allowance by age group.</li> </ul>

**Table D5.4: Summary of Public Health Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, ☹ Negative		
Public Health		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 Improving life expectancy especially for females</p> <p>☹ Rate of improvement for males not as good as regional average</p> <p>☹ Number of people over 65+ living alone with long term limiting illness is to increase from 4,712 to 8,794</p> <p>😊 Fewer people die from heart disease and stroke before the age of 75 years in Telford &amp; Wrekin compared to ten years ago</p> <p>☹ Death rates from heart disease and stroke before the age of 75 years are still higher than the national average</p> <p>☹ The all-age mortality rate from all circulatory diseases for 2007-09 is 188.2 per 100,000 persons which is considerably worse than for the West Midlands or England</p> <p>☹ People aged 90+ with a long-term limiting illness are most likely to live in unsuitable accommodation (9.7% compared to 6.4%)</p> <p>☹ Declining numbers of people helped to live at home</p> <p>☹ Prevalence of obesity (28%) is above the national average (24%)</p> <p>☹ It is estimated that the cost to Telford &amp; Wrekin from adult obesity is in the region of £42million per year</p> <p>☹ Although use of local leisure facilities is generally on the increase, local people tend to take slightly less exercise than others in the West Midlands</p> <p>☹ Some evidence that use of leisure facilities by particular groups (children &amp; young people, and disabled people) has been decreasing</p> <p>☹ Local people tend not to eat their “five a day”</p> <p>☹ Prevalence of childhood obesity amongst 4-5 year olds is significantly higher than the national average in the average and most deprived deprivation quintiles</p> <p>😊 Obesity in primary school age children in reception has fallen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the health and well-being of the population to meet the needs of the vulnerable and ageing population.</li> <li>• To create opportunities for the community to reduce levels of obesity.</li> <li>• To enable vulnerable people to live independently by supporting local retail and community services minimising the need to travel.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of life time homes and homes adapted for independent elderly lifestyles.</li> <li>• Percentage of adults participating in 3 days a week moderate physical activity.</li> <li>• Number of vulnerable people able to maintain independent living each year.</li> <li>• Obesity among primary school age children in year 6 at school.</li> <li>• Extent of involvement of older people in spatial and transport planning.</li> <li>• Accessibility of local services for elderly people.</li> </ul>

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Public Health		
<p>😊 By 2026, the population aged over 65 will have increased by 45% and people aged 85+ will have increased by 112% from 2,500 to 5,300</p> <p>😞 1,165 vulnerable households living in non decent homes in the private sector</p> <p>😊 Increase in the percentage of respondents that agree that their immediate local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together (75%).</p>		
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined in the context of the rural plan or policies.</li> </ul>	

**Table D5.5: Summary of Crime & Safety Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Crime & Safety		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 42.9 crimes per thousand people in 2009/10 a reduction from the 55.4 crimes per thousand in 2007/08.</p> <p>😊 Reduction in overall crime and disorder over 2010-11 and the launch of the ASB hotline.</p> <p>😊 Decrease in calls to the police has been reported since this launch.</p> <p>😊 Reductions in levels of burglary and crime against the person</p> <p>😊 Overall reduction in all offence types of 31.3% in 2006/07 compared to 2003/04</p> <p>😊 Better than average for England in terms of road injuries and deaths with continuous improvement</p> <p>😊 Numerous initiatives introduced tackling ASB.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure urban design and layout contributes towards reducing the potential for crime.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The incidence of burglary and violence against the person.</li> <li>Incidence of crime and anti-social behaviour associated with the night-time economy.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

### **D5.3 Consultation Questions**

5.3.1 It would assist the appraisal process if responses could be made to the questions presented below.

- Do you agree with the scoping findings?
- Are there any significant issues that ought to be addressed that have been omitted?
- Are there any other information sources that ought to be considered?
- Do you have any views on the objectives and indicators that could be used during appraisals?

## PART E: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

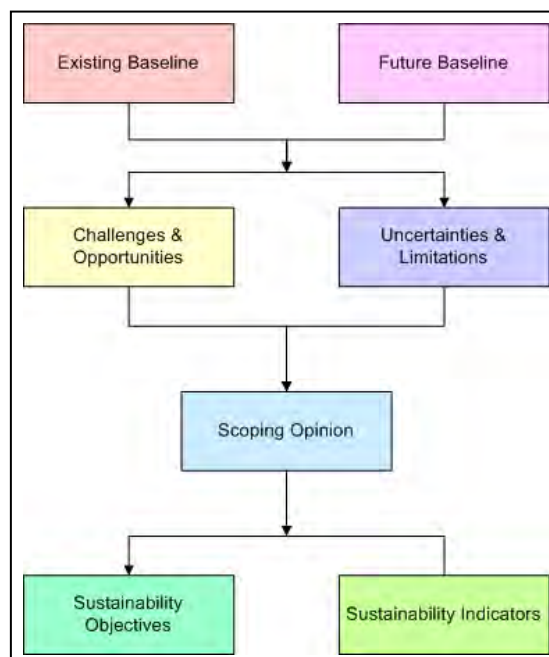
### E0: INTRODUCTION

0.1.1 The quality of the environment has played a key role in attracting inward investors and in influencing local people from the surrounding areas to establish their businesses and homes in Telford & Wrekin. Encouraging and promoting the area as one that values the environment and develops green technologies by working with partners may boost businesses and help attract investment. The quality of the physical environment also makes an important contribution towards public health and the well-being of local communities.

0.1.2 This chapter sets out the policy context for the following themes:

- Geological sites;
- Biodiversity;
- Green infrastructure;
- Landscape & townscape;
- Historic environment;
- Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions;
- Adaptation to climate change;
- Acoustic environment;
- Water quality and flood risk.

0.1.3 For each of the above, a description of the existing and future baseline is presented to derive a series of challenges and opportunities. These together with any data limitations then inform the scoping decision, the sustainability objectives and the initial proposals for sustainability indicators. This process is illustrated in the adjacent figure. For ease of reference the text representing each of the steps in the sustainability process is set within a box coloured in a similar manner to the diagram above.



0.1.4 Before considering the individual themes, a brief review of relevant policies, programmes and plans within Telford & Wrekin, as required by the regulations, is presented. The purpose of this section is to expand upon the context established by the European and National policy framework as well as the local policy context set by neighbouring authorities as described in Chapter A3.

0.1.5 A summary of the scoping recommendations, sustainability objectives and indicators as well as questions posed to the consultees conclude this chapter.

#### Authority-wide Policies, Programmes & Plans

0.1.6 This section summarises the key local policy documents that affect geological sites, biodiversity, green infrastructure, landscape and townscape, historic environment, air quality, green house gas emissions, adaptation to climate change, noise, water quality and flood risk where they exist.

## Geological Sites and Soils

- 0.1.7 International and national soils strategies<sup>1,2</sup> seek to conserve soils, not only for their value to agriculture and biodiversity, but also due to the carbon storage role (see **Appendix B**). National policy<sup>3,4</sup> also requires local authorities to protect valuable geological sites, including Local Geological Sites.
- 0.1.8 Local Geological Sites are selected by Local Geological Sites groups based upon educational, scientific, historical or aesthetic value. Government advice including Planning Policy Statement 9 makes it clear that Local Geological Sites should be taken properly into consideration during the planning process.
- 0.1.9 Local Geodiversity Action Plans (LGAPs) are published across England aiming to provide a co-ordinating framework in which to address geological conservation issues. The Shropshire Geodiversity Action Plan identifies the geological assets to promote actions which conserve and enhance. The overarching aim is to promote knowledge, education, conservation and sustainable management of the county's geodiversity<sup>5</sup>.

## Biodiversity

- 0.1.10 In March 2010, the European Council issued a new target to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020 and to support efforts to avert global biodiversity loss. There are six main targets, and 20 actions. The six targets cover:
- Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity;
  - Better protection for ecosystems, and more use of green infrastructure;
  - More sustainable agriculture and forestry;
  - Better management of fish stocks;
  - Tighter controls on invasive alien species; and
  - A bigger EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.
- 0.1.11 A vision and headline target has been set as presented in Table E.1 below, with the key actions of relevance to the revised Core Strategy 'Shaping Places' document and future planning documents are presented in Table E.2.

**Table E.1: EU Biodiversity Strategy Vision and Target**

### 2050 vision

By 2050, European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides — its natural capital — are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's intrinsic value and for their essential contribution to human wellbeing and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided.

### 2020 headline target

Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.

<sup>1</sup> The EU Soil Thematic Strategy [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/three\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/three_en.htm).

<sup>2</sup> Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England 2009 <http://archive.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/land/soil/documents/soil-strategy.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation  
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicystatements/pps9/>

<sup>4</sup> Sustainable development in rural areas  
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicystatements/pps7/>

<sup>5</sup> Shropshire Geodiversity Action Plan 2007

**Table E.2: Relevant Biodiversity Strategy Actions**

**Action 1: Complete the establishment of the Natura 2000 network and ensure good management**

**1c)** Member States will ensure that management plans or equivalent instruments which set out conservation and restoration measures are developed and implemented in a timely manner for all Natura 2000 sites.

**Action 3: Increase stakeholder awareness and involvement and improve enforcement:**

**3a)** The Commission, together with Member States, will develop and launch a major communication campaign on Natura 2000 by 2013.

**3b)** The Commission and Member states will improve cooperation with key sectors and continue to develop guidance documents to improve their understanding of the requirements of EU nature legislation and its value in promoting economic development.

**3c)** The Commission and Member States will facilitate enforcement of the nature directives by providing specific training programmes on Natura 2000 for judges and public prosecutors, and by developing better compliance promotion capacities.

**Action 6: Set priorities to restore and promote the use of green infrastructure**

**6b)** The Commission will develop a Green Infrastructure Strategy by 2012 to promote the deployment of green infrastructure in the EU in urban and rural areas, including through incentives to encourage up-front investments in green infrastructure projects and the maintenance of ecosystem services.

**Action 7: Ensure no net loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services**

**7b)** The Commission will carry out further work with a view to proposing by 2015 an initiative to ensure there is no net loss of ecosystems and their services (e.g. through compensation or offsetting schemes).

**Action 9: Better target Rural Development to biodiversity conservation**

**9b)** The Commission and Member States will establish mechanisms to facilitate collaboration among farmers and foresters to achieve continuity of landscape features, protection of genetic resources and other cooperation mechanisms to protect biodiversity.

- 0.1.12 Local authorities are required by European and national legislation and policies to protect and conserve wildlife including flora and fauna, and their habitats. Sites include European Sites (SACs, SPA, Ramsar sites) or and national (SSSIs, NNRs) sites and non-statutory local sites (LNRs, County Wildlife Sites, SINCs). Individual species are awarded statutory protection at an international or national level.
- 0.1.13 Under the Habitats Regulations, where a plan could affect a European site<sup>22</sup>, an Appropriate Assessment of the implications of the plan on the site's conservation objectives is required together with consultation with Natural England.
- 0.1.14 The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (Sec 40), requires local authorities to have regard to biodiversity conservation in carrying out their functions - referred to as their "Biodiversity Duty" and states that they should use local Biodiversity Action Planning (LBAP).
- 0.1.15 Additionally the Natural Environment White Paper, 2011<sup>6</sup> indicates that:
- Partnerships of local authorities, local communities and landowners, the private sector and conservation organisations will establish new Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs), based on a local assessment of opportunities for restoring and connecting nature on a significant scale.
  - A new voluntary approach to biodiversity offsetting tested on pilot areas is proposed.
  - A new Green Areas Designation giving local people an opportunity to protect green spaces that have significant importance to their local communities is proposed to be introduced by April 2012.
  - Mechanisms for formally identifying and protecting urban quiet areas are to be established.

<sup>6</sup> Published in June 2011  
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- A new biodiversity strategy is to be published.
  - Coherent and resilient ecological networks are to be created.
  - Measures to reduce the negative impacts of artificial light and protect existing dark areas will be explored. Exemptions from artificial light statutory nuisance are to be explored.
- 0.1.16 Planning Policy Statement 9 (PPS9 – Biodiversity and Geological Conservation) notes that the key principles towards biodiversity and geological conservation are:
- Development plan policies and planning decisions should be based upon up-to-date information about the environmental characteristics of their areas;
  - Plan policies and planning decisions should aim to maintain and enhance, restore or add to biodiversity and geological conservation interests;
  - Plan policies on the form and location of development should take a strategic approach to the conservation, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and geology, and recognise the contributions that sites, areas and features, both individually and in combination, make to conserving these resources; and
  - Plan policies should promote opportunities for the incorporation of beneficial biodiversity and geological features within the design of development.
- 0.1.17 The PPS also notes that plans should:
- Indicate the location of designated sites of importance for biodiversity and geodiversity, making clear distinctions between the hierarchy of international, national, regional and locally designated sites; and
  - Identify any areas or sites for the restoration or creation of new priority habitats which contribute to regional targets, and support this restoration or creation through appropriate policies.
- 0.1.18 Telford & Wrekin Council is part of the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership which oversees the biodiversity work within the county. This was updated in 2006 and identifies actions for threatened species and habitats, who will lead the action and the timescales.
- 0.1.19 There are currently 30 species action plans, 15 habitat action plans, two landscape scale projects and one generic action plan listed on the Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) for Shropshire. Revision of the Shropshire BAP is ongoing with a focus upon landscape scale action plans gradually as guided by the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and Natural England.

### Green Infrastructure

- 0.1.20 National policy (PPS12 – Local Spatial Planning) requires local authorities to address the provision of green infrastructure, a key element being natural habitat networks.
- 0.1.21 Green infrastructure has been defined as:
- “Open space has many meanings in the planning of cities. Such areas are usually shown in green on a city plan, and the plan is judged by the size and continuity of the green areas which it exhibits ....but...they are meaningful only if open space is considered in context with the total urban setting”<sup>7</sup>*
- 0.1.22 The definition used by the Council is:
- "Green infrastructure is a term used to describe all of the green spaces and water in the Authority. It allows us to value these spaces as a connected, functioning resource from which we derive multiple social, economic and environmental benefits."*

<sup>7</sup> Kevin Lynch, 1990: *City Sense and City Design*  
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- 0.1.23 Some initial evidence gathering by the Council has been undertaken towards producing a strategy on green infrastructure with a consultation draft envisaged towards the end of 2011.
- 0.1.24 Policy CT21 (Protection of Green Space) of the Central Telford Area Action Plan sets a green spaces designation for Central Telford that has resulted from the Green Spaces Review. Through this designation, the policy identifies the specific sites and areas to be protected. The policy also recognises that other spaces with value may lie outside this designation and that where development affects these their impacts on the space must be addressed. This is particularly the case for the types of green space that the PPG17 Assessment has identified as deficient in Central Telford
- 0.1.25 Policy CT22 (Provision of new Green Space) uses evidence from the Green Spaces Review and from the Assessment of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities to identify the types of green space are required to be provided in Central Telford over the plan period, and in which locations.
- 0.1.26 There are several policies that have been “saved” from the Wrekin Local Plan (OL3, OL4, OL5, OL6, OL11, OL12 and OL13) that provide for the protection and development of the green network, open land, woodland and trees etc.
- 0.1.27 The **Allotments Strategy** 2009 - 2014 sets out the “To improve the quality, management and promotion of all allotment sites to offer access to this unique leisure activity to all members of the community”.
- 0.1.28 The **Local Play Strategy** 2007 – 2017 outlines the Council’s commitment to improving and developing play opportunities for all children and young people through the following recommendations:
- Upgrade existing play and youth facilities where required;
  - Create new play and youth facilities where appropriate;
  - Increase the amount of accessible play equipment within play and youth facilities;
  - Actively encourage the right of children’s informal play particularly in the landscape of open green spaces dependent on its size, new developments will provide the following on site provision; 75 – 200 child bed spaces = LEAP, 200+ child bed spaces = NEAP.
- 0.1.29 The Telford & Wrekin **Sports and Leisure Facilities Framework** 2007-2027, provides the following vision: “*To create a network of inclusive high quality community and specialist sport and physical activity facilities within Telford and Wrekin that will encourage an increase in its communities physical activity levels, and enhance the quality of life of existing and future communities*”.
- 0.1.30 One of the key aims of the strategy is to extend upon and develop the ‘Sports Village’ concept to ensure the future provision is strategically located and accessible to all.
- 0.1.31 Core Strategy Policy CS11 *Open Space* states that open spaces should be protected and enhanced. Development will only be permitted where significant community and environmental benefits are delivered and where the proposed site land does not contribute to the open space standards. Open space standards are to be set out in future planning documents having taken into account the Council’s Assessment of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study  
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## Landscape & Townscape

- 0.1.32 The second statutory Management Plan for the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was formally approved by Shropshire Council and Telford & Wrekin Council in 2009. The Management Plan's Vision is that:

*"the natural beauty of the Shropshire Hills landscape is conserved, enhanced and helped to adapt by sympathetic land management, by co-ordinated action and by sustainable communities; and is valued for its richness of geology, wildlife and heritage, and its contribution to prosperity and wellbeing".*

- 0.1.33 The Management Plan defines the following strategic priorities to guide action for 2009 to 2014:

- **Valuing, conserving and enhancing what we have:** Conserving the landscape, including habitats and wildlife, heritage, tranquility and environmental quality, with adequate advice, support and funding. Ensuring that development is sensitive and appropriate in terms of scale, location and good design.
- **Keeping the Shropshire Hills countryside thriving:** Supporting farming and land management activities which maintain the landscape, developing local supply chains for food, wood and other products, and raising consumer awareness. Developing the local economy in harmony with the area's environmental assets. Helping communities to be sustainable, with appropriate affordable housing and business activity.
- **Shifting to low carbon:** Taking the right action to mitigate climate change – by conserving energy and reducing transport impacts, developing renewables appropriately, and managing land to minimise emissions and optimise carbon storage.
- **Adapting for the future, working alongside nature:** Achieving conservation at a landscape scale – restoring and re-creating habitat networks. Looking after the ecosystem services which keep us alive – food, water, air, energy, raw materials, soil, etc. Social and economic adaptation – improving resilience of infrastructure and communities.
- **Helping people to connect with the AONB:** Raising awareness of the AONB and its special qualities, developing sense of place. Maximising enjoyment and wellbeing, and increasing opportunities for active community involvement. Supporting relevant learning, skills and training

- 0.1.34 Growing Towards the 2021 Vision – A Tree & Woodland Strategy for Telford & Wrekin provides the vision of: *"A landscape rich in trees and woodland, diverse in age range and species, managed sustainably to provide an accessible, safe, attractive and high quality environment for the people and wildlife of the Borough".*

- 0.1.35 The Government's strategy for improving quality of place, *World Class Places*, CLG (2009), recognises the essential role of the historic environment in providing character and a sense of identity to an area. In addition, the Manual for Streets and Streets for All – West Midlands provides the context for enhancing the urban environment in ways that enhance non-motorised modes and road safety. The primary aim is to improve the appearance of public spaces by showing how practical solutions to common highway problems can be achieved and how good practice can become everyday practice. The underlying principles are to reduce clutter, co-ordinate design and to reinforce local character, whilst maintaining safety for all.

## Historic Environment

- 0.1.36 Historic assets vary widely in character and include designated sites and areas such as World Heritage Sites, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and heritage coasts, but also places like new towns, historic orchards, former colliery sites and canals that may be locally recognised for their qualities.

- 0.1.37 Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS 5)<sup>9</sup> sets the policy context for considering planning for the historic environment and highlights the contribution the historic environment makes to the sense of community identity, and the support it can offer to the regeneration and sustainable economic and social development of communities. Government's objectives for planning for the historic environment are:
- To deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions concerning the historic environment;
  - To conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance; and
  - To contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past by ensuring that opportunities are taken to capture evidence from the historic environment and to make this publicly available, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.
- 0.1.38 When considering proposals that affect a World Heritage Sites or Conservation Area, local planning authorities are to take into account the relative significance of the element affected and its contribution to the significance of the World Heritage Site or Conservation Area as a whole. Where an element does not positively contribute to its significance, local planning authorities should take into account the desirability of enhancing or better revealing the significance of the World Heritage Site or Conservation Area, including, where appropriate, through development of that element. This should be seen as part of the process of place-shaping.
- 0.1.39 The supporting guide to the PPS5 observes that there is a need to in relation to core strategies and other development plan documents to:
- Ensure that the evidence base on the historic environment is fit for purpose;
  - Describe the general character, note why it is important how heritage assets create or contribute to an area or place;
  - Develop a view on objectives and actions;
  - Whether specific area policies are needed;
  - Whether specific Action Area Plans need to inform detailed conservation issues; and
  - Aligning highways policies with the strategy for managing the historic environment.
- 0.1.40 The Heritage Protection White Paper<sup>10</sup> put forward proposals to integrate the existing consent regimes for historic assets and place greater emphasis on enhancement of the undesignated historic environment.
- 0.1.41 The Regional Historic Environment Strategy (2010-2015)<sup>11</sup> sets out the following priorities:
- Support the rich cultural diversity of the region by ensuring that all people and communities can enjoy the historic environment, physically and intellectually, reducing barriers to access;
  - Foster and increase in community engagement with, and enjoyment of, the historic environment of the region, particularly in those areas where take-up of historic environment-related activities appears to be low;
  - Use the historic environment to address the skills gap in young people and adults including safeguarding, and developing, traditional building skills in the region;
  - Continue to develop a deep understanding of the historic environment and how it contributes to the sense of place and distinctiveness of the region;
  - Ensure that historic character is respected and historic buildings, landscapes and archaeological remains are conserved and enhanced when development or change is planned;

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1514132.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> Department for Culture, Media and Sport, 2007: Heritage Protection for the 21st Century

<sup>11</sup> English Heritage, 2010: Putting the Historic Environment to Work: A Strategy for the West Midlands 2010-2015

- Demonstrate how well used and managed historic environment can contribute to sustainable development, carbon reduction and climate change adaptation;
- Undertake and contribute to studies and surveys of how the historic environment is valued and used and its impact on the region's economy and quality of life;
- Influence and contribute to the development of other policies and plans in the region to ensure that the historic environment contributes to the delivery of key aspirations and outcomes; and
- Align the objectives and marshal the efforts of the historic environment sector in the region, to realise some key goals and initiatives, including making the most of the Cultural Olympiad.

0.1.42 Policies are required that protect and promote the values of the historic environment in maintaining a sense of place and contributing to economic and cultural objectives.

0.1.43 For Telford & Wrekin a Shop-front and Signage Design in Conservation Areas Supplementary Planning Document has been adopted. The Ironbridge World Heritage Site Management Plan, 2002 is under review.

### **Air Quality**

0.1.44 No air quality management areas have been designated.

### **Greenhouse Gases**

0.1.45 Growth brings with it opportunities and challenges, not least the need to ensure sustainable development which respects both the local and global environment. To ensure this development is sustainable, in 2008 the Council issued its 'Climate for Change' Strategy.

0.1.46 The national target is to reduce annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% from 1990 levels, by 2050 (36% by 2026). A local interim target is to reduce 'per resident' emissions from 7.9 tonnes/person by 5% by 2010/11<sup>12</sup>.

### **Adaptation to Climate Change**

0.1.47 The Climate Change Act 2008 requires local authorities to put in place measures to improve the resilience of local transport to the impacts of climate change, such as flooding and deterioration of roads, in line with the Government's Adapting to Climate Change Programme. Urban growth is the main challenge as urban transport accounts for 40% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and 70% of emissions of other pollutants arising from road transport<sup>13</sup>.

0.1.48 Telford & Wrekin Council is a signatory of the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change and the Council's Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (2008 – 2011) sets out the following guiding principles:

- Developing skills and technologies for a future;
- Ensuring practical actions with long lasting effects
- Building knowledge through awareness raising;
- Contributing to regional and national targets for reducing CO<sub>2</sub>;
- Leading by example and inspiring the community;
- Taking account of Telford & Wrekin's planned growth;
- Securing resources to enable continuing actions;
- Developing actions through local partnerships;

<sup>12</sup>Climate for Change, 2008: [http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Climate\\_for\\_Change\\_Jul08.pdf](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Climate_for_Change_Jul08.pdf)

<sup>13</sup>EC, 2007: [Green Paper: Towards A New Culture for Urban Mobility](#)

- Taking action on Council owned/managed buildings, transport and services provision.

### Noise

- 0.1.49 Noise Action Plans are required to address the twelve First Priority areas identified by Defra under the Environmental Noise Directive; however as of November 2011 they are yet to be published.

### Water Quality & Flood Risk

- 0.1.50 A strategy to improve and maintain water quality is set out by the Environment Agency's River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) Severn River Basin District<sup>14</sup>.
- 0.1.51 The Shropshire Middle Severn catchment is largely rural comprising a few towns such as Shrewsbury, Newport, Market Drayton and part of Telford, although there is significant pressure for urban development. The area is ecologically rich and includes a large number of designated sites, most of which come under the Midlands Meres and Mosses Ramsar Site. There are also several water related Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) in this area.
- 0.1.52 The RBMP recorded the following key actions for the catchment:
- Initiatives to provide advice to farmers under the England Catchment Sensitive Farming Delivery Initiative;
  - Removal of nutrients at several sewage treatment works to reduce problems of excessive plant and algal growth in the river Tern;
  - Investigations to assess the impacts of abstraction on the environment under the Restoring Sustainable Abstraction programme;
  - Guidance and training in irrigation best practice, including benchmarking and scheduling;
  - Actions to reduce the impact from pesticides including metaldehyde (slug pellets).
- 0.1.53 A Supplementary Planning Document on "Managing Surface Water Drainage" (preliminary scoping consultation, summer 2009) was in preparation, but progress has ceased pending a re-evaluation of Council priorities. Guidance contained in this document will now be rolled forward in to a proposed local flood risk management strategy being prepared by the Council, as a requirement of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.
- 0.1.54 The Council has prepared a Level 1 and Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment together with a series of Surface Water Action Plans having to inform development proposals for sites contained in the Central Telford Area Action Plan.

### Telford Policies, Programmes & Plans

- 0.1.55 As noted in the policies section of Part B, the Central Telford Area Action Plan was published in 2009 and amended in 2010 and is not repeated here. Core Strategy CS4 provides a policy for Central Telford.

### Newport Policies, Programmes & Plans

- 0.1.56 Core Strategy policy CS6 *Newport* states the intention to support its role as a market town. The amount of available employment land will be increased, but development is to be limited to meet the needs of the town and its rural hinterland. All development is to respect and enhance the quality of the town's built and natural environments, including its townscape and impact on surrounding countryside. Reference should be made to the policies section of Part B.

<sup>14</sup> Environment Agency, 2010: River Basin Management Plan Severn River Basin District  
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### **Rural Area Policies, Plans & Programmes**

- 0.1.57 The rural area is not subject to specific policies, plans or programmes that do not apply elsewhere across the authority area with the exception of the existing Core Strategy Policy CS7. This policy states that development will be limited to that necessary to meet the needs of the area. Development will be focussed on the settlements of High Ercall, Tibberton and Waters Upton. New housing development will be expected to deliver affordable housing to the level of 40% of all such development. Outside of these settlements development will be limited and within the open countryside will be strictly controlled.



## E1: GEOLOGICAL SITES

### E1.1 Baseline Conditions

- 1.1.1 This section provides a review of the information concerning contaminated land, geological sites and soils.

#### Authority-wide

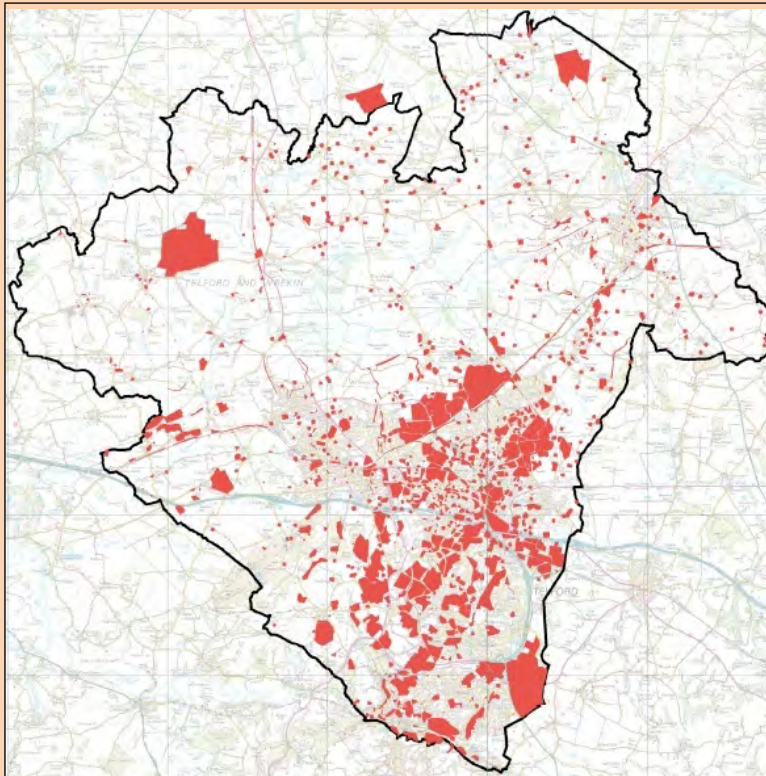
- 1.1.2 The occurrence of contaminated land within Telford is recognised by the Council's Contaminated Land Strategy<sup>15</sup>. There are 1200 sites that relate to past potentially contaminative uses, (see Figure E1.1). These sites have been identified following a screening review of coarse data and do not represent an indication of the extent of formally designated contaminated land.
- 1.1.3 There are 300 Local Geological Sites in Shropshire alone and 26 Local Geological Sites in Telford & Wrekin<sup>16</sup> (see Figure E1.2) with 26 local geological sites. In 2010/11 a total of 9 sites were assessed as in good condition and therefore in appropriate management. Three regional sites have been assessed as in poor or declining condition. The remaining 14 sites are unclassified and need assessment. It is noted that several Local Geological Sites are associated with the Wenlock AONB and hence will receive indirect protection through that mechanism.
- 1.1.4 In terms of soils, there are sites of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land (BMV)<sup>17</sup> in the Borough ranging from Grade 2 in the Weald Moors and the west of the Wrekin to Grade 3 in Lilleshall, Muxton and Redhill. In the area of Little Wenlock the grading is between 3 and 5. There is a substantial area of peat found in the Weald Moors which contributes to the storage of carbon.

<sup>15</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Contaminated Land Strategy.

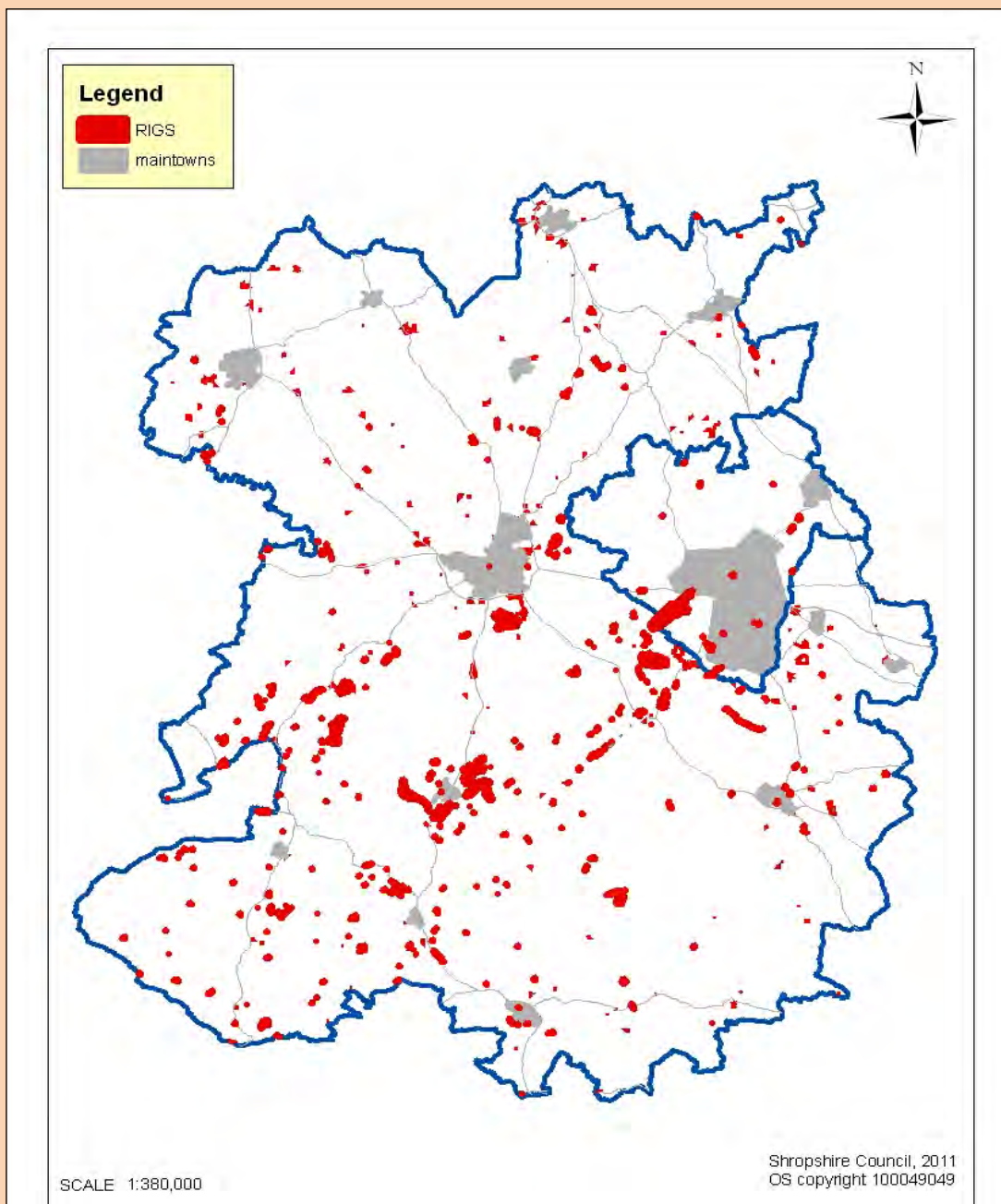
<sup>16</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2010: 3<sup>rd</sup> Local LTP Strategic Environmental Assessment Health Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Environmental Report.

<sup>17</sup> Classification of land by DEFRA according to quality. The quality of agricultural land is based on the extent to which its physical or chemical characteristics impose long term limitations on the agricultural use of the land for food production. The scale ranges from 1 (excellent) to 5 (uncultivated land suitable for rough grazing only) with the best and most versatile falling within grades 1, 2 and 3a.

**Figure E1.1: Sites of Potential Concern**



**Figure E1.2: Local Geological Sites across Shropshire<sup>18</sup>**



<sup>18</sup> Produced by Shropshire Council, Development Management, based on information provided by the Shropshire Geological Society.  
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## **E1.2 Future Baseline**

- 1.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline.
- 1.2.2 There is no information on trends and future studies of Local Geological Sites or details of potential threats to geodiversity such as natural deterioration of rock exposures and infilling of old quarries.

## **E1.3 Challenges and Opportunities**

- 1.3.1 Opportunities noted in the Shropshire Geological Action Plan include:
- Ensuring consideration of Local Geological Sites at all levels of planning and land use,
  - Promoting improved understanding of geological processes, evolution / past life forms and the effects of earlier cycles of climate change;
  - Emphasizing the relationship between the earth sciences and the environment;
  - Promoting the economic / tourism potential of geodiversity assets;
  - Encouraging the public and interested groups become aware of and involved in geological conservation; and
  - Improving access to suitable exposures and create new geological trails.

## **E1.4 Uncertainties and Limitations**

- 1.4.1 The relationship condition of Local Geological Sites and development proposals is not known at the time of writing. Nor is information readily available on trends regarding the soil resource.

## **E1.5 Scoping**

- 1.5.1 As geological sites would be considered during the planning consent stage, this topic has been **scoped out**.
- 1.5.2 The protection of soils and peat soils in particular are essential for agricultural production, biodiversity and as carbon sinks and hence are **scoped into** future appraisals.
- 1.5.3 Contaminated land has been **scoped out** since detailed site information is required along with details of the remediation techniques and environmental risks that become available at a project level.

## **E1.6 Sustainability Objectives & Indicators<sup>19</sup>**

- 1.6.1 The sustainability objectives set for soils are:
- To ensure the protection of the Weald area of peats from development and human

<sup>19</sup> Developed in reference to DEFRA, 2009 Safeguarding Our Soils: A Strategy for England.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/land/soil/documents/soil-strategy.pdf>. Also noted in Appendix B.

activities so that their carbon storage value is not degraded.

- To maximise the productive potential of the land assets within Telford.

1.6.2 The proposed indicator is:

- The area of peat soils lost to major development each year.

1.6.3 The sustainability indicators for appraisals of plans for Telford comprise the:

- Area of contaminated land remediated per annum;
- Area of greenfield land taken for development each year.

## E2: BIODIVERSITY

### E2.1 Baseline Conditions

2.1.1 This section provides a review of the status of biodiversity across Telford & Wrekin.

#### Authority-wide

2.1.2 There are no Ramsar, SPA or SAC sites within Telford & Wrekin Council<sup>20</sup>, however the following five internationally designated site are within 20km of the boundary:

- **Midland Meres and Mosses Phase 2 Ramsar Site** – a series of wetland sites - composite sites within 20km of the Authority boundary include:
  - Aqualate Mere 0.4 km to the east
  - Hencott Pool 5.9 km west
  - Cop Mere 7.6 km north-east
  - Brownheath Moss 15 km north-west
  - Fens Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses
  - Sweatmere and Crossmere 16.5km north-west
- **Mottey Meadows SAC** 5.6km to the east
- **Midland Meres and Mosses Phase 1 Ramsar Site** – a series of wetland sites - composite sites within 20km of the Authority boundary include:
  - Berrington Pool 6.9km to the west
  - Bomere, Shomere and Betton Pools 8km west
  - Brown Moss
  - Fenemere 11.4km north-west
  - White Mere 19.8km north-west
- **Brown Moss SAC** 16.4km to the north-west
- **Fenn's Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses SAC and Ramsar** 16.5km to the north-west.

2.1.3 Aqualake Park in Stafford is a Ramsar site and part of the Midland Meres and Mosses SAC. This site supports rare wetland plant species and invertebrates including several rare species and 16 Red Data Book insect species.

2.1.4 There are eight Sites of Special Scientific Interests (SSSIs) – Allscott Settling Ponds, Lincoln Hill, Lydebrook Dingle, New Hadley Brick Pit, The Wrekin and The Ercall, Tick Wood and Benthall Edge, Newport Canal, and Muxton Marsh. The SSSIs cover 372.33 ha, of which 71% meet the PSA (public service agreement) target as assessed when last surveyed in October 2010<sup>21</sup> (see Figure E2.1).

2.1.5 There are currently five (Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) in Telford & Wrekin – Telford Town Park, The Ercall & Lawrence's Hill, Limekiln Wood, Lodge Field and Granville Country Park. The LNRs cover a total of 189.21 ha<sup>22</sup>. Additionally, there are 1298.32 ha of Wildlife Sites and 11.22 ha of areas of biodiversity importance recognised since April 2008<sup>23</sup>.

<sup>20</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2009: Screening assessment of Telford and Wrekin Local Development Framework

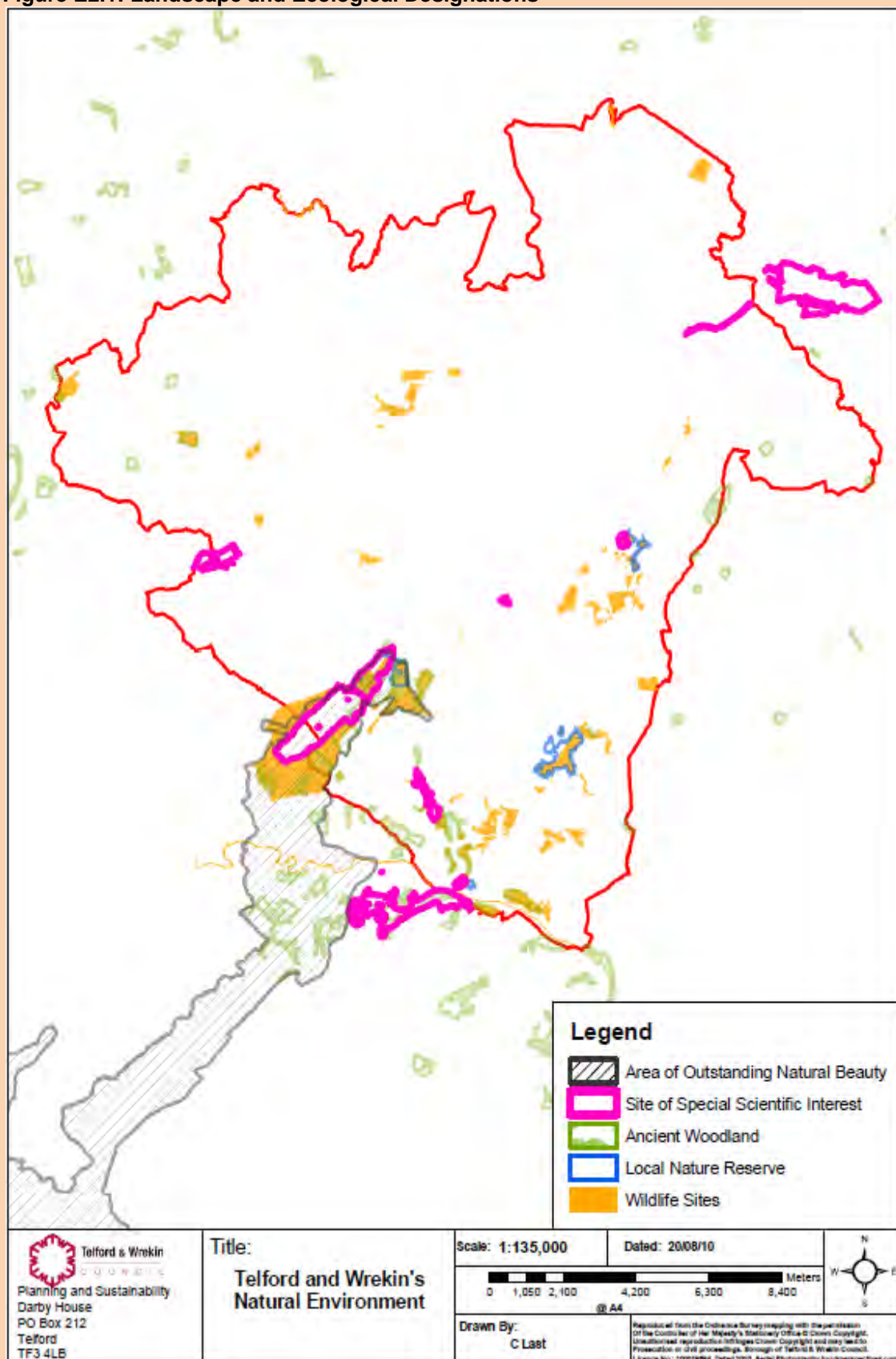
<sup>21</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: 3<sup>rd</sup> LTP Strategic Environmental Assessment Health Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Environmental Report. December 2010

<sup>22</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report

<sup>23</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report



**Figure E2.1: Landscape and Ecological Designations**





2.1.6 The number and area of Local Nature Reserves (LNR) is increasing in Telford & Wrekin. Latest figures (April 2011) reveal 1.13 ha of LNR per 1000 population based on population figure of 168,600 and current total area of LNR of 190 ha.

2.1.7 Twenty nine of a total of 66 wildlife and geological sites (44%) are in positive management. A many sites exist as small pockets within urban areas, so the habitat is fragmented.

## **Telford**

2.1.8 Although there are no formally designated biodiversity sites in Central Telford, there are many informal areas with potentially significant biodiversity interest<sup>24</sup>. These areas are termed Strategic Biodiversity Areas and are identified in Figure E2.2 with the following biodiversity hotspots being recorded in a Biodiversity Technical Paper<sup>25</sup>:

- **Malinslee link:** Rough grassland and semi-mature woodlands with potential to support reptiles, amphibians, birds, bats, badgers and invertebrates. The site is also forms part of a corridor between the Town Park area and Old Park / M54 corridor.
- **The Belvedere Mound:** Heavily treed and an important ecological resource and amenity space consisting of woodland, scrub and rough grassland with the potential to support birds, bats and invertebrates.
- **Northern Part of Old Park West:** Semi-improved grassland, four landscaped ponds, trees and scrub with the potential to support amphibians, reptiles, birds and invertebrates. Also part of a corridor between the Town Park area and Old Park / M54 corridor.
- **The Coppice:** Patches of woodland, grassland (improved, semi-improved and rough), scrub and a pond with potential to support bats, amphibians, reptiles, birds, badgers and invertebrates.
- **Part of Central Park Core:** Trees, scrub and ponds with potential to support birds, amphibians, reptiles, badgers, invertebrates and foraging bats. It links to the north and west along the A442, the railway and the motorway.
- **Southern part of Priorslee Sub Area:** Woodland and scrub with potential to support birds, bats and invertebrates, that provides links to the north along St. George's by-pass, and to woodland and grassland to the east.

2.1.9 Brownfield sites, pit mounds and quarries provide important wildlife habitats, within urban Telford, which are locally distinct. The majority of the local nature reserves and wildlife sites in the Borough are located in the urban area and may suffer from development, lack of appropriate management and visitor pressures.

## **Newport**

2.1.10 To the east of Newport (3km) is the Aqualate Mere part of the Midland Meres Mosses Phase 2 Ramsar site. The mere is the largest open body of water in the region and is over 1 mile long. The mere supports a diverse fish population, in particular pike and bream, and large numbers of wintering and breeding wildfowl. Up to three thousand duck maybe present on the mere in the winter months, mallard, teal, wigeon, pochard, tufted duck, goldeneye, and gadwall are generally the most numerous. Historically Aqualate has always been important for its wintering shoveler<sup>26</sup>. The separate ecological units of this site are in either favourable or unfavourable recovering states.

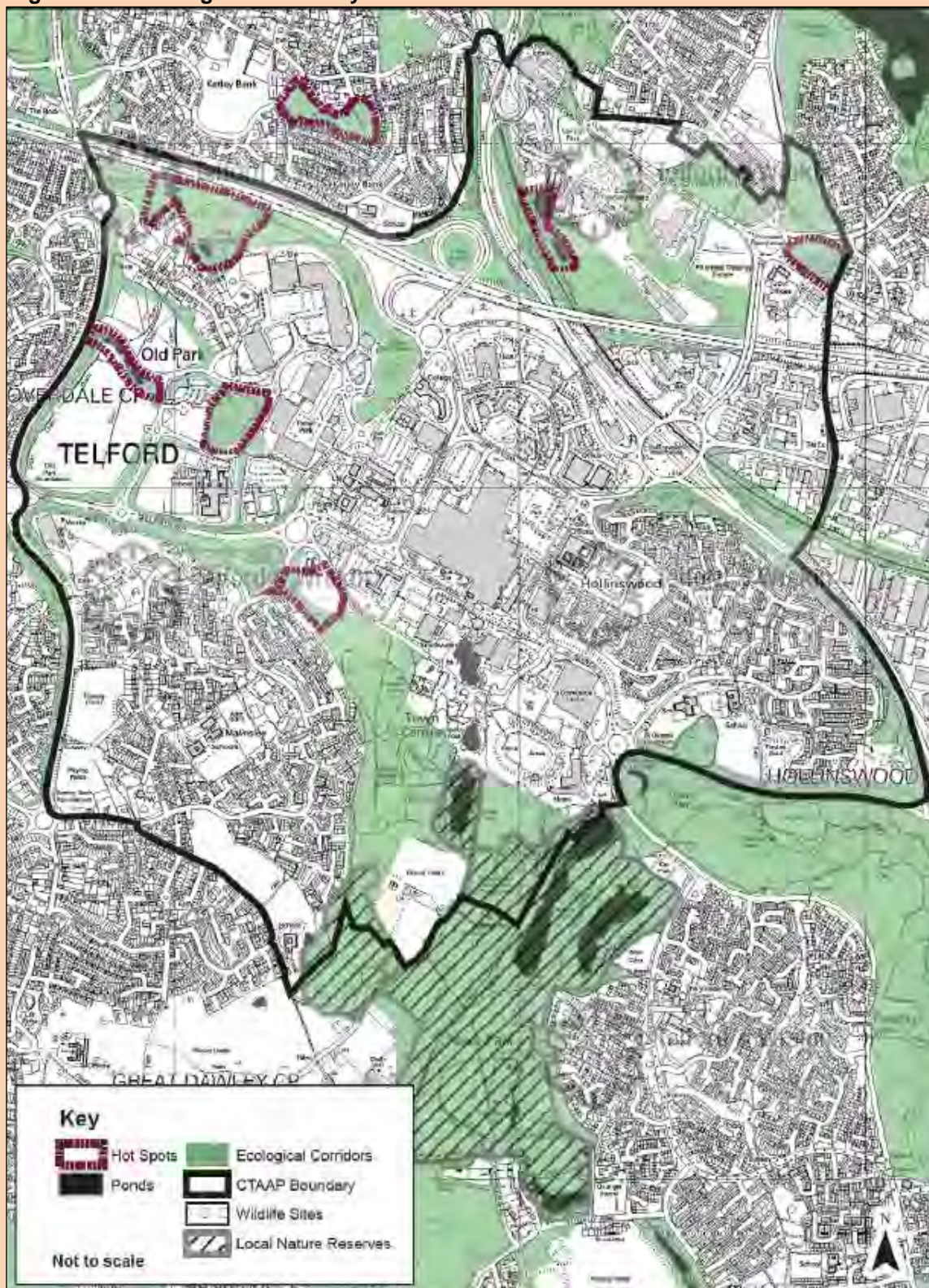
<sup>24</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2009, Central Telford Area Action Plan Biodiversity Technical Paper.

<sup>25</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2009, Central Telford Area Action Plan Biodiversity Technical Paper.

<sup>26</sup> Natural England, 2011: Aqualate Lane: What Makes it Special?

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designatedareas/nnr/aqualatewhatmakesitspecial.aspx>

**Figure E2.2: Strategic Biodiversity Areas of Central Telford**





- 2.1.11 There is no information concerning the biodiversity across the non-designated areas. However Newport is close to the Weald Moors which provides important habitat for birds such as Lapwings and other wading birds.

### **Rural Areas**

- 2.1.12 No information is available concerning the biodiversity across the non-designated areas.

## **E2.2 Future Baseline**

- 2.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. Consequently this section provides a view on the future baseline for biodiversity.

### **Authority-wide**

- 2.2.2 While improvements in biodiversity have taken place, this is to be set against the adverse effects of increasing human pressures, the effects of climate change and declining budgets. Hence there is a risk that biodiversity interests may at best continue with little change over the plan period.

- 2.2.3 The Telford & Wrekin Community Strategy 2006 – 2011 includes targets to:

- Implement action plans for the conservation and enhancement of the environment on key sites and maintain diversity of key species;
- Contribute to the establishment and implementation of targets in the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan; and
- Designate additional Local Nature Reserves.

- 2.2.4 Reliance on groundwater abstractions means that sites and habitats such as the Muxton Marsh SSSI dependent on high water tables could be affected by increased water abstraction<sup>27</sup>.

### **Telford**

- 2.2.5 It is difficult to forecast trends given the increased recognition of the value of biodiversity and green corridors set against the increasing development and human pressures.

### **Newport**

- 2.2.6 The future of Aqualate Mere site is influenced by the hydrological regime and the effects of nutrient enrichment. It is envisaged that its condition will gradually improve ignoring the potential consequences of climate change.

### **Rural Areas**

- 2.2.7 There is no information available on trends and future condition, beyond the supposition that agricultural change, climate change and recreational pressures could negatively affect biodiversity interests.

<sup>27</sup> Telford and Wrekin Preliminary Water cycle study August 2009  
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## E2.3 Challenges and Opportunities

### Authority-wide

#### 2.3.1 Challenges include:

- Enhancing habitat connectivity and avoiding new severance;
- Enhancing access to green spaces without detrimental effects on biodiversity;
- Avoiding and offsetting impacts on habitats and species from development proposals.

#### 2.3.2 Additionally the Regional *Biodiversity Strategy*, West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership 2005, *Restoring the Region's Wildlife: Regional Biodiversity Strategy for the West Midlands* sets out five key challenges for biodiversity in the West Midlands. They include:

- Maintaining and improving the condition of habitats, species and ecosystems; and
- Developing an area-based approach to restoring wildlife and reconnecting and integrating action for biodiversity with other activities.

#### 2.3.3 The Strategy also identifies a series of priority habitats to be protected, restored and recreated.

#### 2.3.4 Opportunities to improve non-statutory ecological sites lie in:

- Use Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDS) to provide drainage, reduce flooding and enhance wildlife.
- Enhanced consideration of street lighting may benefit bats, birds and invertebrates by reducing severance.
- Early recognition of the potential ecological value of pit mounds, old quarries and brownfield sites, ponds in the urban area as a result of Telford's industrial heritage.

### Telford

#### 2.3.5 There are limited north/south ecological corridors in Central Telford. Hence future development should enhance ecological corridors, particularly between the north and south particularly within the Old Park and Town Centre Character Areas.

#### 2.3.6 To ensure that there is no net loss of biodiversity in the Central Telford area, which is a key aim of policy CT16 Biodiversity, the cumulative biodiversity impact of neighbouring site allocations could be considered especially in Central Park and Old Park where numerous allocations occur.

### Newport

#### 2.3.7 It is unclear whether there are any pressures being placed upon the Aqualate Mere as a result of its proximity to Newport or whether the limited additional development would have any significant effects. Visitor pressure from Newport may place pressures on the habitat provided in the Weald Moors for birds.

### Rural Areas

#### 2.3.8 The biodiversity across the rural area is expected to be a product of agricultural activities. There appear to be no designated sites within the vicinity of High Ercall, Tibberton and Waters Upton that might be affected by development. Wrekin and Ercall and surrounding Wrekin Forest provide a significant biodiversity resource and the Weald Moors is of value for birds particularly Lapwing exhibits potential for habitat restoration. Barn conversions and development in the rural area has a potential to impact upon protected species including bats, birds and barn owls.

## E2.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 2.4.1 There is no information of the condition of locally designated ecological sites across Telford & Wrekin or a coherent view how they might evolve. Consequently, it is assumed biodiversity would continue to decline as a result of climate change, population pressures and land use change.
- 2.4.2 There is uncertainty over how development pressures ultimately impact on biodiversity.

## E2.5 Scoping

- 2.5.1 This section presents the scoping recommendations for each of the plan areas.

### Authority-wide

- 2.5.2 While there are a variety of potential impacts development activity can have upon biodiversity, the extent to which the Core Strategy and future planning documents contribute to and enhance habitats, species and wildlife corridors has been **scoped in** to future appraisals.
- 2.5.3 As individual development proposals would be subject to wildlife legislation, so disturbance of wildlife has been **scoped out** as are road casualties as these are matters of local highway management.
- 2.5.4 It will be necessary to assess the revised Core Strategy and future planning documents to ensure that there are no direct, indirect or cumulative effects upon Aqualake Mere. This will require the preparation of a Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening Report.

### Telford

- 2.5.5 Biodiversity has been **scoped into** future appraisals for Telford focused plans in recognition of the sites and ecological corridors that provide reservoirs for wildlife to adapt to climate change. It also recognises the landscape scale approach to biodiversity as promoted in the Natural Environment White Paper.

### Newport

- 2.5.6 Given the uncertainties of the relationship of Newport with the Ramsar site, biodiversity is **scoped in** for future plans until further information becomes available on whether links exist.

### Rural Areas

- 2.5.7 Although there is an absence of information on biodiversity interest in the vicinity of the settlements identified for development within the existing Core Strategy, it is possible that the revised Core Strategy may give rise to a different distribution hence biodiversity has been **scoped into** future appraisals.

## **E2.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

2.6.1 The sustainability objectives and indicators are presented below.

### **Authority-wide**

2.6.2 The sustainability objective proposed is:

- To enhance the ecological connectivity of non-designated ecological sites and enhance LBAP priority habitats and species.

2.6.3 The indicators include:

- Number of major developments with net beneficial ecological effects;
- Number of major developments negatively affecting the integrity of wildlife corridors;
- Length of culverts converted to open channels with wildlife habitats.

### **Telford**

2.6.4 The sustainability objective and proposed indicators for Telford focused plans and policies are the same as authority-wide plans.

### **Newport**

2.6.5 The sustainability objective for Newport is to:

- To ensure that there are no significant effects upon the Aqualate Mere as part of the Midlands Meres and Mosses Phase 2 Ramsar site.

2.6.6 Given the status of the site it is beneficial to have an indicator that precedes anticipated adverse effects hence it is proposed that a “pressure” indicator be developed with Natural England.

### **Rural Areas**

2.6.7 The sustainability objective and indicators for the Rural Areas are the same as that across the authority area.



## E3: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

### E3.1 Baseline Conditions

3.1.1 This section considers the subject of green infrastructure which is a term that encompasses the various social, economic and environmental services that open space provide for communities.

#### Authority-wide

3.1.2 Telford & Wrekin is characterised by its green and open spaces in both its urban and rural areas. Thirty eight percent of the land area of Telford consists of open space<sup>28</sup>.

3.1.3 Green infrastructure comprises the collection of different types of green spaces and green features, rather than a type itself. The different types are:

- Agricultural land;
- Allotments and community garden;
- Cemetery, churchyard or burial ground;
- Incidental green space;
- Grassland, heathland, moorland, scrubland;
- Green roof;
- Institutional grounds;
- Orchard;
- Outdoor sports facility;
- Parks, public gardens and recreation grounds;
- Private domestic garden;
- Street trees;
- Water body;
- Water course;
- Wetland;
- Woodland;
- Not green infrastructure.

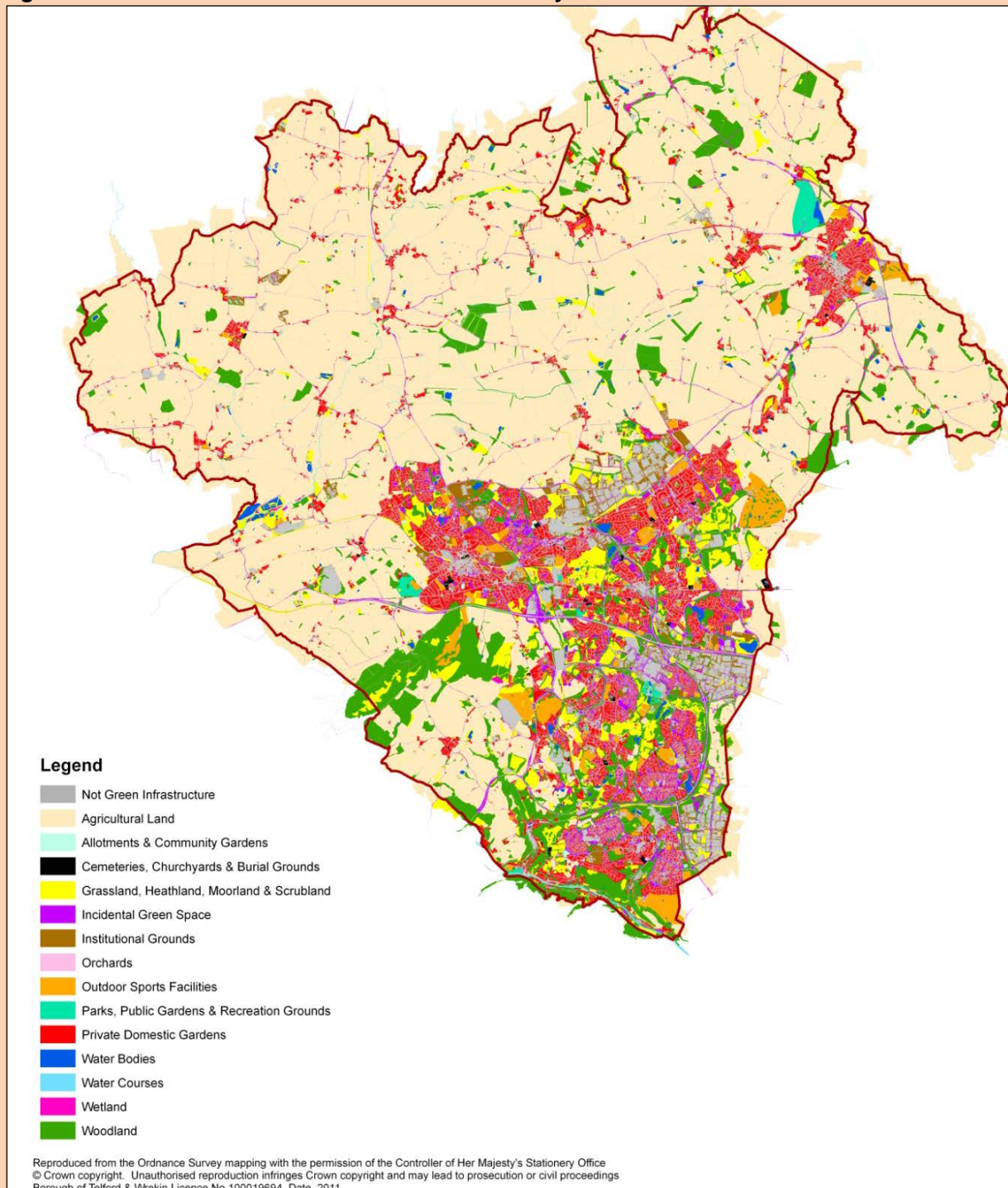
3.1.4 An illustration of the distribution of green infrastructure in Telford & Wrekin is provided by Figure E3.1 with the area of each green infrastructure type being presented in Table E3.1.

**Figure E3.1: Telford & Wrekin Green Infrastructure Typology**

Type of Green Infrastructure	Area in ha	Percentage of Authority
Agricultural Land	18088.5	62.29%
Not Green Infrastructure	2850.6	9.82%
Woodlands	2502.3	8.62%
Private Domestic Gardens	2057.5	7.09%
Grassland, Heathland, Moorland, Scrubland	1237.4	4.26%
Incidental Green Space	784.5	2.70%
Institutional Grounds	515.7	1.78%
Outdoor Sports Facilities	498.3	1.72%
Water Bodies	184.9	0.64%
Parks, Public Gardens & Recreation Grounds	122.9	0.42%
Water Courses	118.6	0.41%
Cemeteries, Churchyards & Burial Grounds	35.7	0.12%
Wetlands	28.6	0.10%
Allotments & community Gardens	11	0.04%
Orchards	1.6	0.01%
<b>Total</b>	<b>29038.1</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

<sup>28</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan document adopted December 2007  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

**Figure E3.1: Green Infrastructure across the Authority**



3.1.5 Green infrastructure is increasingly recognised as being of importance for the following services that it can provide:

- |                            |                           |                                  |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Recreation - public      | • Aesthetic               | • Recreation – restricted public |
| • Green travel route       | • Trapping air pollutants | • Shading from the sun           |
| • Evaporative cooling      | • Corridor for wildlife   | • Noise absorption               |
| • Habitat for wildlife     | • Cultural asset          | • Soil stabilisation             |
| • Heritage                 | • Timber production       | • Carbon storage                 |
| • Food production          | • Learning                | • Biofuels production            |
| • Wind shelter             | • Water interception      | • Inaccessible water storage     |
| • Accessible water storage | • Water conveyance        | • Water infiltration             |
| • Recreation – private     | • Pollutant removal       | • Flow reduction                 |

3.1.6 There are also over 250km of rights of way and 6 country/district parks across Telford & Wrekin:

- Hartshill District Park;
- Bowring District Park;
- Dale End District Park;
- Dawley Park;
- Victoria Park;
- Granville Country Park/Donnington Recreation Ground.

3.1.7 Parks are one of the most frequently used types of open space within Telford & Wrekin with 34% of respondents to the household survey indicating that they use them weekly and 11% visiting parks daily<sup>29</sup>. As Table E3.2 illustrates the provision of parks & gardens is uneven across Telford & Wrekin. While Telford north east has apparently no provision, in practice the proximity of Granville Country Park / Donnington Recreation Ground more than compensate.

3.1.8 The 2008 Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study<sup>30</sup> identified six analysis areas; Telford North East; Telford North West; Telford Central; Telford South; Newport and the Rural Area. Three of these areas fall within the Central Telford Area Action Plan boundary (Telford North East, Telford North West and Telford Central)<sup>31</sup>.

3.1.9 The provision of natural and semi natural open space is set out in Table E3.3. Eight sites have been excluded as they cover substantial areas (ranging from 50ha to 273ha). These are: Castle Pools; Oil House Coppice; Loamhole Dingle; Coalport Road NSN; Lloyds Coppice; Donnington Wood NSN; Town Park NSN; Limekiln Wood; and The Wrekin. There are currently 143 natural and semi natural open spaces equal to 1071 ha. The size of sites varies –some sites are less than 0.2ha whilst others are over 44 ha. Between 2006 and 2009, 16.04 ha of open space taken by development<sup>32</sup>.

<sup>29</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>30</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>31</sup> A series of strategy papers have been produced by Telford & Wrekin Authority addressing aspects such as play, parks, playing pitch, allotments, tree & woodland etc.

<sup>32</sup> Telford & Wrekin Council, 2010: Annual Monitoring Report.

**Table E3.2: Parks & Gardens in Telford & Wrekin<sup>33</sup>**

Analysis areas	Current provision	Number of sites	Smallest site (hectares)	Largest site (hectares)	LDF population (2016)	Provision (ha) per 1000 population (2016)
Telford north west	0.89	1	0.89	0.89	48,739	0.0183
Telford north east	0	0	0	0	35,662	0.0000
Telford central	3.05	3	0.7	1.57	45,756	0.0667
Telford south	4.56	1	4.56	4.56	23,440	0.1945
Newport	1.46	1	1.46	1.46	12,648	0.1154
Overall	9.96	6	0.7	4.56	166,245	0.0547

**Table E3.3: Provision of Natural and Semi-Natural Open Space<sup>34</sup>**

Analysis areas	Current provision	Number of sites	Smallest site (hectares)	Largest site (hectares)	LDF population (2016)	Provision (ha) per 1000 population (2016)
Telford north west	229.81	34	0.16	42.4	48,739	4.7151
Telford north east	182.31	25	0.03	37.92	35,662	5.1122
Telford central	302.19	31	0.78	44.74	45,756	6.6044
Telford south	205.02	28	0.54	21.43	23,440	8.7467
Newport	22.08	5	0.32	11.43	12,648	1.7457
Rural	229.63	20	0.5	42.57	15,855	14.4827
Overall	1071.04	143	0.03	44.74	182,100	5.8816

- 3.1.10 In terms of amenity green space, there are several areas that fall outside of the 10 minute walk time catchment, however many residents outside the catchment for formal parks and gardens are able to access amenity green space. In some instances, residents are able to access a park but not amenity green spaces. The distribution of amenity green space is summarised in Table E3.4 below.
- 3.1.11 The provision of open space for children (see Table E3.5) revealed 130 play areas across Telford & Wrekin, mostly within Telford central (38) and Newport (9). The overall current provision is 15.86h. In terms of outdoor sports facilities Telford & Wrekin appears well served with the exception of parts of Telford.

<sup>33</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>34</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study



**Table E3.4: Amenity Green Space**

Analysis areas	Current provision	Number of sites	Smallest site (hectares)	Largest site (hectares)	LDF population (2016)	Provision (ha) per 1000 population (2016)
Telford north west	75.3	40	0.11	11.1	48,739	1.5450
Telford north east	34.62	34	0.20	4.34	35,662	0.9708
Telford central	61.70	49	0.14	5.81	45,756	1.3485
Telford south	14.69	16	0.37	2.62	23,440	0.6267
Newport	2.60	8	0.08	0.94	12,648	0.2056
Rural	13.71	15	0.15	2.10	15,855	0.8647
Overall	202.62	162	0.08	11.1	182,100	1.1127

**Table E3.5: Provision for Children<sup>35</sup>**

Analysis areas	Current provision	Number of sites	Smallest site (hectares)	Largest site (hectares)	LDF population (2016)	Provision (ha) per 1000 population (2016)
Telford north west	3	26	0.02	0.39	48,739	0.0616
Telford north east	2.23	24	0.02	0.32	35,662	0.0625
Telford central	5.14	38	0.01	1.51	45,756	0.1123
Telford south	2.1	19	0.01	0.43	23,440	0.0896
Newport	1.35	9	0.02	0.44	12,648	0.1067
Rural	2.04	14	0.02	0.51	15,855	0.1287
Overall	15.86	130	0.01	1.51	182,100	0.0871

3.1.12 There are 12 allotments sites with 3 administered by the Council (see Table E3.6). Seven sites currently have waiting lists with the highest demand being for Admaston allotments (two-years). Table E3.7 from the Allotments Strategy<sup>36</sup> provides an analysis of the waiting list by site as of 2009. Consultations undertaken as part of the Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study revealed the highest level of dissatisfaction to be in Newport.

3.1.13 Officers have advised that there is a shortage of cemetery space in the Authority.

<sup>35</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>36</sup> Telford & Wrekin Authority Council, 2009: Telford & Wrekin Allotments Strategy 2009-2014

Table E3.6: Provision of Allotments in the Authority<sup>37</sup>

Analysis areas	Current provision	Number of sites	Smallest site (hectares)	Largest site (hectares)	LDF population (2016)	Provision (ha) per 1000 population (2016)
Telford north west	3	2	1.17	1.83	48,739	0.06
Telford north east	0.47	1	0.47	0.47	35,661	0.01
Telford central	2.18	3	0.62	0.94	45,755	0.05
Telford south	2.92	3	0.11	2.03	23,439	0.12
Newport	0.97	2	0.14	0.83	12,648	0.08
Rural	1.06	1	1.06	1.06	15,855	0.07
Overall	10.6	12	0.11	2.03	182,097	0.06

## Telford

3.1.14 A vision for Telford New Town was to create a Forest City<sup>38</sup> by lining roads and defining discrete parcels of land use, to segregate residential, industrial and commercial uses. Today, Telford is characterised by extensive areas of open space (38% of the land area), including, most prominently, the Town Park<sup>39</sup>. Among the attributes are:

- **Parks:** There are six parks in Telford: Hartshill Park; Granville Country Park; Dawley Park; Bowring Park; Donnington Recreation Ground; and Dale End Park.

The 170ha Telford Town Park, in close proximity to the Town Centre Core, is of local and regional significance. Physical barriers between the two have been created by development in Southwater. A 70ha Local Nature Reserve (shortly to be 90ha), formal gardens, children play areas and sports fields attract visitors beyond a 15 minute walk<sup>40</sup>.

The quality of parks is predominantly good, with only Victoria Park and Hartshill Park achieving scores below 80%<sup>41</sup>. Application of the accessibility standards highlight under provision to the north of Telford as only Hartshill Park is within this area.

While deficiencies exist in North West of Telford, particularly around Wellington, other parks are located in Oakengates and Dawley<sup>42</sup>. The area is also well served by amenity green space with 40 sites of a variety of sizes.

While there are no formal parks in the North East of the town and other parks are a significant distance away, the area is served by amenity open space. The Green Space Technical Report provides a representation of areas with deficiencies in accessibility (see Figure E3.2).

<sup>37</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>38</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>39</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2007: Core Strategy

<sup>40</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>41</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>42</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study



**Table E3.7: Location of Allotments Across the Authority**

Site	Managed/Details	Size and Status
Admaston Ringers Lane Admaston	Admaston Allotment Association	Size of Site – 10,848m2 2 year waiting list
Brookside Brookside Avenue Telford	Telford & Wrekin Council	Waiting list 25 Plots in total Size of Site – 5,300 m2
Randlay Allotments Randlay Avenue Telford	Telford & Wrekin Council	2 year waiting list, 70 on list Size of Site – 9,360m2 58 Plots in total
Wellington Wrekin View Road Wellington Telford	Telford & Wrekin Council	Waiting list closed. 59 Plots in total Size of Site – 11,828 m2
Leegomery Allotments	Leegomery Allotment Association	Waiting List closed 70 Plots Size of Site – 11,345 m2
Madeley West View West View Road Madeley Telford	Madeley Parish Council	Waiting List 10 Plots Size of Site – 1,055 m2
Sutton Hill Bridgnorth Road Sutton Hill Telford	Madeley Parish Council	Waiting List 52 Plots Size of Site - 7,727 m2
Newport Meadow Road	Newport Town Council	25 Plots Size of Site – 3,297m2
Newport Boughey Road	Newport Town Council	15 Plots Size of Site – 13,987 m2
Stirchley – Only for residents of Stirchley Parish	Stirchley Parish Council	2 year waiting list 42 Plots Size of Site – 5,100 m2
Woodside Beech Road Woodside	The Gorge Parish Council and Woodside Allotment Association	Waiting list 100 Plots Size of Site – 20,476 m2
Trench Rd Allotments Trench Telford	Parish Council Centre Wrockwardine Wood	26 Plots Size of Site – 4,000 m2

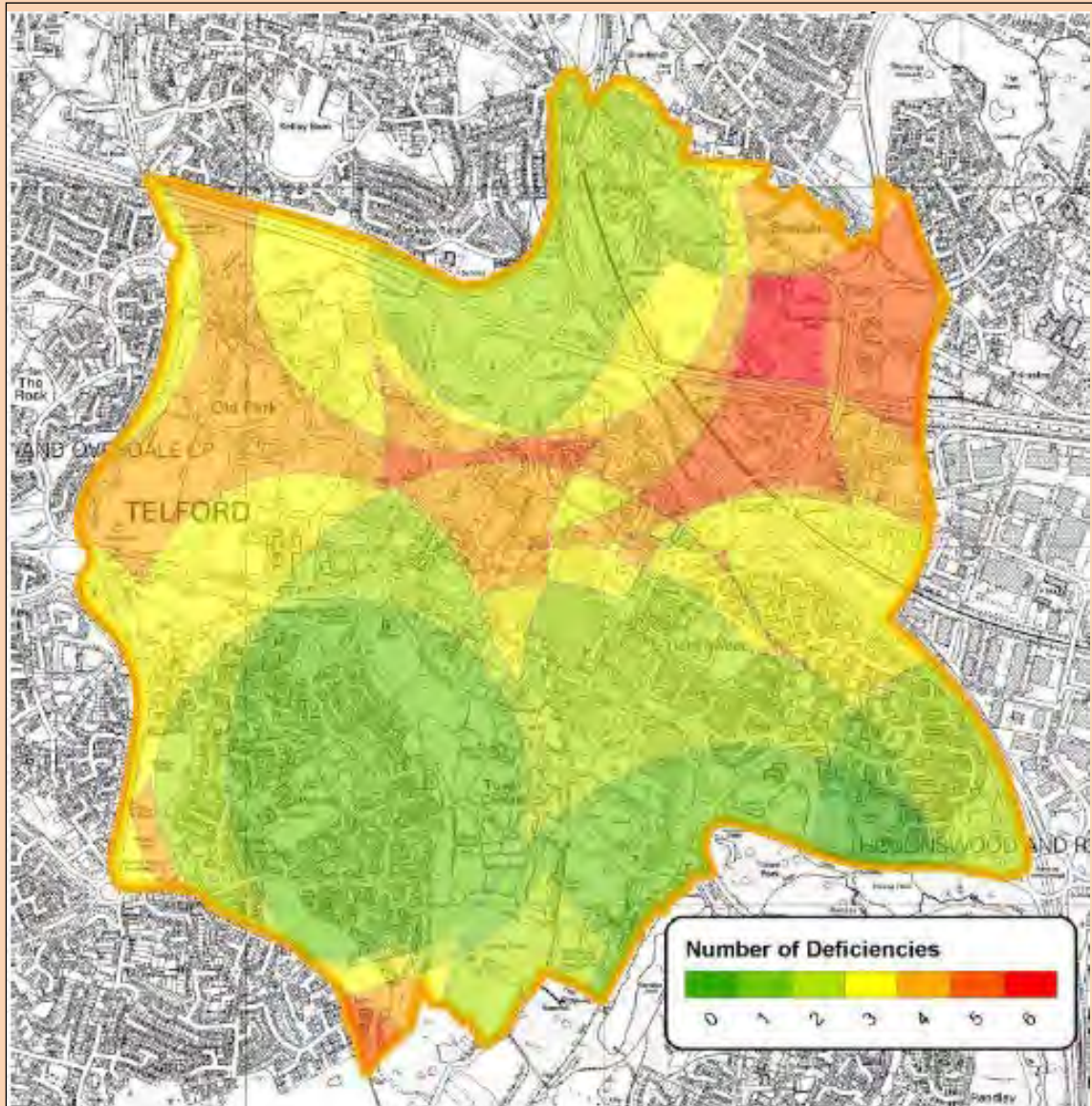
- **Green Infrastructure:** Telford North East was identified<sup>43</sup> as having the lowest overall amount of green space provision. In contrast, while Malinslee has significant areas of green space some is of poor quality like many other residential estates. The Central Area Action Plan undertook to protect and to promote their enhancement.
- **Provision for Teenagers:** Only seven wards make sufficient provision for teenagers<sup>44</sup>. Dawley Magna and Wrockwardine and Trench wards contain some of the largest deficiencies for both children and teenagers provision. This deficiency is examined in the Play Strategy<sup>45</sup>.

<sup>43</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>44</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>45</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Local Play Strategy 2007 – 2017

Figure E3.2: Accessibility Catchment Areas for Green Space<sup>46</sup>



- **Allotments:** Telford features ten allotment sites at: Admaston, Brookside, Randlay, Wellington, Leegomery, Madeley, Sutton Hill, Stirchley, Woodside, Stanmore Drive. Accessibility to the allotments for the residents of Ketley, Oakengates and Apley Castle, Muxton, Donnington, Shawburch and Priorslee are outside of the recommended distance threshold for allotments. Only Stanmore Drive allotments (26 plots), owned by the Parish Council, are located to the east of the town. A waiting list exists at all the allotments.

## Newport

3.1.15 The situation for green infrastructure in Newport can be characterised as:

- Generally good quality open space although the quantity of accessible open space is an issue<sup>47</sup>;
- Two allotment sites: Meadow Road and Sandiford Crescent;
- One park: Victoria Park recently refurbished and now of a high standard;

<sup>46</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Local Development Framework, Central Telford Area Action Plan, Green Space Technical Paper.

<sup>47</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2007: Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted December 2007



- Low provision of natural and semi natural open space (22.1ha);
- Provision for young people is below the minimum standard of provision, with a deficiency of 0.32 ha by 2016/17
- The two allotments in Newport are currently full and have waiting lists.

### Rural Areas

- 3.1.16 The Open Space Study considered the provision of open space across the rural area noting that there is only one allotment site, at Ringers Lane on the periphery of North West Telford. This was not, however considered to be an issue<sup>49</sup>. The report did note the need for improvements in public transport to access parks and gardens in Telford and Newport. The report also noted the need to help enhance the accessibility of the countryside through improvements to signposting of rights of way and green corridors.

## E3.2 Future Baseline

- 3.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline for green infrastructure.

### Authority-wide

- 3.2.2 The quality of green infrastructure will evolve as a result of the six themes within the emerging Green Infrastructure Strategy:

- Quality of place;
- Health and wellbeing;
- Responsive environments;
- Investment and economy;
- Community and culture;
- Biodiversity and ecology.

- 3.2.3 The vision for green infrastructure from the emerging Green Infrastructure Strategy is as follows:

*"By the year 2031 green infrastructure in the Authority of Telford and Wrekin is achieving its full potential; protecting communities and wildlife from climate change, attracting investment to the area, supporting healthier lifestyle choices and ensuring sustainable growth. Green Infrastructure is delivered, protected and managed by a combination of the public, private and voluntary sectors working in partnership with each other."*

- 3.2.4 The aims of the strategy are to:

- Provide an overarching framework for green infrastructure which recognises the function and role of its individual and collective components;
- Clarify and co-ordinate strategic / regional cross boundary green infrastructure e.g. The AONB, The Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site, the River Severn, the Shrewsbury and Newport Canal, National Cycle Ways and various Public Rights of Way;
- Respond to the challenges of a changing environment and protect, enhance and extend green infrastructure networks within a rural and urban context, maximising opportunities for bringing together the built and natural environment;
- Understand threats and opportunities and ensure mechanisms are in place to respond to these, ensuring future sustainable development;

<sup>48</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>49</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

- Provide the context for well designed, good quality and integrated green infrastructure, enabling the Council to lead by example and providing a focus for attracting and retaining investment;
- Embed a good understanding of green infrastructure corporately so that decisions are based on sound holistic judgements rather than being solely site specific;
- Help to secure funding for the green infrastructure strategy actions and identify suitable resourced mechanisms for the long term management of both existing and new green infrastructure;
- Establish criteria to apply to existing green infrastructure which recognises its function and value in a strategic context in order to prioritise sites which are most vulnerable or in need of immediate action;
- Create a governance model for monitoring and reporting on green infrastructure linked to corporate annual reporting and performance management;
- Ensure an efficient and effective delivery through joined up and partnership working both with new and existing partners.

3.2.5 Focusing upon the results of the open space assessment, applying the standard (480m-10 minute walking time) against the projected population in 2016 led the authors of the study to suggest that there is likely to be deficiencies in access to natural and semi-natural green space in the wards of Telford North West, Telford North and Newport. Other short falls were anticipated to occur for:

- **Children's facilities:** Application of the local standard (0.095ha per 1000 population) shows an overall shortfall in provision across the Authority of 1.44ha by 2016.
- **Teenage facilities:** The local standard of 0.04ha per 1000 population shows that up to 2016 all areas will have a significant deficiency in provision.
- **Outdoor sports facilities:** Approximately 18ha of outdoor sport facilities would be required across the Authority.
- **Allotments:** The local standard of 0.07 hectares per 1000 population indicates that all areas have a quantitative deficiency by 2016 with the exception of Telford South and Newport suggesting a further 2.15 ha is needed. All areas are over-subscribed.

3.2.6 The Council is looking at increasing allotment provision in the following locations<sup>50</sup>:

- **Donnington Recreation Ground** – Allocation of 3,715 sq m;
- **Dawley Bank** - Allocation of 3,243 sq m;
- **Admaston** - Extension 8,270 sq m;
- **Muxton** – A site has been identified increasing options near Newport;

3.2.7 These sites could potentially provide up to 48 no. allotment plots increasing provision in areas where there are currently deficiencies.

## Telford

3.2.8 The future baseline has been considered solely in terms of the anticipated shortfall in provision as reported in the Open Space Study. The following conclusions were reported:

- **Parks:** A key priority of both the Community Strategy and the Telford Town Park Strategic Framework (2006 - 2026) is to improve the links between the Park, the Town Centre and surrounding local communities (see Figure E3.3).

<sup>50</sup> Telford & Wrekin Council, 2009: Allotments Strategy 2009-2014.  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

- **Children's play areas:** Based on the anticipated population growth by 2016, north west and north east of Telford show the greatest overall deficiency in the provision of equipped facilities for children (See Table E3.8)<sup>51</sup>. Accessibility is the key issue facing some communities as resolving this aspect would permit some areas to provide dual use removing the need for new provision. Conversely some areas can appear to be in surplus but may not be accessible to all users.
- **Allotments:** A demand for a further 79 allotment plots within the north east of the town by 2016 was forecast<sup>52</sup>. The provision of allotments in the Donnington area may be of value given the rising demand.

**Table E3.8: Projected Surplus or Shortfall in Green Space by 2016<sup>53</sup>**

	Central Telford	North West Telford	North East Telford	South Telford
<b>Parks &amp; Gardens</b>	-0.15	-2.52	-2.50	2.92
<b>Natural &amp; Semi Natural Green Space</b>	27.66	-82.82	-31.66	64.38
<b>Amenity Green Space</b>	8.17	18.28	-7.10	-12.73
<b>Provision for Children</b>	0.79	-1.63	-1.16	-0.13
<b>Provision for Young Children</b>	-0.31	-0.51	-1.12	-0.48
<b>Outdoor Sports Facilities</b>	-16.28	-8.04	-5.08	3.61
<b>Allotments</b>	-1.02	0.41	-2.03	1.28

## Newport

- 3.2.9 The Open Space Study<sup>54</sup> observes that by 2016 there are likely to be deficiencies in the provision of in the quantity of open space in Newport North as well as deficiencies in the provision of parks and amenity space in eastern side of the town. The Study reported that there was an adequate supply of allotments through to 2016.

## Rural Areas

- 3.2.10 There is no evidence to indicate how future situation will evolve in rural areas beyond noting that with a more elderly population and potentially due to climate change, the demand for local recreation may increase.

<sup>51</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

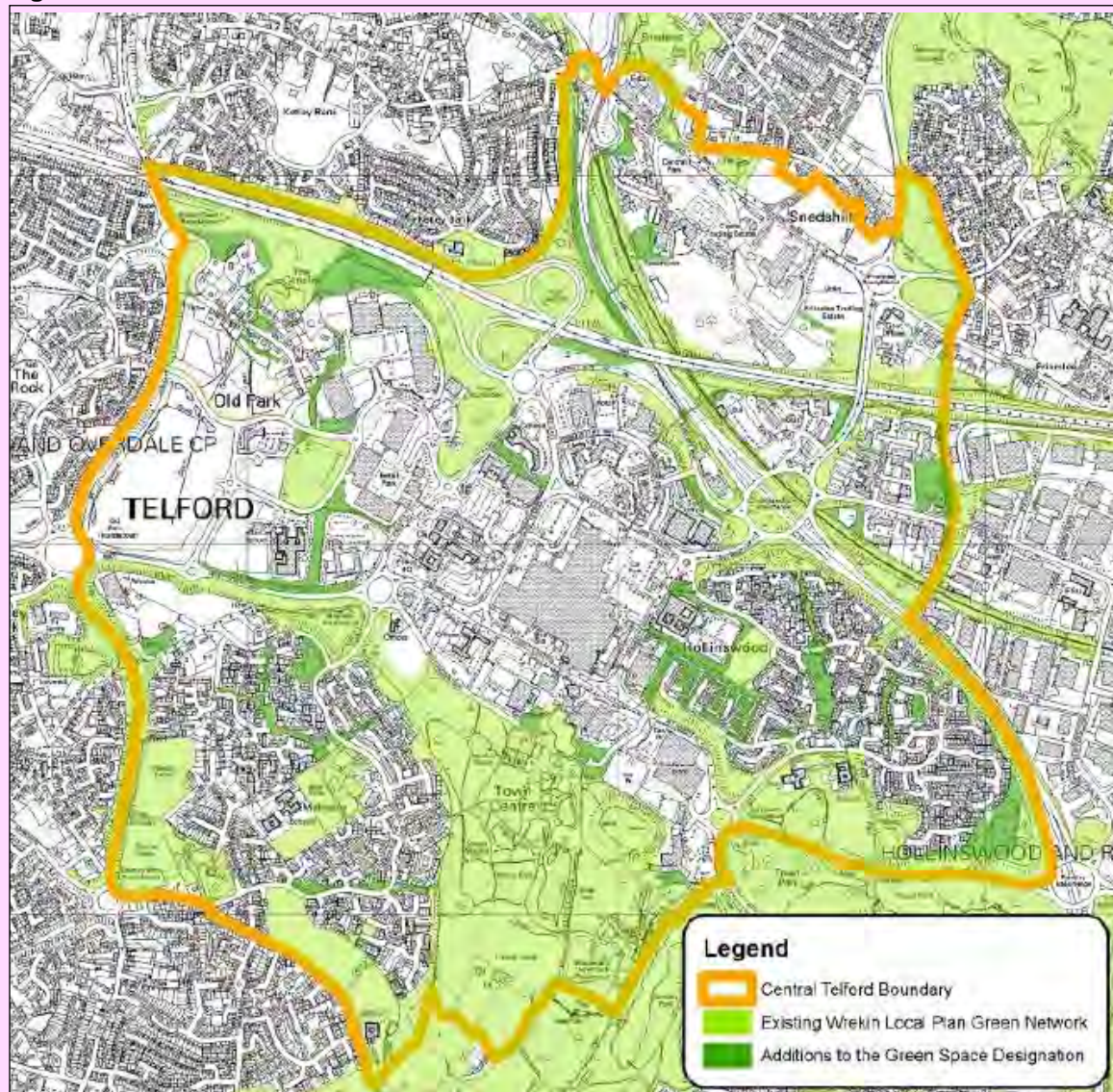
<sup>52</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>53</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>54</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study



**Figure E3.3: Central Telford's Green Network<sup>55</sup>**



### E3.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 3.3.1 Improving signage and awareness of natural and semi natural open spaces was reported as a challenge in the Open Space Study<sup>56</sup>.
- 3.3.2 As the quality of natural areas was reported to be significantly lower than many other types of open space, with an average score of just 50% in the Open Space Study, an opportunity exists to concentrate improvements on those sites for public use. The provision of new natural and semi natural open space not seen to be a priority, although new provision was called for as the population increases. Also, there are growing pressures for development on open space within Telford.

<sup>55</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Local Development Framework, Central Telford Area Action Plan, Green Space Technical Paper.

<sup>56</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study



- 3.3.3 The Priority Plan Environment and Rural Areas<sup>57</sup> identifies the following priorities:
- Protect and enhance the green network and biodiversity;
  - Reduce use of energy, amount of waste produced and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through the operations and services of the Council;
  - Ensuring a sustainably designed environment.
- 3.3.4 Reflecting on the importance of the Telford Town Park to residents and its role in both local community life and attracting visitors to the area, the Open Space, Sports and Recreation Report<sup>58</sup> recommended that the Town Park ought to:
- Provide a public green space and recreational resource of regional significance;
  - Achieve sufficient quality of provision to promote the park as a national example of best practice in park design and management;
  - Develop a sustainable approach to the evolution of the park to secure its long term role at the heart of Telford Town Centre;
  - Fully integrate the park with any future redevelopment of the town centre to improve the spatial and visual relationship;
  - Provide a flexible management tool for Telford Town Park to guide future changes within and adjacent the park.
- 3.3.5 The Town Park Strategic Framework envisages following projects within the contemporary urban park zone:
- A formal events space to the south of Southwater Lake;
  - Improvements to vantage points and provision of picnic areas at Spout Mound;
  - New community 'pocket parks' along the boundary with Malinslee;
  - New and improved facilities for young people;
  - Wider provision of sport and leisure facilities at Telford Rugby Club; and
  - An extended Wonderland.
- 3.3.6 The Strategic Framework states that north of the contemporary urban park zone a new and improved Southwater Square and Cultural Hub will provide an appropriate and sensitive backdrop to the park. A gateway feature will be provided to aid movement and connections to and from the park.
- 3.3.7 The Open Space Study<sup>59</sup> observes that a new park would ensure access to a wider variety of facilities for residents and also offer the opportunity for the provision of facilities for young people. Improving links between the town, the countryside and natural resources (including waterways) were recommended. The following opportunities were identified:
- 3.3.8 The Open Space Study sets the challenge of ensuring that all villages with over 1000 residents contain an amenity green space. It also observes that consideration could be given to providing amenity space in settlements without any other open space<sup>60</sup>.

<sup>57</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Priority Plan Environment and Rural Areas

<sup>58</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>59</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

<sup>60</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study

**Table E3.9: Opportunities for Green Infrastructure, Open Space etc**

<b>Amenity Green Space</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide new amenity green space in the eastern area should the opportunity arise<sup>61</sup></li> <li>Given limited access to Chetwynyd Park, consider new amenity space in the northern area.</li> </ul>
<b>Parks &amp; Gardens</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convert amenity spaces or natural areas to parks in the south of Newport to address deficiencies in these types of open space.</li> <li>Baddeleys Well natural area to the south of Newport could see combined provision of natural open space and formalised park.</li> </ul>
<b>Natural and Semi Natural Open Space</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide natural and semi natural open space on the edge of Newport.</li> <li>Combine natural and semi natural spaces with other types of open space.</li> </ul>
<b>Children's facilities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide two new facilities for young people in the southern and central areas of the town, or address need associated with new residential development.</li> </ul>
<b>Outdoor sports facilities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No additional needs.</li> </ul>

## E3.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 3.4.1 There are no significant uncertainties or limitations that impact upon the scoping process.
- 3.4.2 The PPG17 Open Space Study provides a projection only up to 2016 and hence there is not a comprehensive evidence base to support future planning policies, although it is understood that the Green Infrastructure Strategy provides this evidence.
- 3.4.3 It is recommended that future appraisals consider the quantity, accessibility of green infrastructure provision and the demographic profiles of those communities to be served. By this means it may be possible to link provision with delivery across other sustainability objectives such as public health.
- 3.4.4 Given the variety of open space needs in Newport reported in the Open Space Study, there is adequate information albeit dated from 2008. Awareness of the changing recreational needs associated with an ageing population would be helpful to the appraisal of future plans.

## E3.5 Scoping

- 3.5.1 The effects of the revised Core Strategy and other planning documents upon green infrastructure and recreation is **scoped into** authority-wide and Telford appraisals. Given the increasingly elderly population, there may be increased demand for access to open space and hence this subject is **scoped into** future appraisals of plans affecting Newport.
- 3.5.2 Given the absence of evidence to indicate that there is a significant problem to be addressed beyond the wider question of rural accessibility this subject has been **scoped out** from future plans that focus on Rural Areas.

<sup>61</sup> PMP, 2008: Open Space, Sport & Recreation Facilities Study  
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## **E3.6 Sustainability Objectives & Indicators**

3.6.1 The sustainability objective is

- To deliver green infrastructure making Telford & Wrekin an attractive place and contribute to the health and wellbeing of the local population.

3.6.2 The indicator proposed is:

- Annual change in the net area of green infrastructure across all the use classes;
- Number of people served by improved levels of accessibility and level of service provided by green infrastructure.

## E4: LANDSCAPE AND TOWNSCAPE

### E4.1 Baseline Conditions

4.1.1 This section provides a review of the baseline landscape and townscape conditions across the Borough before then considering the situation in Telford, Newport and the rural areas.

4.1.2 It is recognised that the separation between landscape and townscape is somewhat arbitrary, however for the purposes of this scoping report, townscape is focused upon the built environment in terms of building frontages, their massing and the design of the public realm.

#### Authority-wide

4.1.3 The Shropshire Hills AONB covers an area of 802 sq km extending from the Wrekin to the Clun Forest. The eastern trip of the AONB extends into Telford & Wrekin for approximately 5 sq km 3-5km to the west of Telford. Several landscape character areas including the Environmentally Sensitive Areas – Clun and the Shropshire Hills comprise three quarters of the AONB.

4.1.4 Telford is located in the National Character Area 66: Mid Severn Sandstone Plateau which is described in Table E4.1). While the landscape character types are presented in Figure E4.1.

**Table E4.1: Landscape Character Description from National Character Area 66**

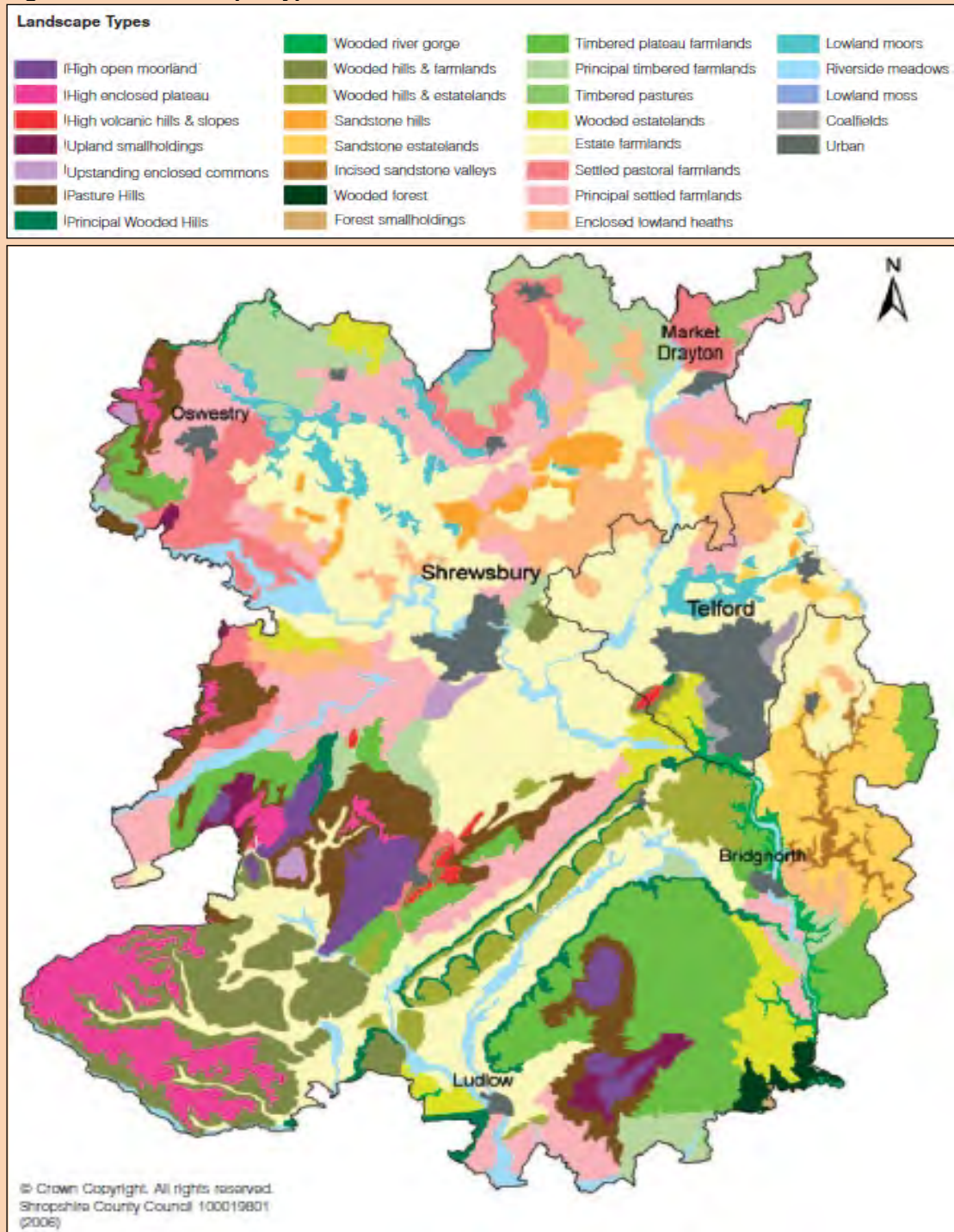
- North of the Ironbridge gorge is a landscape of gentle valleys and escarpments forming the east Shropshire (Coalbrookdale) Coalfield, dominated by the new town of Telford.
- Open land, including former agricultural landscapes, forms a mosaic with built-up areas, industry, houses and reclaimed land. There is a developing woodland framework.
- Three settlement patterns are overlaid. The underlying pattern of small villages and hamlets has been largely lost under sprawling 19th century settlement, abandoned open-cast reclaimed land and other industrial sites.
- The new town and motorway in turn lay down a strong 20th century pattern. The strongest impression is of industrial history whether as areas of derelict land, pit heaps, subsidence pools, canals or railways. However, at the edges, arable is still present on the flatter land of this northern area and, on the steeper ground, mixed or predominantly pasture land, is present within small hedged fields.

4.1.5 In addition to the urban areas, Telford & Wrekin consists of the following landscape types:

- **Estate farmland:** Mixed farming land use, clustered settlement pattern, large country houses with associated parklands. Planned woodland character, medium to large scale landscapes with framed views.
- **Lowland moors:** Flat, low-lying topography, peaty soils, wet ditches and drains, open, unsettled landscape.
- **Principal settled farmlands:** Mixed farming land use, varied pattern of sub-regular, hedged fields.
- **Enclosed lowland heaths:** Undulating lowland, impoverished, freely draining soils, planned woodland character, dispersed settlement pattern.
- **Sandstone estate lands:** Arable land use, regular field patterns, parkland with associated country houses, clustered settlement pattern, medium – large scale, open landscapes
- **Coalfields:** Upstanding rolling plateau, dispersed pattern of small farms and wayside cottages, coal mining remains.
- **Wooded estate lands:** Rolling landform, large blocks of ancient woodland, large country houses with associated parklands, mixed agricultural land use.

- **Wooded river gorge:** Steeply sloping valley sides, Interlocking woodlands of ancient character, small scale, intimate landscapes with framed views and linear shapes.
- **Wooded hills and estate lands:** Prominent, sloping topography, large discrete blocks of woodland with ancient character, mixed farming land use clustered settlement pattern of hamlets and villages, medium-large scale landscapes offering filtered views.
- **High Volcanic hills & slopes:** Precambrian volcanic geology, prominent hills with notable steep slopes, unsettled, unenclosed landscape with few signs of habitation, rough grazing.

Figure E4.1: Landscape Types<sup>62</sup>





## Telford

- 4.1.6 Concentrations of buildings and man-made structures are frequently referred to as 'townscape'. With almost 40% green open space, the urban landscape of Telford is significantly influenced and characterised by the existence of greenery and vegetation as well as the considerable areas of low density suburban development. Consequently, although the area has the remnants of older compact settlements which could be described as 'townscape' at their centres' there are large portions of the town which cannot be adequately described as 'townscape' or alternatively as countryside. The solution is to describe Telford as an urban landscape.
- 4.1.7 Telford is not a town in the 'traditional' sense. It is an artificial creation; a designated area of 7,212 ha (approximately 30 square miles) formed in 1968 within which the Telford Development Corporation operated. In this respect it is not a single place, but a collection of places – a feature which creates one of Telford's more apparent characteristics, that of a relatively fragmented and dispersed urban structure with an 'artificially created' (and relatively weak centre) with broad areas of suburban development and open space between.
- 4.1.8 It stretches approximately 7 miles from the River Severn in the south to the 'village' of Muxton in the north and at its broadest it is approximately 5.5 miles wide, from the village of Admaston in the west to Priorslee in the east.
- 4.1.9 The following is a broad list of the general features which characterise the town:
- A relatively fragmented and dispersed urban structure with an 'artificially created' (and relatively weak centre) with broad areas of suburban development and open space between.
  - Dominated in many areas by greenery.
  - Split into south and north Telford by the M54.
  - Split between the New Town dominated parts (mostly in the south) and the other parts.
  - Split between those areas affected and dominated by the industry and mining of the 18th and 19th Century (areas south of the Arelston Muxton Line) and those which were not i.e. the distinction and comparisons which can be made between Dawley and Wellington.
  - A town of contrasts – old and new side by side.
  - Dominated by fast highways.
  - A suburban town of indistinguishable areas of residential development.
- 4.1.10 Telford contains a considerable amount of 'undeveloped'/ open / 'green' land (land which is currently not occupied by buildings and man-made structures). The Green Network Designation alone covers an area of 2,780.25 ha which is 38.5% of the total designated area and represents over 18 ha per every 1,000 inhabitants<sup>63</sup>.
- 4.1.11 The remnants of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century building can be found scattered throughout the area both as part of the earlier original settlements and through widely dispersed pockets of development i.e. the isolated rows of terraced housing which served the equally dispersed industrial activity of the 18th and 19th centuries.
- 4.1.12 It is a town of built extremes i.e. from the intense distinctiveness of Ironbridge to a general blandness of architectural and built quality ameliorated by the large quantity of vegetation which frequently conceals it. Much of its townscape is modern but, property on the older estates is ageing and may undermine the image of a modern 21st century business location.
- 4.1.13 In 2009, guidance for shop fronts and signage design in Conservation Areas was adopted emerging from the erosion of character within Wellington Conservation Area due to the insensitive redevelopment of shop frontages and associated signage and lighting.

<sup>62</sup> Shropshire County Council, 2006: The Shropshire Landscape Typology

<sup>63</sup> Telford & Wrekin Council, 2003: Technical Report, Urban Landscape Character



- 4.1.14 There is little documented information on which to define the townscape across Telford. What is known is that the central area consists of individualistic building and site layouts that while often striking in themselves lead to lack of coherence at a wider scale. Equally some of the housing areas have been laid out in the Radburn style that is now seen as a contributing factor to declining communities.

### **Newport**

- 4.1.15 There is no information on the existing landscape quality beyond the work undertaken into the capacity of areas to accommodate additional development, in which Newport was identified as having medium capacity<sup>64</sup>.
- 4.1.16 With £1.5m spent on regenerating Victoria Park and the High Street including footway resurfacing, widening of footways, improvements have been delivered to the Conservation Area and townscape.

### **Rural Areas**

- 4.1.17 There is some information on the existing landscape quality beyond the work undertaken into the capacity of areas to accommodate additional development such as the Shropshire Historic Landscape Character Assessment 2007 which includes Telford & Wrekin.
- Edgmond, High Ercall and Wrockwardine are Conservation Areas within the rural area. A profile of the townscape and the buildings of local value has not been available during the preparation of this Scoping Report.

## **E4.2 Future Baseline**

- 4.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the assessment is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline for the landscape & townscape topics.

### **Authority-wide**

- 4.2.2 A 2009 study on landscape sensitivity and capacity<sup>65</sup> noted that there is capacity for further housing around Telford, Newport and in some of the other settlements (see Figures E4.2, E4.3 and E4.4).
- 4.2.3 Areas of higher sensitivity and lower capacity are found in open countryside not closely associated with a settlement, providing a setting to Conservation Areas or listed buildings, in valley corridors, in floodplains, on steep or prominent slopes or forming gaps between settlements. Some areas form an important visual setting to parts of a settlement and act as recreational and wildlife corridors and reservoirs.
- 4.2.4 No information on future trends for landscape across Telford & Wrekin has been located.

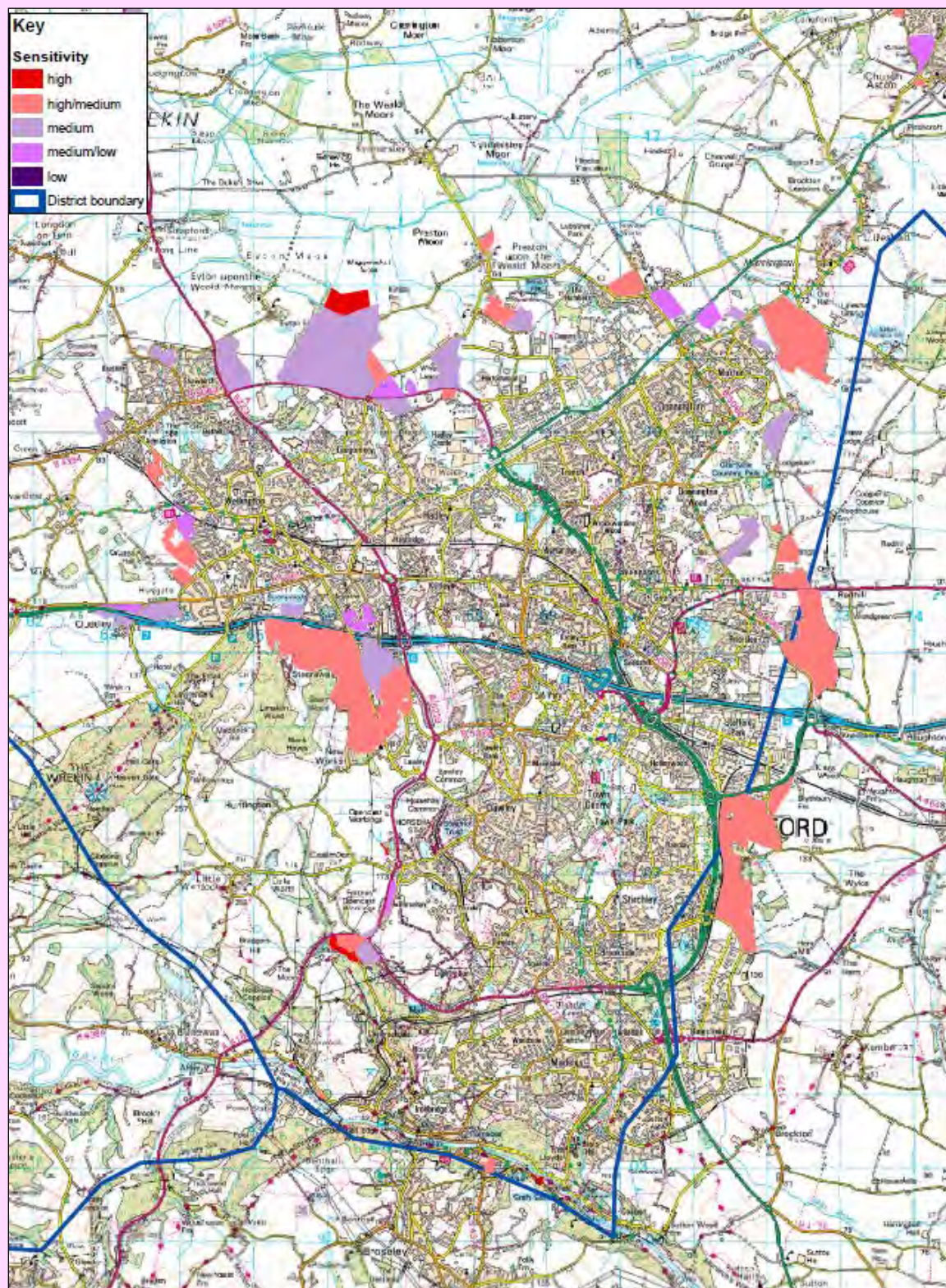
### **Telford**

- 4.2.5 It is assumed that as more of the town is built out so there will be a gradual loss of open space and a change in the landscape to form more of a townscape setting.

<sup>64</sup> White Consultants, 2009: Telford & Wrekin Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study

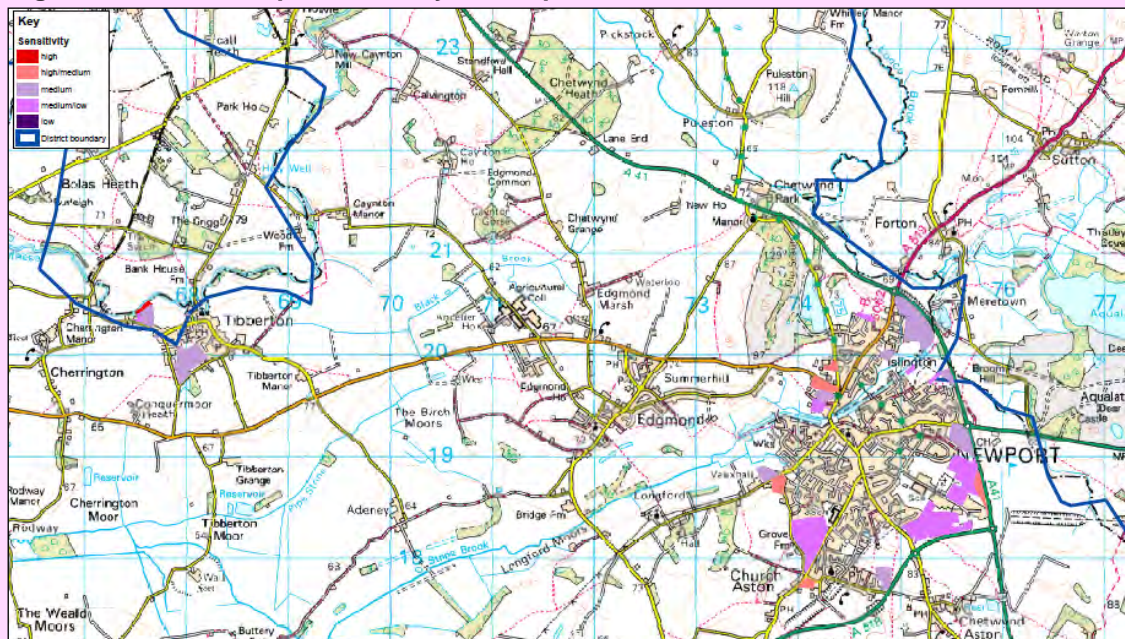
<sup>65</sup> White Consultants, 2009: Telford & Wrekin Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study  
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**Figure E4.2: Landscape Sensitivity around Telford**

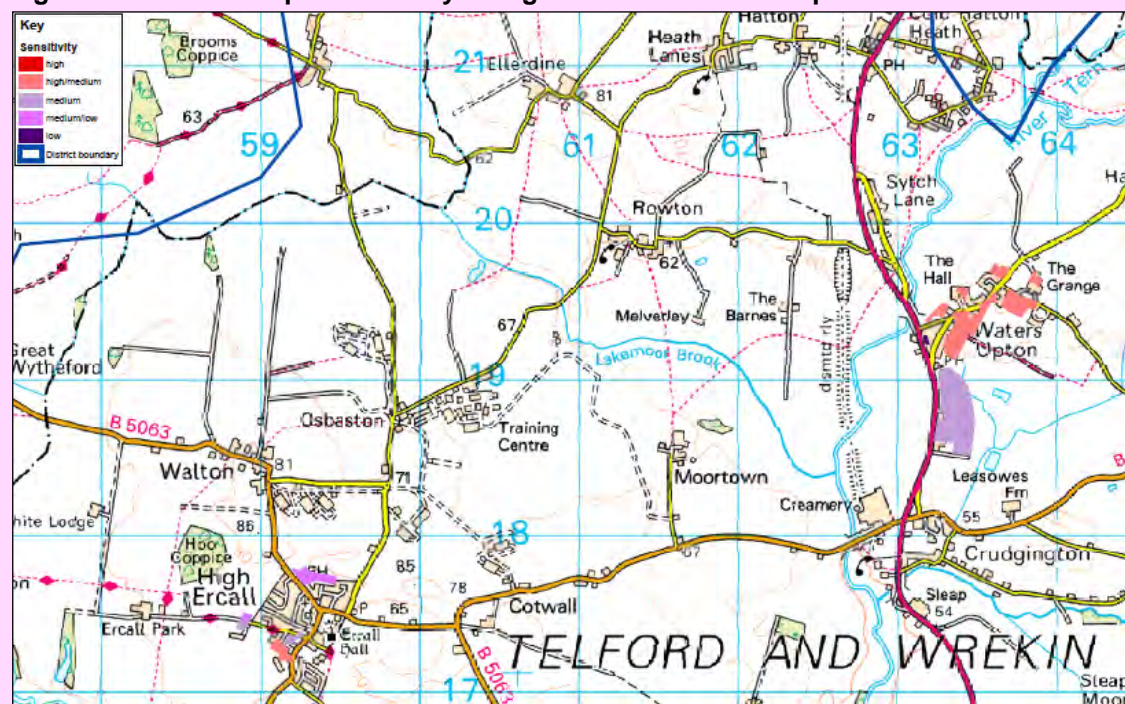




**Figure E4.3: Landscape Sensitivity at Newport and Tibberton**



**Figure E4.4: Landscape Sensitivity at High Ercall and Waters Upton**



- 4.2.6 It is suspected that the central area of Telford will continue to evolve in its architectural design and townscape qualities. With the prospect of high density flats and mixed use development there may be the opportunity for the townscape to deliver more intimate designs. At the same time, the need to be innovative in addressing the consequences of climate change, reducing the carbon demands of buildings and sustainable urban drainage systems may drive an interesting and greener environment.

- 4.2.7 It is considered that townscapes may exhibit more solar panels, designs including green/brown roofs and measures that reduce heat loss.

### Newport

- 4.2.8 Apart from the landscape sensitive mapping, no information was found that illustrated how landscapes might change. Also there is no information on which to suggest that the townscape is likely to change from its current situation.

### Rural Areas

- 4.2.9 The study on landscape sensitivity and capacity identified the land immediately adjacent to the existing development in Waters Upton as exhibiting moderate sensitivity to development (See Figure E4.4)<sup>66</sup>.
- 4.2.10 There is no information on how the landscape in the rural area might evolve and much will depend upon the changes in agriculture.

## E4.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 4.3.1 The landscape sensitivity study<sup>67</sup> identified the following challenges:
- Protect, in particular the landscapes of the valley bottoms, which penetrate between and into settlements.
  - Improve those settlement edges with an unsympathetic boundary with the countryside.
  - Where the landscape itself has lower intrinsic sensitivity, a higher capacity for development could be used to present a positive edge to integrate and enhance the landscape.
- 4.3.2 The landscape study identified the following opportunities for housing:
- **High capacity:** in Tibberton and Waters Upton;
  - **High/medium capacity:** 18 zones- in Arleston [2], Newport [6], Wellington [4], and one each in Hadley, High Ercall, Horsehay, Lawley, Muxton and Tibberton.
  - **Medium capacity:** 26 zones in Bratton, Cluddley, Hadley Park, High Ercall, Jackfield, Lawley, Lightmoor, Muxton, Newport, Preston upon the Weald Moors, The Nedge, Tibberton and Waters Upton.
- 4.3.3 New development over the plan period could place pressure on landscape distinctiveness and character in rural areas and urban fringes. While threats to tranquillity are more likely to be associated with new housing and commercial development, growth in traffic may lead to the increased lighting of road junctions or entire routes.
- 4.3.4 The following opportunities are considered to exist:
- Development proposals could contribute towards improving landscape quality and local distinctiveness through selection and use of materials appropriate to local setting;
  - Measures to reduce light pollution to sensitive areas could be delivered within the Carbon Management Programme;
  - Areas vulnerable to the effects of light pollution could be identified;

<sup>66</sup> White Consultants, 2009: Telford & Wrekin Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study

<sup>67</sup> White Consultants, 2009: Telford & Wrekin Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study

- Protect, enhance and promote enjoyment of open space.

4.3.5 The key townscape challenge is to contribute towards delivery of Total Place and promoting a sense of place in alignment with the Manual for Streets and Streets for All. Among related challenges and opportunities are:

- Intrusion of highway infrastructure and street furniture upon local distinctiveness and sense of place;
- Work towards reducing the amount of highway related signs and street furniture to enhance sense of place;
- Identify locations where enhanced design could contribute to an improved sense of place.

## **Telford**

4.3.6 The challenge would appear to be to create a landscape vision and design objectives that recognise the adaptation needed to address the consequences of climate change.

4.3.7 In terms of townscape, the Central Telford Area Action Plan has embarked upon promoting a more pedestrian friendly town centre that is more compact with higher density development. New pedestrian friendly streets and urban spaces are being intended to create a distinctive sense of place with contributions from public art and high quality signage. A variety of building heights and roof forms are envisaged.

4.3.8 CTAAP identifies the following key objectives for open space:

- Protect and enhance green spaces of identified value;
- Development to aid the delivery of new green spaces where deficiencies in quantity and accessibility have been identified;
- Enhance and promote Telford Town Park, with improved connections to other green spaces and a positive interface with Southwater;
- Improve north-south green space corridors and linkages through the Central Telford area;
- Enhance biodiversity value and improve linkage of isolated spaces of biodiversity value to the overall green spaces network; and
- New streets in the town centre to have tree planting.

4.3.9 Other opportunities could be associated with the provision of open space in those areas with a deficiency.

4.3.10 The Priority Plan Environment and Rural Areas 2010<sup>68</sup> identifies the following objectives:

- Improve and maintain the condition of roads, footways, rights of way and the street scene;
- Maintain the good standard of cleanliness in the Authority;
- Provide quality open spaces and parks.

## **Newport**

4.3.11 The landscape sensitivity study identified the following challenges:

- Protect, in particular the landscapes of the valley bottoms, which penetrate between and into settlements.
- Improve those settlement edges with an unsympathetic boundary with the countryside.

<sup>68</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Priority Plan: Environment and Rural Areas.  
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- Where the landscape itself has lower intrinsic sensitivity, a higher capacity for development could be used to present a positive edge to integrate and enhance the landscape.

### Rural Areas

- 4.3.12 Most challenges to the rural landscape arise from changes in agricultural practices although where housing is allocated to support the viability of rural settlements then a challenge will be to minimise the consequences on locally sensitive landscapes.

## E4.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 4.4.1 Information on the relationship between landscape assets and landscape character areas was not available at the time of writing. In addition, no information has been sourced to describe the quality of the landscapes within Telford. Hence there are considerable uncertainties on the landscape and townscape characteristics as well as the future quality and adaptability to new development and climate change.
- 4.4.2 In relation to townscape, no information is currently available on:
- Unlisted buildings of local historic/architectural interest;
  - Extent to which the heritage resource has declined and how it is anticipated to perform over the plan period;
  - Quality and trends.
- 4.4.3 Given the absence of information the existing townscape, particularly in areas beyond that of the central Telford, it is not possible to document areas of low or degraded townscape where intervention may be beneficial.
- 4.4.4 The absence of a reference frame is anticipated to make the judgement of change brought about by the revised Core Strategy and future planning documents process difficult.
- 4.4.5 There is an absence of information for Newport and in the Rural Areas to guide the appraisal of plans.

## E4.5 Scoping

- 4.5.1 This section provides recommendations on the topics to be scoped in or out of the plans for the four plan areas.

### Authority-wide

- 4.5.2 The following aspects have been **scoped into** appraisals reflecting the requirements of the European Landscape Convention:
- Direct and indirect effects upon the AONB;
  - Effects of development on the landscape.



## **Telford**

- 4.5.3 Landscape issues are **scoped into** future appraisals to reflect the relationship of urban growth with the management of open space to both address public health issues and adaptation to climate change.
- 4.5.4 Design and sense of place is crucial to the attractiveness of the townscape and thus to the appeal of both residents and inward investors. As the need for individuality is a key part of the marketing of Telford, so townscape issues are **scoped into** sustainability appraisals.

## **Newport**

- 4.5.5 The decision scoping of landscape issues is **deferred** to be undertaken when proposals for specific plans for the area are known.
- 4.5.6 In the absence of a prospective cause of change to the townscape Newport delivered through the spatial planning system, this theme has been **scoped out** of future appraisals.

## **Rural Areas**

- 4.5.7 Given the landscape sensitivity identified for land around Waters Upton, it is appropriate to **scope in** landscape quality into future appraisals.
- 4.5.8 As development is to be concentrated on the larger rural settlements, it is not thought that townscapes in rural areas would be adversely affected to a level so as to need specific policies. For this reason townscape has been **scoped out** of appraisals of rural plans.

## **E4.6 Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

- 4.6.1 This section provides the sustainability objectives and indicators proposed for landscape and townscape.

### **Authority-wide**

- 4.6.2 The objective proposed is:
- To protect and enhance the landscape effects of development.
- 4.6.3 The indicators include:
- Net number of trees provided from major development proposals;
  - Number of trees removed subject to tree preservation orders;
  - Percentage of the National Character Areas showing no change or showing change consistent with character area descriptions.
  - Proportion of lighting columns fitted with low energy and low glare units.

### **Telford**

- 4.6.4 The landscape sustainability objective is:

- To protect, enhance and retain areas which perform strategic landscape functions as well as aid promotion of public health and adaptation to climate change.

4.6.5 The indicators proposed are:

- Number of major development proposals where landscape enhancement measures providing public health or climate change adaptation have been undertaken;
- Area of high quality landscape taken by development.

4.6.6 The townscape sustainability objective set for Telford is:

- To create a dynamic and inspiring townscape that helps design out crime, and creates a sense of place and local pride.

4.6.7 The proposition of an indicator to judge progress towards the sustainability objective is somewhat tentative at this stage. It is suggested that the indicator could be based upon a community view rather than a quantitative expression based on the number of buildings with a green roof for example. The proposed indicator is:

- Proportion of residents who consider that the quality of their local environment has improved measured on an annual basis.

### **Newport**

4.6.8 No objectives or indicators are proposed for landscape and townscape issues since consideration of the former has been deferred while townscape has been scoped out of future appraisals.

### **Rural Areas**

4.6.9 The landscape sustainability objective reflects the potential consequences of additional housing. The objective is:

- To deliver new housing in a manner that protects and enhances landscape quality.

4.6.10 The proposed indicator is:

- The number of new housing situated within areas considered to exhibit high/medium landscape sensitivity.

## E5. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

### E5.1 Baseline Conditions

5.1.1 This section describes the baseline situation across Telford & Wrekin as well as for Telford, Newport and the Rural Areas.

#### Authority-wide

5.1.2 Telford & Wrekin has a range of historic assets including:

- One World Heritage Site (WHS) at Ironbridge Gorge;
- 28 Scheduled Ancient Monuments;
- Two historic parks and gardens;
- Seven conservation areas: Edgmond 24.2 ha; Newport 22.4ha; Wrockwardine 26.9 ha; High Ercall 9.5 ha; Wellington 8.2 ha; Horehay 25.1; Severn Gorge 417.9 ha;
- 792 listed structures/buildings.

5.1.3 While there are no navigable waterways, a network of disused canals exist, which for the most part have been lost to development. However, the remaining lengths are protected for recreational use. The Newport branch of the Shropshire Union Canal has been listed nationally as worthy of long term restoration for leisure use. There is also a proposal to restore navigation to the River Severn although for environmental reasons the scheme is contentious.

5.1.4 The 2010 Buildings at Risk Register records one building as being at risk in Telford & Wrekin: Charlton Castle a Scheduled monument in very bad condition<sup>69</sup>. Additionally the Shropshire Historic Environment Record contains 2604 monuments records for the area, of these 829 are designated as listed buildings, Scheduled monuments or Registered Parks. Figure E5.1 provides an overview of the location of the heritage resource.

5.1.5 Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site (WHS) provides international recognition for the area due to its World Heritage status. The Gorge attracts approximately 750,000 visitors per year generating over half the tourist spend within Telford & Wrekin. The World Heritage Site includes 250 listed buildings, seven statutory ancient monuments and two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (Tick Wood and Benthall Edge; Lincoln Hill).

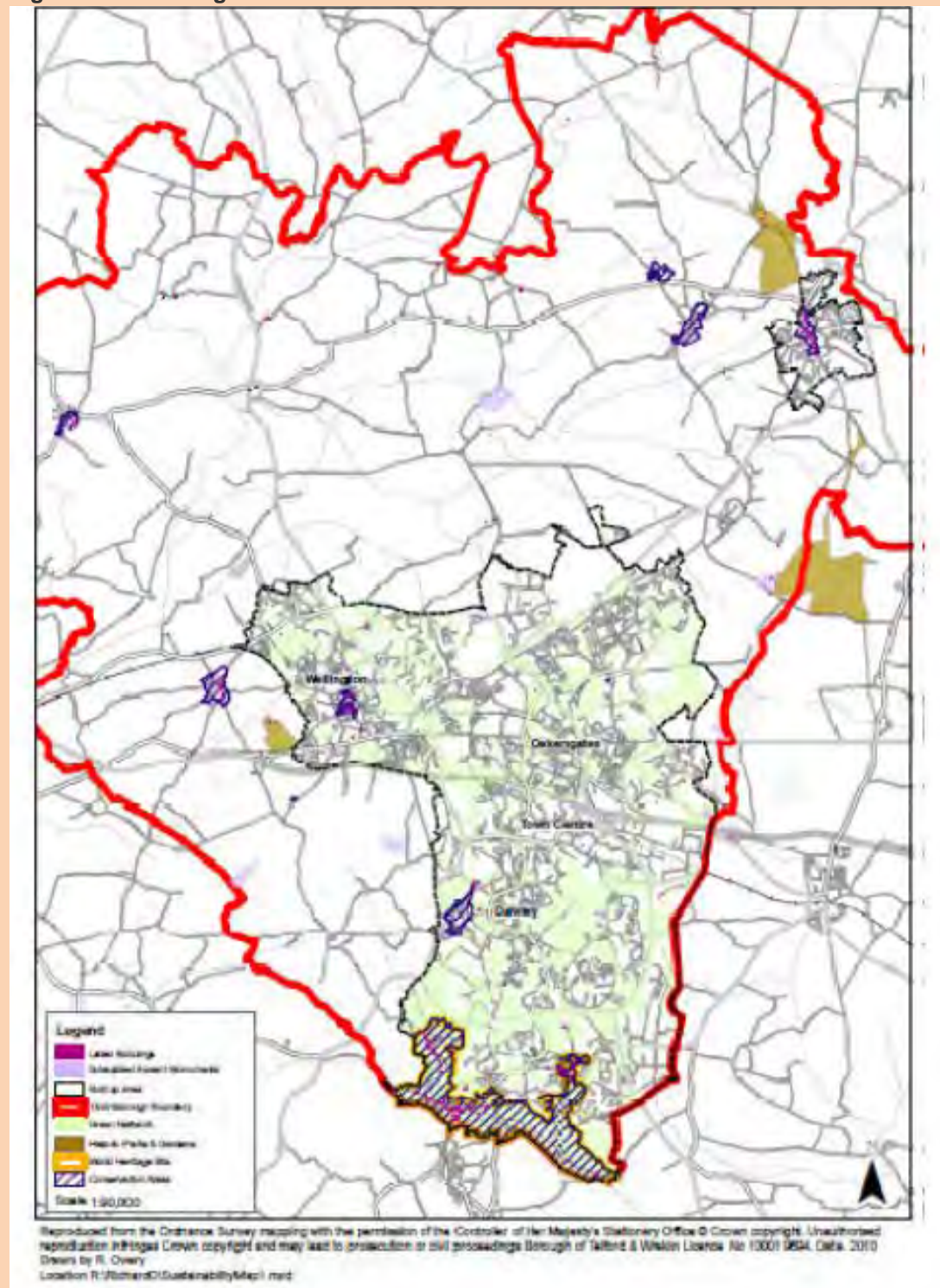
5.1.6 The boundary of the WHS, (an area of approximately 550 ha) is the same as that of the Severn Gorge Conservation Area and includes all the major sites of historic and cultural significance within the Iron Bridge Gorge. The WHS includes the communities of Coalbrookdale, Ironbridge, Coalport and Jackfield and part of the community of Madeley.

5.1.7 The Ironbridge Conservation Area Management Plan identified the following four issues:

- Preservation of the special character of the WHS;
- Access and visitor management;
- Land instability;
- Management of the river and banks.

<sup>69</sup> Telford and Wrekin, 2010: 3<sup>rd</sup> Local LTP Strategic Environmental Assessment Health Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Environmental Report.

**Figure E5.1: Heritage Resources in Telford & Wrekin**



5.1.8 The following five priorities have been set for the period 2009-2014<sup>70</sup>:

- Protect and conserve the special character of the WHS;
- Strengthen the local living working community;
- Enhance the WHS as a visitor attraction (sustainable tourism);
- Provide sustainable access to, from and within the WHS for residents and visitors;
- Secure the long term future by addressing significant land instability and flooding risks.

5.1.9 A Gorge Parish Plan has been prepared in 2008 setting out the views and aspirations of the local community.

### **Telford**

5.1.10 Wellington is the only Conservation Area within Telford.

### **Newport**

5.1.11 Newport's recent planning history has been influenced by the designation of Telford New Town. The historic nature of the settlement has meant that the majority of recent development has been accommodated by peripheral expansion, including the creation of an eastern highway by-pass (A518). The town retains an architecturally and historically significant central area. Newport's tight medieval form limits the potential for development within existing development limits.

### **Rural Areas**

5.1.12 While Edgmond, High Ercall and Wrockwardine are Conservation Areas, many of the farmsteads across the area provide a component in delivering local distinctiveness. The farmsteads across Shropshire have been mapped as part of the West Midlands Farmsteads and Landscapes Project with their use described.

5.1.13 Historic farmsteads make a significant and varied contribution towards the rural building stock, landscape character and local distinctiveness. Most are sited away from villages and large settlements being within small hamlets or isolated individual sites. The report Farmsteads in the West Midlands<sup>71</sup> called for policy and delivery programmes to consider suitable re-use of such buildings with change being based upon the historic character and significance of the entire site and its sensitivity to change.

5.1.14 Using the National Character Area 61 (Shropshire, Cheshire and Staffordshire Plain) as the framework, English Heritage examined the distribution and state of historic farmsteads. The southern-sub area was reported as having the following characteristics<sup>72</sup>:

- In the southern half of the plain extensive open fields were subject to post-14th century enclosure, leaving a predominant pattern of piecemeal enclosure intermixed with later boundary removal.
- On the extensive tracts of light sandy soils in north eastern Shropshire and to the west and south of Stafford there are larger areas of planned enclosure of former heathland.
- The extensive valley mire systems to the north of Telford (e.g. the Weald Moors) and east of Oswestry (e.g. Baggy/Tetchill Moor) were subject to successive phases of improvement from the late 16th century onwards, culminating in large-scale drainage and enclosure in the late 18th – early 19th century.

<sup>70</sup> World Heritage Site Business Plan 2009

<sup>71</sup> English Heritage, 2010: West Midlands Farmsteads & Landscapes Project, Summary Report

<sup>72</sup> English Heritage, 2010: National Character Area 61, Shropshire, Cheshire and Staffordshire Plan



- 5.1.15 There are few pre-18th century working buildings by national standards within the character area. Early buildings include a scatter of barns and rare surviving cattle houses (usually on high-status sites) with higher concentrations in the arable farming southern sub-area. Many brick and stone buildings comprise the re-cladding of earlier large-scale timber-framed barns and farm buildings, testifying to the development of large farms in this area by the 18th century.

## E5.2 Future Baseline

- 5.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline for the historic environment.

### Authority-wide

- 5.2.2 It is desirable to consider the context of the broad changes in land use through to the finer details of the design of future buildings and the public realm. Historic assets are potentially at risk from the direct impacts of future climate change and without action to mitigate and respond, it is possible that they could be damaged and their cultural, social and economic benefits lost. It is also possible that historic assets are potentially at risk from climate change adaptation and mitigation measures such as the possible responses to national programmes such as the Green Deal.
- 5.2.3 At Ironbridge there is increasing concern about stability and flooding which are the main threats to its long term future requiring significant investment in flood defences. Other changes are:
- c 4,000 residents. Local community is changing with more wealthy newcomers attracted to the site.
  - c 1,500 jobs many of which in creative or tourist industries. The aim is to develop home based and mobile entrepreneurs.
  - Over 1,000,000 visitors per annum generating an estimated £50m tourist spend. There is an anticipated growth in visitor numbers particularly due to “2012 effect”.
  - Over 55,000 school visits per annum – anticipated to grow but desire for more lifelong learning.
- 5.2.4 The major investment of 1970s is now reaching end of life and significant investment needed against context of limited public funds. Several of the SAMs could be placed on the At Risk Register, while the Iron Bridge itself needs major investment as does the public realm. There is also a need for increased standards of maintenance and consistency in development control.
- 5.2.5 Sections of the community have expressed a desire for buffer zone and requirement to consider this as part of Management Plan review. There is also pressure for development within setting of the WHS.
- 5.2.6 Table E5.1 provides a judgement on the development pressures being faced by the seven Conservation Areas. As there were approximately 100 Conservation Area consents during 2009/10, development pressures are not considered significant at present.
- 5.2.7 It is difficult to discern trends, although increasing population numbers could place both direct and indirect pressures upon the historic fabric. While opportunities for some enhancements potentially associated with the promotion of green infrastructure may be expected, overall the prognosis is one of little change.



**Table E5.1: Development Pressures affecting Conservation Areas**

Conservation Area	Development Pressure
Edgmond	General domestic extensions (low level).
Newport	Replacement shop fronts and signage (medium level).
Wrockwardine	General domestic extensions (low level).
High Ercall	Minor levels of development on infill plots and surrounding land is designated for housing so potential affect on the setting of the Conservation Area (low level).
Wellington	Replacement shop fronts and signage (high pressure).
Horehay	General domestic extensions (medium level).
Severn Gorge	General domestic extensions and boundary alterations (high pressure)

### Telford

- 5.2.8 No information describing the future state of Telford's historic environment and the Conservation Area has been found.

### Newport

- 5.2.9 No information describing the future state of Newport's historic environment and the Conservation Area has been found. However, given the recent regeneration, it is envisaged that the historic setting will continue to be maintained.

### Rural Areas

- 5.2.10 The future of historic farmsteads depends upon having a productive use that maintains the historic features. Given the changes to the rural economic context and ageing population, there may be future decline in the historic landscape due to decay of historic farmsteads.

## E5.3 Challenges and Opportunities

- 5.3.1 Challenges facing the historic environment include:

- Incentivising owners to maintain their buildings in good condition, and funding repair programmes to prevent rapid decline.
- Maintaining funding and schemes that assists in the maintenance of buildings in poor decline.
- Adapting to pressures relating to conversion and dereliction of buildings.
- Specific challenges associated with Iron Bridge Gorge WHS may include further sustainable transport modes, addressing the public realm, woodland management. Expenditure to address land instability issues along with further investment and monitoring to deal with the problems proactively.
- Addressing land instability and flooding is of paramount importance for the long term future of the WHS.
- Striking balance between needs of conservation, access, sustainable growth and needs of residents.
- Protecting from incremental change which cumulatively degrades the special character of the WHS.
- Standards of care and maintenance of public realm and historic fabric (in both public and private ownership).

- Improved communication between the local community and local authority/ greater community involvement.
- Improved quality and range of shops – including retail for local residents.
- Sustainable access including improved traffic management, parking, public transport.
- Joined up approach between different parties to target funds and activities.
- Decommission of Eon Power Station by 2015 represents a major development opportunity/threat within WHS setting.
- Pressure on the non-designated resource, potentially exacerbated by the lack of information on non-designated local heritage assets.

5.3.2 Opportunities include:

- Using the historic environment to contribute to local distinctiveness and a sense of place and community engagement;
- Promoting the innovative reuse of the existing building stock;
- Improving awareness, involvement and understanding of and access to the historic environment;
- Heritage led regeneration opportunities, including tourism, traditional building skills;
- Improving the historic environment as an educational tool; and
- Re-modelling and updating of the housing and public realm while balancing this with sustaining the valued aspects of its planning history.

5.3.3 A challenge is to assist in the preservation of the historic landscape and buildings while the economic forces associated with agriculture and an increasingly elderly population perhaps limit the opportunity for alternative uses for historic farmsteads. The conversion of farmsteads to residential use raises a set of other challenges associated with the desire to enhance the viability of rural services centred upon larger villages which may benefit a larger community than if a disperse housing policy were adopted.

## E5.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

5.4.1 No information is currently available on:

- Unlisted buildings of local historic/ architectural interest;
- Extent to which the heritage resource has declined and how it is anticipated to perform over the plan period.

5.4.2 There is an absence of information on the state of and pressures on Conservation Areas and historic assets in the town.

5.4.3 The number, location, threat and opportunities associated with historic farmsteads are currently unknown. Thus the extent to which a spatial planning issue would affect rural historic environment issues is unknown.

## E5.5 Scoping

5.5.1 This section considers whether the historic environment should feature in the appraisal of plans for authority-wide, Telford, Newport or the Rural Area.

## Authority-wide

5.5.2 The following aspects have been **scoped into** sustainability appraisals:

- Effects upon Iron Bridge Gorge WHS;
- Contributions made by the historic environment (both landscape and buildings) to the quality and sense of place.

5.5.3 The issues **scoped out** comprise:

- Buried archaeology has been excluded from subsequent appraisals in the absence of a risk appraisal and as such matters are more appropriately dealt with at a project scale.
- Listed buildings since the effects of spatial plans are unlikely to be evident on individual buildings and the issues would be captured by contributions made to the historic environment.

## Telford

5.5.4 It is unclear whether there the historic environment should be scoped out, however the decision is **deferred** to be judged on whether the plan under consideration affects the Wellington Conservation Area.

## Newport

5.5.5 As relatively small number houses are proposed for Newport (60 houses per annum) and as the medieval form limits the potential for development, it is considered that future development ought not to compromise the historic environment and hence it can be **scoped out** from future appraisals.

## Rural Areas

5.5.6 There is potentially an issue between the concentration of rural development within the larger villages and a desire to deliver viable uses to help retain the historical landscape and historic farmsteads.

5.5.7 As further information is needed to assess the potential effects of future plans upon the historic environment, so the historic environment has been **scoped into** future appraisals.

## E5.6 Sustainability Objectives & Indicators

5.6.1 The sustainability objective proposed for the historic environment is:

- To enhance, conserve and protect heritage assets and their settings

5.6.2 The indicators include:

- Number of major development projects that enhance the significance of either heritage assets or historic landscape character;
- Number of major development projects that detract from the significance of heritage assets or historic landscape character

5.6.3 The indicator proposed is:

- The number of major development projects that enhance either the historic landscape or elements of the historic environment.

5.6.4 The sustainability objective for the rural historic environment is:

- To aid the sustainable use of historic farmsteads.

5.6.5 The proposed indicator is:

- The number of historic farmsteads for which an application for a change is in accordance with the Farmstead Assessment Framework.

## E6: AIR QUALITY AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

### E6.1 Baseline Conditions

6.1.1 This section describes the existing baseline air quality and greenhouse gas emissions across the Authority only as information is not available for the other potential plan areas.

#### Authority-wide

6.1.2 The main sources of air pollution are emissions from busy roads, particularly along the Ironbridge Gorge and also from emissions from the power station at Ironbridge<sup>73</sup>.

6.1.3 The First Round of Review and Assessment for air quality, including Stage 1, 2 and 3 reports undertaken during 1998 and 2002 predicted exceedences of the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> objective in four areas which were then declared as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) on 25th March 2002.

6.1.4 The Stage 4 assessment found that NO<sub>2</sub> annual mean objectives were being met within the AQMA<sup>74</sup> and the four AQMA were revoked. Detailed assessments in April 2004 following continuous monitoring along the Wharfage in Ironbridge confirmed that the Air Quality Objectives (AQO) objectives for NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> were being met. The Updating and Screening Assessment Review of 2008 also revealed no measured exceedences of the AQO objectives as did the 2011 Air Quality Progress Report.

6.1.5 Turning to greenhouse gas emissions, total UK emissions showed a provisional increase in 2010 of 2.8% over the previous year at 582.4 million tonnes, with CO<sub>2</sub> emissions being 3.8% higher<sup>75</sup>. There were increases of: 13.4% in the residential sector; 3.3% from energy supply; and 20.4% from the business sector.

6.1.6 Total territorial emissions for Telford & Wrekin are 1,263,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> / year or 7.8 tonnes for each resident, slightly less as the UK average of 7.9 tonnes, but also decreasing at a faster rate (see Table E6.1<sup>76</sup> and Figure E6.1).

**Table E6.1 Carbon Dioxide Emissions 2005-2008<sup>77</sup>**

	Year	Total Emissions (1000 tonnes)	Per Capita Emissions (tonnes)
West Midlands	2005	44,513	8.3
	2006	44,645	8.3
	2007	44,075	8.2
	2008	42,728	7.9
Telford & Wrekin	2005	1,385	8.6
	2006	1,417	8.8
	2007	1,317	8.2
	2008	1,263	7.8

<sup>73</sup> Telford & Wrekin Authority Council, 2009: LAQM Updating and Screening Assessment 2009

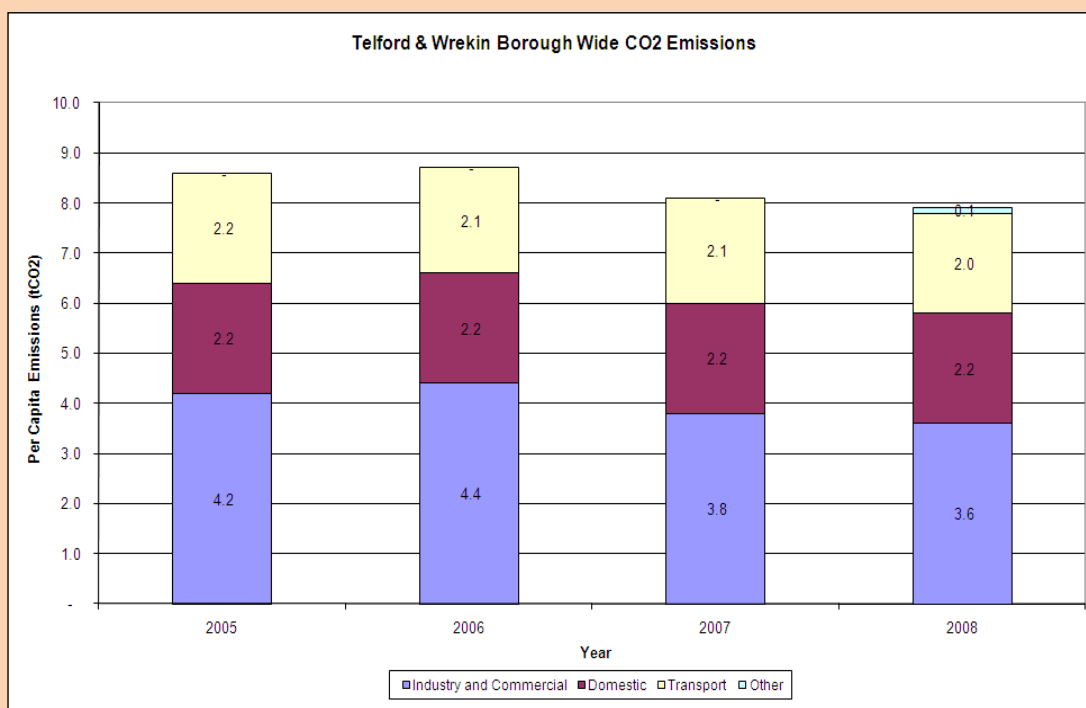
<sup>74</sup> Telford & Wrekin Authority Council, 2009: LAQM Updating and Screening Assessment 2009

<sup>75</sup> National Statistics 2011: UK Climate Change Sustainable Development Indicator: 2010 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Provisional Figures

<sup>76</sup> Climate for Change, 2008: [http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Climate\\_for\\_Change\\_Jul08.pdf](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Climate_for_Change_Jul08.pdf)

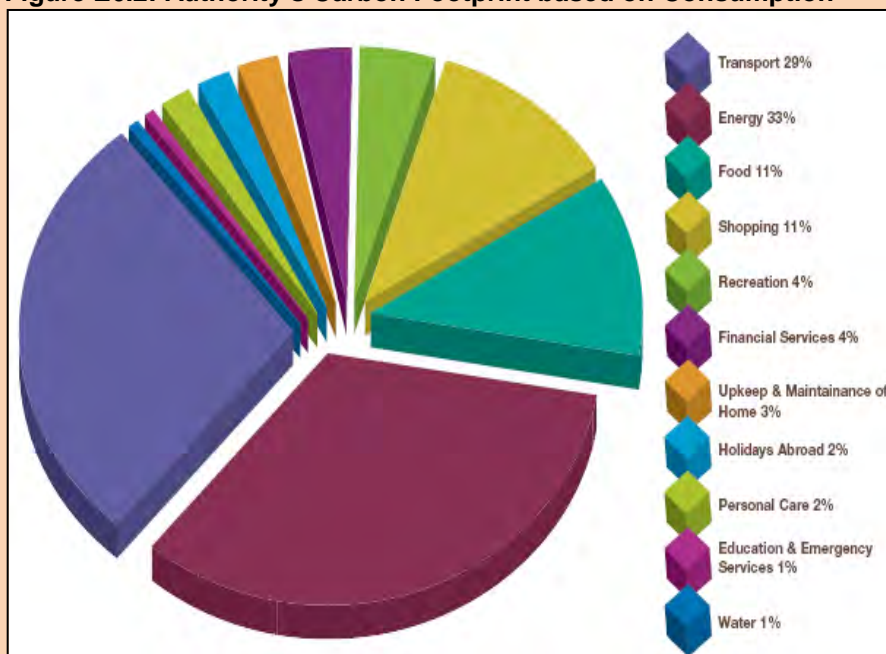
<sup>77</sup> Source: Department of Energy & Climate Change, 2011: 457-local-regional-co2-2005-2008-full-data

Figure E6.1: Authority-wide CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 2005-08<sup>78</sup>



6.1.7 As illustrated in Figure E6.2, nearly 30% of the carbon emissions in Telford & Wrekin are associated with transport while 33% are associated with energy use, 11% with food production and 11% with shopping<sup>79</sup>.

Figure E6.2: Authority's Carbon Footprint based on Consumption<sup>80</sup>



<sup>78</sup> Telford & Wrekin Council, 2011: Pers comm

<sup>79</sup> Telford & Wrekin Council, 2008: Climate for Change: [http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Climate\\_for\\_Change\\_Jul08.pdf](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Climate_for_Change_Jul08.pdf)

<sup>80</sup> Telford & Wrekin Council, 2008: Climate for Change: [http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Climate\\_for\\_Change\\_Jul08.pdf](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/Climate_for_Change_Jul08.pdf)



## Telford

- 6.1.8 The LTP3 Environmental Report<sup>81</sup> it is noted that there are no residential properties within 20m of any roads that may experience flows in excess of 10,000 vehicles per day and hence no requirement for air pollution assessments.

## Newport

- 6.1.9 The main High Street in Newport experiences traffic flows of approximately 16,000 vehicles per day of which 4% are HGVs<sup>82</sup>. The High Street has some properties as close as 7m from the centre of the road and many pedestrians are also exposed. However the results indicate that no exceedences of NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> objectives are expected.

## Rural Areas

- 6.1.10 Given the absence of air quality problems in the urban areas, it is unlikely that exceedences of NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> objectives exist.

## E6.2 Future Baseline

- 6.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline for the air quality and greenhouse gas emissions based upon limited information.

### Authority-wide

- 6.2.2 Whilst technological improvements can be expected to gradually improve NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations (e.g. electric vehicles), this may be offset by increased urban traffic and congestion. However, it is also necessary to factor in the changing transport patterns of a more elderly population and the potentially declining disposable incomes available from which to purchase fuel efficient vehicles. This may also combine to reduce the total distances travelled. Consequently it is difficult to forecast the effect on future transport emissions.
- 6.2.3 Although ozone is not a registered pollutant, it may become of increasing concern in suburban and rural areas as 'summertime smog'. Road transport is the main cause of ozone<sup>83</sup> and the effects of 'summertime smog' can be expected to get worse as climate change leads to warmer summers with longer periods of dry weather.
- 6.2.4 Climate change may well exacerbate local air pollution problems which can pose health risks to local residents.
- 6.2.5 As noted in Table E6.1 there has been a steady decline in emissions. The target set in the Authority's first climate change strategy<sup>84</sup> was for to achieve 7.5 tonnes/person by 2010/2011.

<sup>81</sup> WS Atkins, 2010: Local Transport Plan 3 Environmental Report, Appendices

<sup>82</sup> WS Atkins 2010: Local Transport Plan 3 Environmental Report Appendices

<sup>83</sup> Ozone does not come directly from vehicles rather it is created by chemical reactions between other nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons.

<sup>84</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2008: A Climate for Change

## E6.3 Challenges and Opportunities

### Authority-wide

- 6.3.1 Given the good air quality, no air pollution challenges currently exist.
- 6.3.2 In terms of greenhouse gases, the target to achieve the Government's 36% reduction by 2026 has yet to be translated into a replacement for the local 2010/11 target. Nevertheless, the following opportunities exist to deliver carbon reductions:
- Decentralised energy via new development;
  - Integration of waste management and decentralised energy;
  - Co-location of potential heat suppliers and users;
  - District heating networks based on renewable energy, surplus heat and biomass;
  - High quality and energy efficiency standards for new developments and whole house retrofit programmes for existing buildings; and
  - Improved sustainable transport options.

### Telford

- 6.3.3 A report by Jacobs examined the viability of local carbon technologies for Central Telford<sup>85</sup> and highlights the following challenges and opportunities faced in Central Telford:
- Increase density of development to help make district energy viable;
  - Identify existing "high" heat users such as swimming pools to form part of the district network;
  - Adopt a co-ordinated approach across stakeholders, addressing financial planning and logistical matters;
  - Promote Code for Sustainable Homes and BREEAM assessments for buildings and CEEQUAL for infrastructure projects.
- 6.3.4 The objectives of Central Telford Area Action Plan are to:
- Create buildings and spaces that are built to last and well designed, for a changing climate, environmentally sustainable and adaptable;
  - Construct buildings to high sustainability criteria, such as the Code for Sustainable Homes, and showcase innovative design features, such as green roofs;
  - Ensure that new development in the Town Centre is an exemplar of high quality sustainable construction, promoting a low carbon footprint including, utilisation of a high proportion of energy from renewable sources.
- 6.3.5 The density of dwellings constructed will have a significant influence on potential energy solutions. A density of 50 or higher dwellings per hectare (dph) is identified in the Jacob's report<sup>86</sup> as a threshold for determining the feasibility of implementing district energy systems.
- 6.3.6 Data contained in the Annual Monitoring Report (2009) highlights that in the last three years the densities of housing constructed in Telford have been significantly lower overall than those required for the successful implementation of decentralised district energy solutions, with only 24% of development built to 50 dph or higher during this period.
- 6.3.7 The Jacob's report identified the following opportunities to deliver low carbon energy:

<sup>85</sup> Jacobs, 2010: Viability Study of Low Carbon Opportunities for the Central Telford Area, Final Report

<sup>86</sup> Jacobs, 2010: Viability Study of Low Carbon Opportunities for the Central Telford Area, Final Report  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

- Old Park offers the greatest potential for technical feasibility of the widespread application of GSHP in central Telford, as significant areas of ground are due to be disturbed, allowing a coordinated approach to integrating the required infrastructure at the time of construction.
- Central Telford appears to be suitable for consideration of whether a district heating scheme could be developed for part or all the development proposed in CTAAP.

### Newport

- 6.3.8 There is no information available regarding challenges and opportunities for Newport.

### Rural Areas

- 6.3.9 There is no information available regarding challenges and opportunities for rural areas, although as some areas are not connected to the gas grid, opportunities for the application of some renewable technologies will be enhanced.

## E6.4 Uncertainties and Limitations

- 6.4.1 No uncertainties or limitations affect the sustainability scoping report.

## E6.5 Scoping

- 6.5.1 This section considers whether the air quality and greenhouse gas emissions should feature in the appraisal of plans.

### Authority-wide

- 6.5.2 Air quality has been **scoped out** of the sustainability appraisals since there are no immediate air quality issues in the Authority.
- 6.5.3 The importance of reducing greenhouse gases is a key action to underpin future sustainable communities and sustainable economic development and hence the subject is **scoped into** future appraisals.

### Telford

- 6.5.4 As air quality is not an issue across the Authority, so it is **scoped out** for Telford.
- 6.5.5 The importance of reducing greenhouse gases is a key action to underpin future sustainable communities and sustainable economic development and hence the subject is **scoped into** appraisals.

### Newport

- 6.5.6 As air quality is not an issue across the Authority, so it is **scoped out** not being considered an issue in Newport.
- 6.5.7 The importance of reducing greenhouse gases is a key action to underpin future sustainable communities and sustainable economic development and hence the subject is **scoped into** appraisals of plans for Newport.

### Rural Areas

- 6.5.8 Air quality is **scoped out** as there is no evidence that air quality standards are being exceeded.
- 6.5.9 Whether greenhouse gas emissions are to be considered in the appraisal of rural plans is to be determined by once the focus of the rural plans have been determined. It is envisaged that generally greenhouse gas emissions would be scoped out on the grounds that the plans would not have much ability to address rural emissions which are dominated by agricultural sources.

## E6.6 Sustainability Objectives & Indicators

- 6.6.1 This section provides the sustainability objectives and indicators proposed for greenhouse gas emissions.

### Authority-wide

- 6.6.2 The sustainability appraisal objective for greenhouse gas emissions is:
- To reduce annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% from 1990 levels, by 2050 (36% by 2026).

- 6.6.3 The indicators proposed are:
- The total emissions in the local authority area;
  - The per capita emissions per year;
  - The number of major developments demonstrating reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during their design process such as through a BREEAM, CEEQUAL or other assessment.

### Rural Areas

- 6.6.4 No sustainability appraisal objective has been set for rural areas since the decision on whether greenhouse gas emissions should feature in appraisals is to be determined once the nature of the rural plan is understood.

## E7: ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

### E7.1 Baseline Conditions

7.1.1 There is little information available to describe existing adaptation to climate change.

### E7.2 Future Baseline

7.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline for the adaptation to climate change.

#### Authority-wide

7.2.2 Climate projections indicate that warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers can be expected (see Table E7.1). They also indicate that the frequency of severe weather events will increase. Hence, over the plan period the effects of climate change ought to become of increasing relevance.

**Table E7.1: Annual Mean Temperature under Medium Emissions<sup>87</sup>**

	2020's	2050's	2080's
Annual mean temperature (°C)	+1.4	+2.4	+3.4
Summer daily maximum temperature (°C)	+1.9	+3.3	+4.7
Winter daily minimum temperature (°C)	+1.5	+2.4	+3.3
Mean winter precipitation (%)	+5.4	+13.7	+18.5
Mean summer precipitation (%)	-6.0	-15.1	-18.5

### E7.3 Challenges and Opportunities

7.3.1 The following challenges and opportunities arise from the UKCP09 climate change projections:

- Increase in air pollution leading to increased respiratory illnesses;
- Potential for higher incidence of food poisoning in warmer weather;
- Warmer summers will lead to increase in number of patients with heat related illnesses;
- Increase in vector borne diseases;
- Health effects of flooding;
- Increase in number of pests such as cockroaches, rats and termites;
- Increase in numbers of cyclists & walkers;
- Potential increase in pleasure journeys taken by car;
- Reduced driver concentration due to warm weather.

7.3.2 A report by WS Atkins explored the opportunities for the development of a low carbon economy in Telford & Wrekin<sup>88</sup>. The following eight key sectors were identified: public services; manufacture of metals, fabricated metal products and electrical equipment; manufacture of motor vehicles and transport and; transport, storage and communications. Opportunities assessed as having the potential to increase employment included:

<sup>87</sup> UKCIP, 2009: <http://ukclimateprojections.defra.gov.uk/content/view/1501/499/>

<sup>88</sup> WS Atkins, 2010: Opportunities for a Low Carbon Economy – Telford & Wrekin

- **Construction:** Low carbon renovation of housing stock;
- **Public Services:** Supporting the defence sector reducing their carbon footprint;
- **Transport, Storage and Logistics:** Sustainable logistics and use of rail freight to boost the transport, storage and communications sector within the area; development of alternative fuels and infrastructure;
- **Environmental goods and services:** Increased non-metal waste recycling; provision of advice on low carbon to businesses; development of low carbon community energy companies/schemes;
- **Manufacture of food and beverages:** Use of food waste to generate energy.

7.3.3 Barriers were seen to include a lack of a high technology/green business park and access to skills.

### **Telford**

7.3.4 The Central Telford Area Action Plan identifies the following objectives by which to create a low environmental footprint town centre:

- Buildings and spaces designed for a changing climate, environmentally sustainable and adaptable;
- Construction to be to high sustainability standards and showcase innovative design features such as green roofs;
- New development in the Town Centre to act as a model of high quality sustainable construction, promoting low carbon footprint including use of a high proportion of energy from renewable sources;
- Minimise net rainwater runoff with grey water recycling and sustainable drainage techniques.

### **Newport**

7.3.5 No specific opportunities or challenges have been identified for Newport.

### **Rural Areas**

7.3.6 No specific opportunities or challenges have been identified for rural areas.

## **E7.4 Uncertainties and Limitations**

### **Authority-wide**

7.4.1 An adaptation report containing measures to cope climate change is being prepared by the Council. As yet there is no information on which to judge measures taken to adapt climate change.

## **E7.5 Scoping**

7.5.1 This section considers whether the adaptation to climate change should feature in the appraisal of plans.



- 7.5.2 Given the prospect of climate change, adaptation is a key action to underpin future sustainable communities and sustainable economic development and is thus **scoped in** for the sustainability appraisals of authority-wide and Telford plans.
- 7.5.3 With relatively few new housing development to take place at Newport, there is little prospect of change to the housing stock to provide greater adaptation to climate change. Also, given the numerous small scale professional, scientific & technical businesses in Newport sufficient flexibility to exploit low carbon market opportunities is thought to exist. Consequently there appears little need for area specific policies. For these reasons adaptation to climate change has been **scoped out** of plans for Newport.
- 7.5.4 It is unlikely that rural area plans would be in a position to provide additional focus to authority-wide plans that address adaptation to climate change and the development of a low carbon economy hence these subjects have been **scoped out** of the appraisal of rural plans.

## E7.6 Sustainability Objectives & Indicators

### Authority-wide

- 7.6.1 The sustainability appraisal objective for plans across Telford & Wrekin is:
- To deliver a built environment that is well adapted to cope with the changing weather conditions that are forecast.
- 7.6.2 The Climate Change Act 2008 gave powers to require the Council's to report on adaptation, but while NI 188 'Adapting to Climate Change' was in place this was not taken up. As NI 188 is no longer collected nationally it may be considered as a local reporting requirement. Nevertheless, the following indicators are proposed to address adaptation:
- Proportion of the housing stock subject to low carbon renovation works;
  - Average cost of extreme weather events per year.

### Telford

- 7.6.3 The sustainability appraisal objectives for the Telford are:
- To deliver a built environment that is well adapted to cope with the changing weather conditions that are forecast.
  - To assist in the development of economic activities so Telford is well placed to adapt to and exploit a low carbon environment.
- 7.6.4 The national indicator NI188 'Adapting to Climate Change' remains relevant, however the following additional indicators are proposed:
- Proportion of the housing stock subject to low carbon renovation works;
  - Average cost of extreme weather events per year within Telford.

### Newport

- 7.6.5 Adaptation to climate change and the promotion of a low carbon economy have been **scoped out** of the appraisal of plans for Newport.

## Rural Areas

- 7.6.6 Adaptation to climate change and the promotion of a low carbon economy have been **scoped out** of the appraisal of plans for rural areas.

## **E8: ACOUSTIC ENVIRONMENT**

### **E8.1 Baseline Conditions**

#### **Authority-wide**

- 8.1.1 The Defra Noise Action Plan for Major Roads Outside First Round Agglomerations identifies "Important Areas" (IAs) with respect to major road noise where 1% of the population affected by the highest noise levels<sup>89</sup>. Those locations where the noise mapping indicates levels of at least 76 dB LA10,18h are to be investigated as a priority.
- 8.1.2 Twelve separate areas have been identified as first priority locations in the Telford & Wrekin due to transport noise. These are sections of the A442, A518 and the M54. Defra requires that Local Transport Plans examine the options for addressing these priority locations and implement any action plans that are needed.
- 8.1.3 The Environmental Noise Directive requires the protection of urban tranquil areas and to this end the Natural Environment White Paper records an intention to establish mechanisms to formally identify and protect urban quiet areas.
- 8.1.4 There is no information available on the existing baseline acoustic environment for Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### **E8.2 Future Baseline**

- 8.2.1 As noted in chapter A2, the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan. This section provides a view on the future baseline for the acoustic environment but only in generic sense since no forecasts are available.
- 8.2.2 While technology and regulatory measures such as those being proposed by the EU on tyre noise may see reductions in rolling noise of 2.5-3.0dB over time, this is more likely to benefit those roads that are less congested. In congested urban areas, noise levels will continue to be dominated by engine noise, although marginal reductions may be achieved with a substantial penetration of electric vehicles.
- 8.2.3 As lower standards of highway maintenance are possible, so body rattle may increase leading to a potential for localised increased noise levels.

### **E8.3 Challenges and Opportunities**

- 8.3.1 The challenge faced by the Council will eventually be to identify and protect quiet urban areas from increasing noise levels as required under the Environmental Noise Directive.

### **E8.4 Uncertainties and Limitations**

#### **Authority-wide**

- 8.4.1 There is an absence of information on environmental noise, both elevated noise areas and tranquil areas.

<sup>89</sup> <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/noise/environment/documents/actionplan/noiseaction-agglom-nottingham.pdf>  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

## E8.5 Scoping

- 8.5.1 This section considers whether elevated noise levels and tranquil areas should feature in the appraisal of plans for Authority-wide, Telford, Newport or the Rural Areas.

### Authority-wide

- 8.5.2 As elevated noise levels are addressed through matters of detailed design and site layout, so it is appropriate to consider such matters at a project rather than a plan scale. Consequently the effect of plans upon elevated noise levels has been **scoped out** from sustainability appraisals.

- 8.5.3 The situation concerning tranquil areas is amenable to the influence of plans since they allocate development that may encroach or indirectly affect tranquil areas. Unfortunately as tranquil areas have yet to be identified, it is premature to include the subject, but subsequent appraisals ought to consider the evidence base to determine whether the subject can be assessed.

### Telford

- 8.5.4 As noise is **scoped out** for Telford as the current recognised noise issue is that of the twelve first priority areas associated with the inter-urban highway network. Insofar as tranquil areas there is no evidence to whether this subject ought to be appraised in future plans.

### Newport

- 8.5.5 There is no evidence to suggest that consideration of the elevated noise levels or tranquil areas ought to be addressed in plans for Newport. Hence consideration of the issues at an authority-wide level ought to be adequate leading to the conclusion that they can be **scoped out** of the appraisal of plans specifically focusing on Newport.

### Rural Areas

- 8.5.6 Elevated noise levels and tranquil areas are not considered to be significant issues in rural areas that would lead to the appraisal of rural area plans needing to address such matters. Hence both issues have been **scoped out** of future appraisals.

## E8.6 Sustainability Objectives & Indicators

- 8.6.1 No sustainability objectives and indicators have been set for elevated noise levels and tranquil areas as consideration has mainly been scoped out of all plans. The exception is that tranquil areas ought to be considered in the future scoping of authority-wide plans with a suitable sustainability objective and indicator developed at that time to reflect the profile of the tranquil areas.

## E9: WATER QUALITY & FLOODING

### E9.1 Baseline Conditions

9.1.1 This section provides a review of water quality and flooding across Telford & Wrekin.

#### Authority-wide

9.1.2 Telford & Wrekin lies within Worcestershire Middle Severn catchment of the Severn River Basin District. Water quality is reported in the 2009 River Basin Management Plan to be:

- All of the water bodies in the Telford & Wrekin area are currently less than good status;
- Watercourses are frequently of poor ecological quality.

9.1.3 There were no planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds during 2009-10<sup>90</sup>.

9.1.4 The main rivers within the study area are (see Figure E9-1):

- **River Severn:** Forms the southern boundary of Telford & Wrekin, passing through Ironbridge, Jackfield and Coalport.
- **River Roden:** Cuts across the north-west corner of Telford & Wrekin through the rural landscape before meeting the River Tern to the west of Telford.
- **River Meese:** Crosses the north from the east near Newport to the west. Affected by groundwater abstractions and suffers from low flows during summer months; however, it is home to nationally important wildlife.
- **River Tern:** The surface water drainage of north-Telford to the River Tern via the North Telford Interceptor channel (NTI). The north-Telford is drained by two (separate) channels, the NTI and the HOC (Hortonwood Open Channel) which drain to the Strine catchment. Both of these open channels are classed as public surface water sewers and are owned by Severn Trent Water Ltd.
- **River Strine:** A tributary of the River Tern in the north eastern and north central parts drain significant areas of agricultural land.

9.1.5 There are two canals:

- The Shropshire Union Canal (SUC) - what remains of the Trench Branch of the SUC that flows through GKN Sankey Ltd in Telford flows in two directions to both the NTI and the HOC. What is left of the Newport Branch in Newport drains to the Strine catchment with no connection to the SUC;
- The Sutton Hill Canal at Coalport runs for half a mile along the bank of the River Severn from the Severn to the Coalport China Works, now a museum.

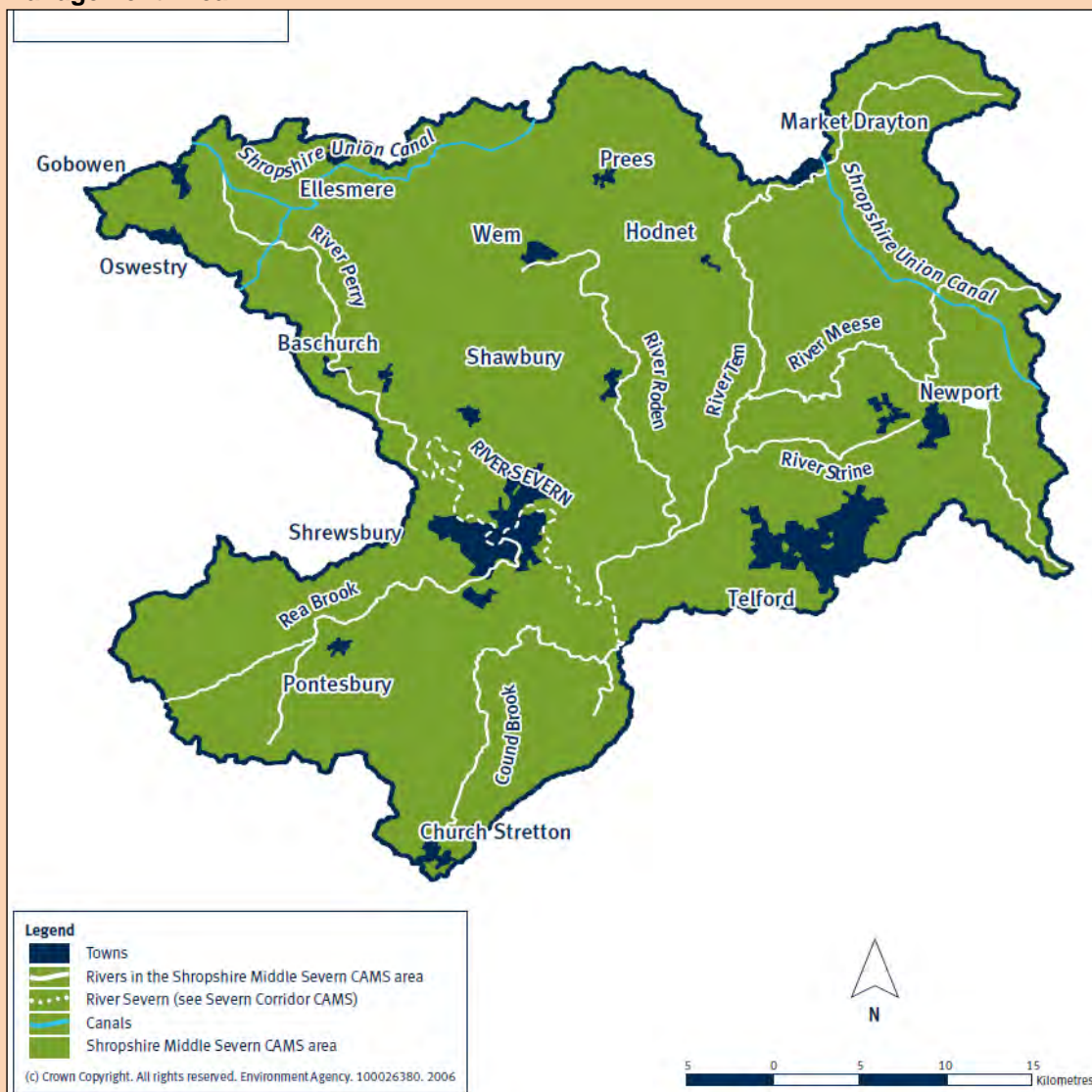
9.1.6 In terms of groundwater, the main part of the Authority is underlain by a minor aquifer (Upper, Middle and Lower (U/M/L) Coal Measures). To the west, north and east of Telford is a major aquifer (Triassic Sandstones) and from which substantial quantities of groundwater are abstracted to provide Telford's water supply. To the south of Telford lies both minor aquifer (U/M/L Coal Measures) and non-aquifers (Pre-Cambrian Quartzite).

9.1.7 Water quality within surface water systems has the potential to be affected by increases in effluent discharges from wastewater treatment works and urban diffuse runoff.

<sup>90</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2010: Local Development Framework, Annual Monitoring Report 2010  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

- 9.1.8 There are nine waste water treatment plants in Telford & Wrekin: Coalport, High Ercall; Newport; Rushmoor, Waters Upton, Little Wenlock, Edgmond, Sambrook and Roden. These discharge into the River Severn, River Roden, Strine Brook, River Tern and River Roden respectively. Apart from the River Strine, which is designated a Salmonid fishery, other rivers are Cyprinid Fisheries. The River Severn, River Roden and River Tern upstream of Strine Brook have been assigned a target of RE2 'Good Quality', whilst the Strine Brook and the River Tern downstream of Strine Brook have been assigned a target of RE3 'Fairly Good Quality'.

**Figure E9.1: Watercourses in the Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment Abstraction Management Area<sup>91</sup>**



- 9.1.9 Although there has been a general improvement in watercourses in the past few decades, nitrate and phosphate levels in water have remained high. Almost all of Telford & Wrekin is a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone and hence a need to protect and enhance resources<sup>92</sup>.

<sup>91</sup> Environment Agency, 2007: The Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy



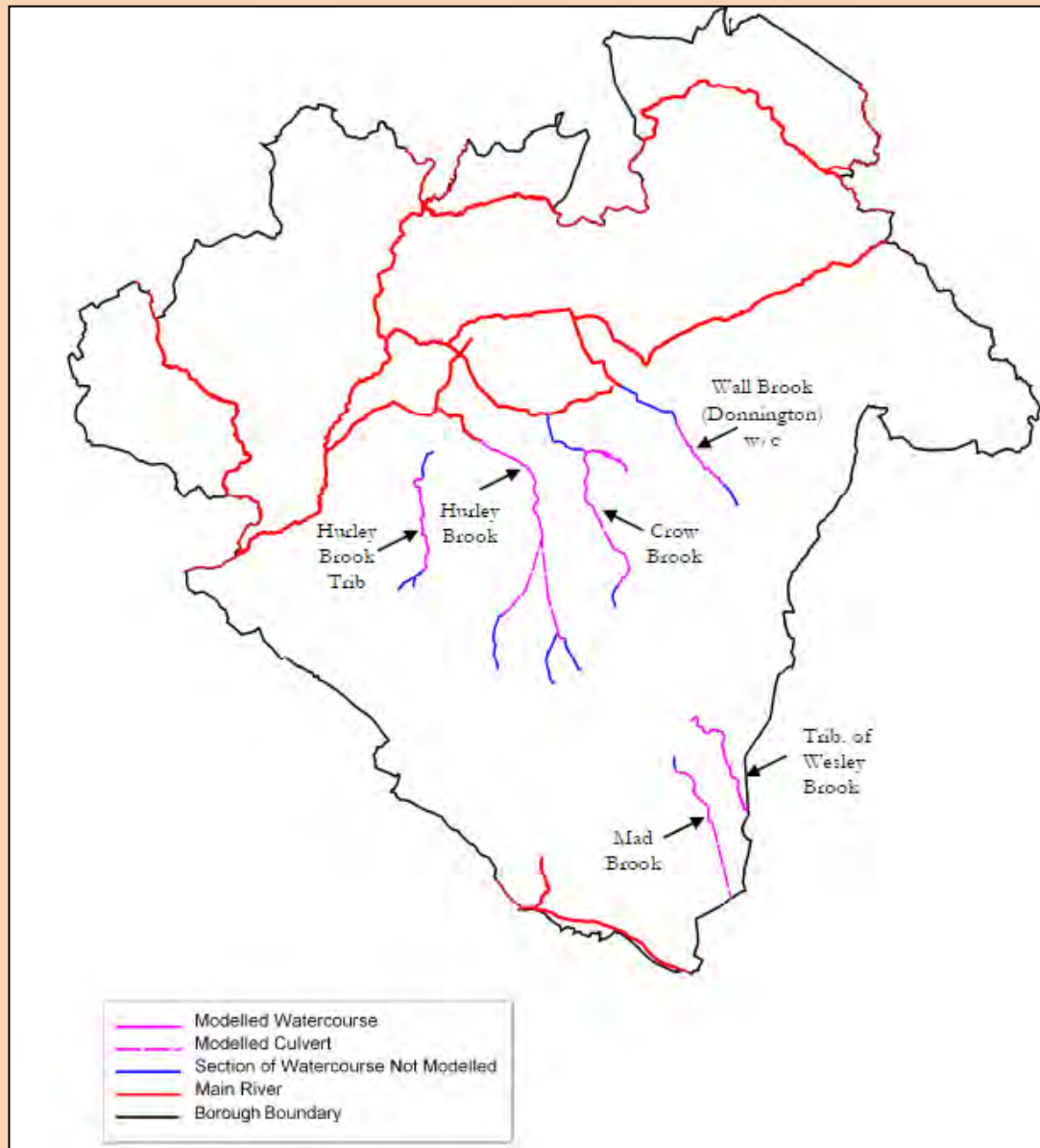
- 9.1.10 Under the Freshwater Fish Directive for the relevant designation, The Rivers Severn and Tern and Strine Brook all achieved the required imperative standards for the 2007 monitoring period.
- 9.1.11 There are several Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA) within the Severn River Basin District. While none are within Telford & Wrekin, changes to the volume and/or quality of water in the River Severn and its tributaries as a result of development may affect the Severn Estuary SAC and SPA downstream.
- 9.1.12 Telford & Wrekin overlaps two river catchments, the Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment and the Worcestershire Middle Severn Catchment, with the majority being in the former catchment. The Shropshire Middle Severn Catchment is largely rural, ecologically rich and with designated sites, and part of the Midlands Meres and Mosses Ramsar Site. The area is vulnerable to increases in abstraction for public supply and irrigation, particularly during low flow conditions.
- 9.1.13 The last decade has seen 62 significant weather events which have impacted, in some way, on the services which the Council and its local partners provide<sup>93</sup>. Work on the Local Climate Impact Profile revealed that flood risk appears to have increased over the last decade.
- 9.1.14 Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRAs) Levels 1 and 2 for have been produced. The December 2008 SFRA Level 2 Report<sup>94</sup> examined the following watercourses (see Figure E9.2).
- Hurley Brook Tributary;
  - Mad Brook;
  - Wall Brook;
  - Tributary of Wesley Brook.
- 9.1.15 The West Midlands Regional Flood Risk Assessment<sup>95</sup> provides a flood risk indicator for the Authority. This concludes that the risks are medium but that the consequences are high (see Table E9.2).
- 9.1.16 The Environment Agency's River Severn Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) identifies the Telford area as being within Policy 5: requiring further action to reduce flood risk.

<sup>93</sup> Telford & Wrekin 2010 : Local Climate Impact Profile Summary Report

<sup>94</sup> Halcrow, 2008: Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 2.

<sup>95</sup> Halcrow, 2009: The West Midlands Regional Flood Risk Assessment

**Figure E9.2: SFRA Level 2 Modelled Watercourses**



**Table E9.2: West Midlands RFSA Flood Risk Indicators**

Type of Flood Risk	Source of Flooding	Perceived Flood Risk		Summary
		Probability	Consequence	
Inherent Flood Risk		Medium	High	7% of the Borough is located in Flood Zone 3.
Climate Change Flood Risk		Medium	High	9% of the Borough is located in Climate Change Flood Zone 3.
Fluvial Flood Risk		Low	High	There are several Main Rivers within the area, but there has only been a small history of flooding, mainly in rural areas with few records of property flooding. There is a residual risk of localised flooding due to culvert blockages during intense rainfall events.
Flood risk from other sources	Surface Water	Medium	Medium	There is low risk of sewer flooding from sewers in Telford and Wrekin, with the records showing the predominant risk is from external, foul flooding. However, surface water flood risk is moderate.
	Groundwater	Low	Low	The SFRA states that no groundwater flooding issues were produced by the Council, however mine water problems have been highlighted in the Donnington and Iron Gorge areas but discharge rates are not sufficient to cause flooding.
Residual	Defences	Low	Medium	The SFRA shows no permanent formal defences in the Borough, but there are temporary Geodesign Barrier defences at the Wharfage in Ironbridge.
	Canals	Low	Medium	There are no EA reports of canal flooding, but the Council's own data suggests that there could be issues in the future, particularly with the Shropshire Union canal and Sutton Hill canal.
	Reservoirs	Low	High	There are 15 reservoirs in the Borough, but no records of overtopping or breaches. While the majority are located in rural areas, Ketley Sands, Holmer Farm Balancing Lake and Priorslee Flash reservoirs are all located in close proximity to urban areas.
Critical Infrastructure		Vulnerability Rank = 11	Low	The vulnerability rank is 11 and the consequence low
Overall Risk		Medium	High	The medium overall flood risk probability and high consequence in Telford and Wrekin suggests a higher overall risk than that reported in the Faber Maunsell West Midlands RFRA Report (Oct, 2007). This is probably due to more up to date information being available during the writing of this report.

9.1.17 The West Midlands RFRA quotes the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment in recording the flood risk status of the following watercourses:

- **River Strine:** Relatively narrow floodplain, but affects properties in Admaston, Leegomery, Hortonwood and the Humbles;
- **River Tern:** Risk to Crudgington and Longdon on Tern;
- **River Severn:** Passes through Ironbridge Gorge affecting few properties;
- **Mad Brook and Nedge Hill Brook:** Affect properties in Holmswood, Stirchley and Halesfield;
- **Sewer flooding:** Little risk;
- **Shropshire Union and Sutton Hill Canal:** Possible future flooding issues;
- **Southwater Lake:** Possible leaks from the lakes.
- **Mine water:** Problems in Donnington and Ironbridge Gorge but no flooding;
- **Groundwater:** Not an issue.

- 9.1.18 The West Midlands RFRA concludes that there is relatively low flood risk, but that new developments must be aware of the CFMP plan and not develop on areas affected by the long term North Shropshire Tributaries Policy of increasing flood risk in areas which are currently used for agriculture. Surface water and drainage system problems (septic tanks and runoff from playing fields) within Telford are identified as an issue. The RFRA recommends that development should take place in Flood Zone 1 where possible and that the Sequential Test and Exception Test be undertaken for all new sites.

### **Telford**

- 9.1.19 A series of eleven Surface Water Action Plans have been prepared for Telford each setting out the waterbodies; sewer infrastructure and an assessment of flood risk to support a future surface water management strategy. They offer recommendations for developers.

### **Newport**

- 9.1.20 Newport lies within an area of Triassic Sandstone (a Major Aquifer) with soils that are moderately permeable. Infiltration SuDS will therefore be suitable for low intensity rainfall, but for larger storm events some storage SuDS may be required.
- 9.1.21 The town is within a Source Protection Zone. The south of the town lies within SPZ2, which is defined by a 400 day travel time to the abstraction. Groundwater within the area is therefore sensitive to pollution and SuDS should be designed to improve water quality for any discharges made to ground.
- 9.1.22 As noted in above, the water quality of the Strine Brook and the River Tern downstream of Strine Brook has been assigned a target of RE3 'Fairly Good Quality' as water quality suffers from enrichment from nutrients (phosphates and nitrates).

### **Rural Areas**

- 9.1.23 Waters Upton and High Ercall lie on the boundary of SPZ3 with moderately permeable soils. Infiltration SuDS is suitable for low intensity rainfall, but for larger storm events some storage SuDS may be required. Consideration should be given to SuDS that can improve the water quality of any discharges made to ground.
- 9.1.24 As the soils at Tibberton exhibit a moderate to low permeability, it is less likely that infiltration SuDS is suitable hence storage SuDS should be preferentially investigated<sup>96</sup>.

## **E9.2 Future Baseline Conditions**

- 9.2.1 This section describes the future situation for the water environment as the regulations require that the appraisal is undertaken by comparison of the future with and without the plan.

### **Authority-wide**

- 9.2.2 There is no evidence to indicate the future state of water quality. As a result of climate change however, it is envisaged that reduced river flow will lead to a concentration of pollutants as the diluting abilities decline.

<sup>96</sup> Telford & Wrekin, 2009: Preliminary Water Cycle Study  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

9.2.3 The 2010 Local Climate Impact Profile identified that the following flooding related issues potentially await the Council:

- Health effects of flooding;
- Disruption to school transport;
- Increased risk of flooding of buildings;
- Increase in seasonal river flooding to tourism centres.

### **Telford**

9.2.4 It is assumed with lower summer rainfall that water levels in watercourses will decline leading to reduced dilution of pollutants and hence a worsening of the water quality.

### **Newport**

9.2.5 The effect of the Water Framework in stimulating higher water quality may lead to an improvement in the quality of discharge from the waste water treatment works at Newport. It is in this context that the addition of 60 new houses every year may give rise to added incentive to improve the quality of the discharges.

### **Rural Areas**

9.2.6 It is assumed with lower summer rainfall that water levels in watercourses will decline leading to reduced dilution of pollutants and hence a worsening of the water quality.

## **E9.3 Challenges and Opportunities**

9.3.1 Water quality related challenges are: ensuring development causes no deterioration in water body status, as required by the Water Framework Directive. The major challenges identified in the River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) Severn River Basin District<sup>97</sup> are:

- Diffuse pollution from agriculture and other rural activities;
- Point source pollution from water industry sewage works;
- Physical modification of water bodies; and
- Diffuse pollution from urban sources.

9.3.2 Policies and proposals are required that recognise resource constraints and adopt the precautionary principle where appropriate.

9.3.3 Activities brought about through the revised Core Strategy and future plans and policies can lead to the following negative effects upon Water Framework Objectives unless mitigation or avoidance actions are taken:

- Increased loads from waste water treatment caused by new development;
- Mobilisation of contaminants, sedimentation, pollution during construction and runoff from hard standing areas;
- Abstraction and diversion of water to new developments;
- Physical modification of watercourses affecting quality and the river flow;
- Increasing flood risk;
- Recreational pressures;

<sup>97</sup> Environment Agency, 2009: Water for Life and Livelihoods: River Basin Management Plan Severn River Basin District  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report



- Loss and fragmentation of habitats;
- Soil sealing;
- Non-native species.

9.3.4 Opportunities to enhance links to and along the area's watercourses should be investigated as should small scale SuDS and strategic SuDS adjacent to the rivers providing links to green infrastructure.

9.3.5 Given reliance on abstraction from groundwater and the potential links of groundwater to the ecological status of sites of international importance for biodiversity, the long term sustainability of increasing water supplies ought to be investigated.

9.3.6 Alongside the re-opening of culverts that may assist in maintaining the oxygen concentrations of watercourses during the summer, Defra<sup>98</sup> identified measures that could be considered by Flood Authorities (see Table E9.3).

**Table E9.3: Flood Authorities Contributions to Sustainable Development**

- Increasing levels of awareness and preparedness of flood and coastal erosion risks among individuals and communities.
- Supporting the actions of individuals and communities to build their resilience to the consequences of a flood event.
- Ensuring accessibility to insurance for those at flood risk.
- Speeding up the recovery process by incorporating greater resilience measures into the design of new buildings.
- Deploying sustainable drainage systems (SuDs).
- Considering and implementing measures to reduce the impact of proposed developments on flood and coastal erosion risks in the preparation of Local Development Plans and the assessment of all planning applications.
- Management of the land to reduce storm runoff, harnessing peat lands and wetlands to store water or restoring and expanding salt marshes to reduce wave energy on coastal defences.
- Identifying areas suitable for inundation and water storage to prevent flooding elsewhere.
- Identifying 'roll back' and managed realignment in coastal areas where appropriate.
- Developing better warning systems.
- Ensuring effective emergency plans are in place for flood and coastal erosion emergencies.
- Improving the response to events by the emergency response organisations, as well as individuals and businesses.
- Ensuring effective recovery arrangements are in place.
- Retro-fitting historic buildings with flood resilience measures

9.3.7 The SFRA Level 2 identified the following challenges for consideration during the allocation of land for development:

- **Hurley Brook Tributary:** Prior to the allocation of development along the tributary, consideration with Network Rail of the future maintenance and use of the railway embankment is needed as it provides an informal flood defence. Opportunities for

<sup>98</sup> Defra, 2010: Consultation on Local Flood Authorities' contribution to sustainable development: Statutory Guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
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upstream flood storage should be discussed with the Environment Agency and the informal flood storage area should be protected. Appropriate SuDS techniques ought to be deployed.

- **Hurley Brook:** Similar approach to Hurley Brook Tributary. Opportunities to de-culvert the watercourse were identified.
- **Crow Brook:** Consider de-culverting the brook, application of SuDS and location of the more vulnerable housing developments away from Flood Zones 2 and 3.
- **Wall Brook:** Consider de-culverting the brook and application of SuDS.
- **Wesley Brook Tributary:** Safeguard as acting as an informal flood storage area. Prior to the allocation of development along the tributary, consideration with Network Rail of the future maintenance and use of the railway embankment is needed as it provides an informal flood defence. Application of SuDS techniques.
- **Mad Brook:** Safeguard as formal flood storage area. Consider de-culverting the brook and application of SuDS.

9.3.8 Opportunities include the contribution that development can make to help water bodies achieve good status under the Water Framework Directive, i.e. integrating SuDS into new developments, water efficiency measures etc. The following opportunities were identified in the SFRA Level 2 Report.

- Apply the sequential test to development;
- Protect functional floodplain;
- Apply the sequential approach within development sites;
- Enhance and restore river corridors;
- De-culvert where possible;
- Site development back from watercourses at a minimum of 8m;
- Reduce surface runoff to greenfield minus 20% volumes and application of SUDS;
- Use brownfield land in advance of greenfield sites;
- Maintain formal and informal flood storage areas;
- Require maintenance strategies for water channels
- Ensure dry pedestrian access at a 1 in 100 year risk level the flood plain.

## **E9.4 Uncertainties and Limitations**

9.4.1 The implications of population growth upon both water supply and wastewater treatment are not sufficiently clear to allow the subject to be scoped out.

9.4.2 There is no information available to indicate how the quality of watercourses may perform in future years, or the opportunities that might exist to reopen culverts to create more natural water features.

9.4.3 There are no significant uncertainties regarding flooding that affect the scoping process.

## **E9.5 Scoping**

9.4.4 Water supply issues ought to be reviewed with the Environment Agency and water companies to inform future scoping decisions at least insofar as development at Telford and Newport is concerned.

- 9.5.1 The implications of revised Core Strategy and future planning documents upon water quality are scoped out for authority-wide and Newport plans since this aspect is managed through planning and discharge consents.
- 9.5.2 In the rural area, water quality is influenced by agricultural runoff and the discharges from waste water treatment works, both outside the influence of spatial planning. Consequently water quality has been **scoped out** of future appraisals.
- 9.5.3 The Surface Water Action Plans prepared for Telford are at too detailed to aid the decision on whether flooding ought to be included or excluded, however sustainability appraisals within Telford ought to **scope in** flooding and risk reduction measures given the opportunities to reduce flood risk that could be delivered through plans particularly where the watercourses identified in paragraph 9.3.6 are affected.

## E9.6 Sustainability Objectives & Indicators

- 9.6.1 The sustainability objective is to:
- Incorporate measures into development proposals that contribute towards a reduction in flood risk aimed at providing a runoff rate less than greenfield rates.
- 9.6.2 The proposed indicators are:
- Number of properties given planning consent counter to the views of the Environment Agency;
  - Number of new major developments that deliver a runoff rate less than greenfield rates.
  - Length of culvert converted to an open watercourse per year.

## E10: SCOPING RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY

### E10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 This section provides a summary of the following:

- The scoping recommendations and their justification;
- A summary of the trends, objectives and potential indicators;
- The consultation questions.

10.1.2 It should be noted that while authority-wide objectives apply to all areas, additional objectives may also apply to the specific areas.

**Table E10.1: Environmental Sustainability Scoping Recommendations**

Sustainability Objectives	Authority-wide	Telford	Newport	Rural Areas	Reason
<b>Geological Sites</b>					
Geological sites	Out	Out	Out	Out	• Geological issues are more appropriately addressed during consideration of development proposals.
Soils	In	In	In	In	• Protection of peat soils is included given their importance as a carbon store.
Contaminated land	In	In	In	In	• Consideration of contaminated land is scoped in given its occurrence across Telford & Wrekin.
<b>Biodiversity</b>					
Nationally designated sites	In	In	In	In	• Biodiversity across all topics is scoped in given the local authority biodiversity duty although road kills and wildlife disturbance are considered during consent deliberations.
Locally designated sites	In	In	In	In	
Non-designated sites	In	In	In	In	
LDAP habitats and species	In	In	In	In	
Habitat fragmentation	In	In	In	In	
Road kills & wildlife disturbance	Out	Out	Out	Out	
<b>Green Infrastructure</b>					
Parks & gardens	In	In	In	Out	• Green infrastructure and provision of recreation is included due to its ecological services, public health and role in helping to promote inward investment. • As not need for specific rural policies was identified, this topic has been scoped out.
Semi-natural areas	In	In	In	Out	
Provision for children	In	In	In	Out	
Allotments	In	In	In	Out	

Landscape & Townscape					
AONB	In	Out	Out	Out	• While all issues are scoped in for authority-wide plans, elsewhere they are scoped out as areas specific policies are unlikely. • Scoping of landscape issues for Newport should be examined when plans are being considered. • Development activity around Athers Upton indicate that landscape issues should be scoped in for Rural Areas.
Landscape character & quality	In	In	?	In	
Design quality	In	In	Out	Out	
Sense of place/distinctiveness	In	In	Out	Out	
Historic Environment					
World Heritage Sites	In	In	Out	Out	• Most topics are appraised in authority-wide plans with the exception of farmsteads which feature in Rural Area Plans. • The need to appraise Conservation areas in Telford is to be determined later.
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	In	Out	Out	Out	
Historic parks & gardens	In	Out	Out	Out	
Conservation Areas	In	?	Out	Out	
Listed Buildings	In	Out	Out	Out	
Historic farmsteads	Out	Out	Out	In	
Archaeology	Out	Out	Out	Out	
Air Quality & Greenhouse Gases					
Air quality	Out	Out	Out	Out	• No air quality issues. • Reducing greenhouse gases and the potential for spatially focused policies has led to this topic being scoped in. • The nature of the Rural Area Plan would determine whether to include greenhouse gas emissions.
Greenhouse gas emissions	In	In	In	?	
Adaptation to Climate Change					
Adaptation/resilience	In	In	Out	Out	• These topics are appraised for authority-wide and Telford plans as these hav the greatest potential for change. • Little need for bespoke policies for Newport and the Rural Areas particularly given the likely ability of businesses to exploit low carbon opportunities.
Low carbon employment	In	In	Out	Out	
Environmental Noise					
Elevated noise levels	Out	Out	Out	Out	• Elevated noise levels identified for some roads are matters for the Local Transport Plan. • Tranquil areas yet to be identified and so could be included in the future.
Tranquil areas	?	Out	Out	Out	
Water Quality					
Surface water quality	Out	Out	Out	Out	• Water quality issues are excluded as managed through planning and discharge consents. • Managing lfood risks are to be appraised given opportunities available for plans to address these issues.
Floodplain development	In	In	In	In	
Attenuation of runoff	In	In	In	Out	
Culvert opening	In	In	In	Out	

## E10.2 Trends, Indicators and Objectives

10.2.1 Based on the information presented within this chapter, the following tables provide an overview of the anticipated trends for the various topics across the different spatial areas.

10.2.2 The anticipated trends are provided for the Telford, Newport and Rural area planning areas only where there is a difference to those presented for the authority-wide situation.

**Table E10.1: Summary of Geological Site & Soils Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend ☺ Positive, ☹ Same, ☹ Negative		
Geological Sites & Soils		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
☹ No information on status or Local Geological Sites or threats ☹ No information on condition of or threats to Weald Moor peat soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the protection of the Weald area of peats from development and human activities so that their carbon storage value is not degraded.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The area of peat lands lost to major development each year.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
☹ As authority-wide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maximise the productive potential of the land assets within Telford.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area of contaminated land remediated per annum.</li> <li>Area of greenfield land taken for major development each year.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
☹ No information on status or Local Geological Sites or threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
☹ No information on status or Local Geological Sites or threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

**Table E10.2: Summary of Biodiversity Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

<b>Trend ☺ Positive, ☹ Same, ☹ Negative</b>		
<b>Biodiversity</b>		
<b>Authority-wide</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<p>☺ Five Internationally designated sites within 20km</p> <p>☺ Eight Sites of Special scientific interest (372.3 ha) six of which are either in a favourable or unfavourable recovering situation. Newport Canal is in an unfavourable and declining situation</p> <p>☹ Five Local Nature Reserves (189.2ha) – no details on status</p> <p>☹ Continued fragmentation of habitat</p> <p>☹ Increased threat from climate change and human pressures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance the ecological connectivity of non-designated ecological sites and enhance LBAP priority habitats and species.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of major developments with net beneficial ecological effects.</li> <li>Number of major developments negatively affecting the integrity of wildlife corridors.</li> <li>Length of culverts converted to open channels with wildlife habitats.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<p>☺ Muxton Moor SSSI in an unfavourable recovering situation</p> <p>☺ Tick Wood &amp; Benthall Edge SSSI in and unfavourable recovering situation</p> <p>☹ No information on trends for LNRs</p> <p>☹ No information on trends for wildlife corridors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<p>☺ Aqualake Mere SSSI – generally unfavourable recovering situation</p> <p>☹ Newport Canal – Unfavourable declining condition</p> <p>☹ No information on trends for LNRs</p> <p>☹ No information on trends for wildlife corridors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that there are no significant effects upon the Aqualake Mere as part of the Midlands Meres and Mosses Phase 2 Ramsar site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is proposed that a leading indicator is developed with Natural England should a link between Newport and the state of Aqualake Mere exist.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Area</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<p>☺ Alscott Settling Ponds SSSI – favourable condition</p> <p>☺ The Wrekin &amp; The Ercall SSSI – Favourable condition</p> <p>☺ Lydebrook Dingle SSSI – Unfavourable recovering condition</p> <p>☺ Lincoln Hill SSSI – Unfavourable recovering condition</p> <p>☺ Hadley Brickpit SSSI – Favourable condition</p> <p>☹ No information on trends for LNRs</p> <p>☹ No information on trends for wildlife corridors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>



**Table E10.3: Summary of Green Infrastructure Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend ☺ Positive, ☹ Same, ☹ Negative		
Green Infrastructure		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☺ 38% of the land area of Telford consists of open space which is referred to as Green Network</p> <p>☺ 34% of respondents to the household survey use parks weekly and 11% visiting parks daily</p> <p>☺ Importance of green infrastructure and pedestrian corridors recognised</p> <p>☹ Some poor current provision with more capacity required in some areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver green infrastructure making Telford &amp; Wrekin an attractive place and contributes to the health and wellbeing of the local population.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual change in the net area of open space across all the use classes.</li> <li>Number of people served by improved levels of accessibility and levels of service provided by green infrastructure.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☹ Some poor current provision and more capacity required in some areas</p> <p>☺ Importance of green infrastructure and pedestrian corridors recognised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual change in the net area of open space across all the use classes in the town.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☺ Generally good quality of open space</p> <p>☹ Some deficiencies to be addressed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As Telford.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As Telford.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☺ No evidence of issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

**Table E10.4: Summary of Landscape & Townscape Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend ☺ Positive, ☹ Same, ☹ Negative		
Landscape & Townscape		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☹ No information on landscape condition or townscape</p> <p>☺ Landscape capacity identified</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect and enhance the landscape effects of development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Net number of trees provided from major development proposals.</li> <li>Number of trees removed subject to tree preservation orders.</li> <li>Percentage of the National Character Areas showing no change or showing change consistent with character area descriptions.</li> <li>Proportion of lighting columns fitted with low energy &amp; low glare units.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☹ No information on landscape condition</p> <p>☺ Landscape capacity identified</p> <p>☺ Importance of townscape recognised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect, enhance and retain areas which perform strategic landscape functions as well as aid promotion of public health and adaptation to climate change.</li> <li>To create a dynamic and inspiring townscape that helps design out crime, and creates a sense of place and local pride.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of major development proposals where landscape enhancement measures providing public health or climate change adaptation have been undertaken.</li> <li>Area of high quality landscape taken by development.</li> <li>Proportion of residents who consider that the quality of their local environment has improved measured on an annual basis.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
<p>☹ No information on landscape condition</p> <p>☺ Landscape capacity identified</p> <p>☺ Recent investment in the town bringing townscape improvements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not set until the need for a specific plan is established.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not set until the need for a specific plan is established.</li> </ul>

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Landscape & Townscape		
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😐 No information on landscape or townscape</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver new housing in a manner that protects and enhances landscape quality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of new housing situated within areas considered to exhibit high/medium landscape sensitivity.</li> </ul>

**Table E10.5: Summary of Historic Environment Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Historic Environment		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😞 Geological stability, renewal and visitor number pressures on Ironbridge WHS</p> <p>😐 No information on condition of 28 scheduled ancient monuments except for Charlton Castle in a “very bad condition”</p> <p>😐 No information on condition of seven Conservation Areas</p> <p>😐 No information on condition of 792 listed buildings</p> <p>😊 Historic farmsteads mapped</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance, conserve and protect heritage assets and their settings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of major development projects that enhance the significance of either heritage assets or historic landscape character.</li> <li>Number of major development projects that detract from the significance of heritage assets or historic landscape character.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😞 Geological stability, renewal and visitor number pressures on Iron Bridge WHS</p> <p>😐 No information on condition of Wellington Conservation Area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined later.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined later.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 Recent investment in the town bringing townscape improvements which are assumed to also benefit the Conservation Area</p> <p>😊 Recent investment in the town bringing townscape improvements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😐 No information on trends</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To aid the sustainable use of historic farmsteads.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of historic farmsteads for which an application for a change of use is in accordance with the Farmstead Assessment Framework.</li> </ul>

**Table E10.6: Summary of Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Emission Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Emissions		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 No air quality problems</p> <p>😊 Total territorial emissions are 1,263,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> / year or 7.8 tonnes for each resident, slightly less as the UK average of 7.9 tonnes, but also decreasing at a faster rate</p> <p>😞 While emissions are declining the rate is not meeting that required for the national targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality scoped out.</li> <li>To reduce annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% from 1990 levels, by 2050 (36% by 2026).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality scoped out.</li> <li>The total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the local authority area.</li> <li>The per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year.</li> <li>The number of major developments that have demonstrated reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during their design process as demonstrated through a BREEAM, CEEQUAL or other assessment.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 No air quality problems</p> <p>😐 No information available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 No air quality problems</p> <p>😐 No information available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
<p>😊 No air quality problems</p> <p>😐 No information available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality scoped out.</li> <li>Greenhouse gases scoped out.</li> </ul>

**Table E10.7: Summary of Adaptation to Climate Change Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Adaptation to Climate Change		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
😞 Little evidence of adaptation to climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver a built environment that is well adapted to cope with the changing weather conditions that are forecast.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proportion of the housing stock subject to low carbon renovation works.</li> <li>Average cost of extreme weather events per year.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide</li> <li>To assist in the development of economic activities so Telford is well placed to adapt to and exploit a low carbon environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

**Table E10.8: Summary of Acoustic Environment Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

Trend 😊 Positive, 😐 Same, 😞 Negative		
Noise		
Authority-wide	Objectives	Indicators
😞 Twelve sections of the A442, A518 and the M54 identified as first priority locations in the Authority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Telford	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Newport	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	Objectives	Indicators
😊 No information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

**Table E10.9: Summary of Water Quality and Flooding Trends, Sustainability Objectives and Indicators**

<b>Trend ☺ Positive, ☹ Same, ☹ Negative</b>		
<b>Water Quality &amp; Flooding</b>		
<b>Authority-wide</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☹ Declining surface and groundwater availability</li> <li>☹ Potential localised constraints on waste water treatment</li> <li>☹ Watercourses frequently in poor quality</li> <li>☹ Risk of flooding is expected to increase</li> <li>☹ Six watercourses identified for measures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water quality scoped out.</li> <li>Incorporate measures into development proposals that contribute towards a reduction in flood risk aimed at providing a runoff rate less than greenfield rates.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water quality scoped out.</li> <li>Number of properties exposed to a flood risk counter to the views of the Environment Agency.</li> <li>Number of new major developments that deliver a runoff rate that is less than greenfield rates.</li> <li>Length of culvert converted to an open watercourse per year.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☹ Risk of flooding is expected to increase</li> <li>☹ Six watercourses identified for measures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☹ Risk of flooding is expected to increase</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As authority-wide.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Area</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☹ Risk of flooding is expected to increase</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>

### E10.3 Consultation Questions

10.3.1 It would assist the appraisal process if responses could be made to the questions presented below.

#### Consultation Questions

- Do you agree with the scoping findings?
- Are there any significant biodiversity issues that ought to be addressed that have been omitted?
- Are there any significant landscape, townscape or historic environment issues that ought to be addressed that have been omitted?
- Do you have any views on the objectives and indicators that could be used during the assessment?
- Are there any other information sources that ought to be considered particularly for Newport and the Rural Areas?
- Do you have any views on the objectives and indicators that could be used during the appraisal?



## **PART F: INTER-RELATIONSHIPS AND INTERACTIONS**

### **F0: INTRODUCTION**

- 0.1.1 Building on the four themes examined in the previous parts of this Scoping Report, this part considers the inter-relationship between following four themes and also the potential interactions between the geographic planning areas.
- Sustainable economic development;
  - Resource management & material assets;
  - Sustainable communities;
  - Environmental sustainability.
- 0.1.2 The following part deals with sustainability objectives, indicators and monitoring. Within this part, a review is provided on how to approach the appraisal of plans against the proposed sustainability objectives.

## F1: SUSTAINABILITY PROFILE

### F1.1 Sustainable Economic Development

1.1.1 The sustainability profiles identified from Part B comprise:

- **Demographic Profile:** Younger than average UK population profile in Telford enhancing workforce population, but older profiles elsewhere in the Borough with anticipated significant decline in working age populations. Key commercial sectors, such as engineering and public sectors have large number of employees over the age of 45.
- **Employment Profile:** Lower than national and regional proportion of higher skilled employment across Telford & Wrekin but higher levels of plant/machinery and elementary occupations.
- **Business Profile:** Manufacturing and finance/IT, business activity sectors ahead of regional average.
- **Businesses:** Smallest number of VAT/PAYE employers in region, but greater number of business start-ups.
- **Inward Investors:** Potentially more mobile.
- **Gross Value Added:** Growing but at a rate less than the region and that of England.
- **Climate Change and Employment:** 30% of employees at high exposure to effects of a low carbon economy particularly those associated with the transport sector but better than the region.
- **Travel to Work:** 26% of jobs taken by in-commuters.
- **Leisure Economy:** Opportunities identified to increase leisure/evening economy use of town centre.
- **Safeguarding the local shops:** With increasing dominance of the large retailer, smaller local retailers are under threat not least of which are those in the rural communities. Local fresh food shops in deprived areas can assist in improving public health.

1.1.2 Newport exhibits particular strengths in professional services, but employment is dominated by small local businesses, but the town has an age profile that is considerably older than the rest of Telford & Wrekin with a large cohort coming up for retirement.

1.1.3 The rural areas provides for both a high percentage of small businesses while a large proportion of the rural workforce commute to urban areas for work. With a large number of people due to retire in the next few years, the working age population is could decline.

1.1.4 There does not appear to be any particular shortages of commercial development land, although refurbishment of low quality units, perhaps to become low carbon demonstrations has been identified.

1.1.5 A challenge is to increase income levels through higher value employment accessible to areas such as Brookside, Woodside and Malinslee through improved education, training and employment that is in close proximity reducing reliance upon private transport.

1.1.6 Housing conditions are in need of attention as affordable housing is in demand and some 15,100 dwellings failing to meet the Decent Homes Standard (13,000 of which are in the private sector). There is a link to economic development by having homes that are decent and energy efficient in that they contribute to a healthier population that is then better able to take advantage of education and training as well as be less prone to health related absences from work.

1.1.7 The implications of demographics, transport costs, the low carbon economy as well as businesses relying upon inward commuters, implies that actions are needed to ensure future sustainable economic development. While most actions revolve around skills and training to meet the needs of business, the contribution of spatial planning is perhaps as follows:

- Delivery of a vibrant town centre to help retain mobile skilled and professional groups particularly those in the younger age range;
- Ensure ready supply of quality business premises with low transport costs;
- Provision of housing able to attract inward commuters and those with the skills required by businesses;
- Deliver the green infrastructure and outdoor amenities that might help to retain/attract higher skilled/mobile employees;
- Assist in the underpinning of rural businesses by concentrating rural housing around key settlements;
- Spatial planning to engage in the multi-agency regeneration of deprived wards directing the use of land to meet local needs.

**Key Challenge:**

Delivery of a skilled and healthy workforce able to retain/attract the businesses able to expand over the next 15 years.

## F1.2 Resource Management & Material Assets

- 1.2.1 The resource management and material assets component of sustainable development is focused upon the essential resources and infrastructure needed to support a healthy population and economy. It focuses upon waste, minerals, energy, water, transport, broadband and community assets such as health care, schools and community centres.
- 1.2.2 The sustainability profiles identified from Part C comprise:
- **Reducing the waste generated:** While only about 10% of the waste generated in Telford & Wrekin is defined as municipal waste, the majority is generated through the development sector and through the production of goods and services. There is a legal and financial imperative to reduce the amount of waste being generated and to divert materials into reuse or recycling. Good progress has been made in terms of the amount of waste generated per household and in the amount recycled, but further improvements are required.
  - **Adaptive waste management:** As the waste management sector is highly dynamic, it is sensitive to resource materials costs, transport and energy costs as well as the effect of new technologies such as anaerobic digestion. Consequently new revenue streams emerge when none previously existed such as for food waste while others may fluctuate widely in their value such as paper. With the desire to establish a leisure and evening economy in the town centre, this is likely to change the nature of the wastes generated with potentially an increasing quantity of food waste, which in the context of climate change, may pose increasing health hazards. Domestic waste collection is influenced by the available space for domestic storage. Consequently an adaptive approach to waste management is needed.
  - **Use of secondary aggregates:** As part of reducing demand for new aggregates and waste disposal promoting the use of recycled or secondary aggregates forms part of the sustainable husbandry of natural resources. No information has been obtained on the consumption of construction materials.
  - **Increasing energy costs:** The prospect of higher energy and fuel costs is likely to increase the difficulties of people to access work, education, health and retail areas, particularly for the elderly and those in rural wards. Also, some 30% of the housing stock constructed between 1965 and 1975 pose problems in relation to promoting energy efficiency. Perhaps as a result of increasing cost, domestic energy consumption has declined since 2006.
  - **Opportunities for renewable energy:** Considerable potential exists for commercial wind and the micro-generation of heat and power. Interventions to address total heat demand could be targeted upon key wards in north Telford.

- **Constrained water supply:** Groundwater resources are over-abstracted. Licences due for renewal will only be approved providing they pass the three tests of demonstrating need, being water efficient and being environmentally sustainable. Severn Trent Water anticipate reducing demand by water efficiency and reducing leakage rates. Sites of international ecological importance may constrain future water supplies where groundwater abstraction could have a bearing upon their ecological integrity.
- **Waste water treatment capacities:** While capacity is generally adequate, further investment may be needed at Coalport and Waters Upton as the latter has no further capacity.
- **Reconfiguration of the transport system:** The Local Transport Plan describes the context and transport measures proposed to improve transport infrastructure to aid economic growth, improve public transport and non-motorised modes. Road safety measures and measures to reduce reliance on fossil fuels are also proposed. While the focus is upon Telford, there is a need to ensure that the needs of the less mobile elderly population in rural areas are also addressed.
- **Broadband as a gateway to new methods of service delivery:** Broadband availability is essential to businesses and increasingly to an array of services that may help reduce the need to travel.
- **Demographics affecting school needs:** There are increasing numbers of pupils entering primary schools that will then pass onto secondary schools, although the secondary school at Newport is four times over-subscribed.
- **Structure of education provision:** Increasing challenges exist for LEA funded schools which with a dispersed provision increases the transport demand, congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. Good relationships with schools and LEAs in neighbouring areas are needed.
- **Primary and secondary health care facilities:** With new health sector organisations and a Health & Well-being body to be established, the vision of the Health Care Strategy up to 2020 is a key requirement to set out the shape of the future health estate.

1.2.3 Spatial planning can assist in delivering enhanced resource management and in the management of material assets by:

- Helping to reduce the costs of waste disposal borne by businesses by ensuring that building design and construction is undertaken in a manner that meets the objective of halving the construction & demolition waste passing to landfill;
- Ensuring that the design of new developments provides adequate provision for the safe storage of segregated materials;
- Ensure that the design of the public realm is such that “on-the-go recycling” and street cleaning operations are more efficient and effective;
- Ensuring that new housing designs adequately consider waste management needs;
- Requiring public development to maximise use of secondary aggregates and by requiring private sector developments to demonstrate their contribution towards sustainable development;
- Preparing energy strategies with the private sector for those areas experiencing fuel poverty;
- Establish requirements for major developers in areas of high heat demand to make provision for distributed heat systems;
- Confirm with the Environment Agency and Severn Trent Water that water supply will not constrain future housing and employment growth;
- Confirm with Severn Trent Water that adequate time is available to upgrade facilities in advance of additional housing provision;
- Encourage developers to make enhanced provision for pedestrians and cyclists;
- Develop a broadband strategy for the rural areas and the elderly and less mobile members among residents;
- Explore how demographics and housing provision affects future school provision;
- Discuss with the Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust future health infrastructure needs.

**Key challenge:**

To provide timely capacity for the management of resources at material assets in an efficient manner to underpin economic development and demographic change.

## F1.3 Sustainable Communities

1.3.1 This section explores the subjects of demography, deprivation, public health, crime and safety.

1.3.2 The sustainability profile taken from Part D focuses upon the following:

- **In-migration set to decline:** Recently there has been a net out-migration from Telford & Wrekin placing reliance on natural growth suggesting a population some 23,000 less than the target of 220,000.
- **Decreasing workforce as proportion of the population:** While better than many areas, the proportion of the workforce is expected to decline with steeper declines facing Newport and the rural areas.
- **Increasingly elderly population:** The large increase in elderly residents particularly in Newport and the rural areas will place an increasing demand on housing, health and other services. Older people are expected to make up 48% of the net growth in households by 2026 and housing is required to be built to the Lifetime Homes Standard. Existing housing must also be adapted to meet the needs of the ageing population<sup>99</sup>. For those who wish to remain in family homes, adaptation measures and home focused services will be needed. There will be a near doubling of those with long term limiting illness aged over 65 and a near doubling in the number of people with dementia by 2026. As dementia and physical disabilities become more common so the need for care homes and hospices will increase. Many older people experience greater fear of crime which can curtail their activities contributing to greater isolation and reduced activity which in turn leads to poorer health and reliance upon public services. The design of the environment is crucial not just in terms of security but also access. Poor quality pavements, potential trip hazards, difficult road crossings and lack of dropped curbs can all limit older adult's ability to access their communities.
- **Public health not as good as the national average:** The health of people in Telford & Wrekin is generally poorer than the average for England. While the area is performing statistically worse across 14 of the 32 indicators it does statistically better for violent crime, physically active children, binge drinking, hospital stays for alcohol related harm, TB and road injuries and deaths. Premature mortality rates from circulatory diseases for both men and women are statistically significantly worse than the national average
- **Improved life expectancy:** Life expectancy has increased although it remains below the national average. There are strong inequalities with life expectancy for men being significantly lower in the more deprived areas than in the more affluent areas. Also in six out of 34 electoral wards, the under 18 year old conception rates are significantly higher than the national average<sup>100</sup>.
- **Links between deprivation, poor housing, fuel poverty and poor health:** Those communities with poor health tend to experience multiple deprivations making them less able to fulfil their potential. A relationship exists between the tenure of an older resident's home and the likelihood of their having either "not good" general health and or a long term life limiting illness<sup>101</sup>. Ten percent of the housing stock does not meet the decent homes standard while public transport can compound social isolation.
- **Need for healthier lifestyles:** Adult obesity incurs a cost to Telford & Wrekin of £42 million per year. The prevalence of childhood obesity amongst 4-5 year olds is significantly higher than the national average and in general people do not eat their "five a day". Just 20% of the area's adult population engage in thirty minutes of moderate intensity physical exercise three times a

<sup>99</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2009: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Executive Summary

<sup>100</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT, 2008: Strategic Plan

<sup>101</sup> Telford & Wrekin PCT and Telford & Wrekin Borough Council, 2006: Older People's Strategy 2006-2016

week. Participation is lower for some groups of people, particularly those who are likely to experience difficulty in accessing leisure services.

- **Dominance of the private car:** Reducing levels of walking, cycling and use of public transport does not help in reducing greenhouse gas emissions nor help in reducing obesity. However rural communities have little alternative. Need to consider mobility needs of the elderly when no longer able to drive. A relative high proportion of the population currently have difficulty accessing health services.
- **Improving crime and safety:** Approximately 40% of violent crime is alcohol related with the night-time economy being associated with crime and anti-social behaviour.

1.3.3 Health and deprivation are closely associated and Telford & Wrekin exhibits levels of deprivation that vary considerably with some areas in the 10% most deprived nationally and others ranked in the 10% least deprived nationally. Some 38,600 people are living in the 20% most deprived areas in England. Not surprisingly the number of children dependent on out of work benefits is above the national average. The deprivation extends to education with some 61,600 people considered to experience such deprivation. Several wards feature regularly in the index of multiple deprivation.

1.3.4 Spatial planning has the potential to directly influence public health by assisting in making it easier for people to adopt healthier lifestyles. There are numerous sources of advice available. While the housing stock typically changes only by 1% per year, there is a need to ensure that the housing needs of an elderly population are being catered for. There is also a need to recognise the access to local services that an elderly population needs. Designing public realm and open space to enhance security and safety is also part of encouraging people to take more physical exercise and so help reduce obesity and promote better health.

**Key challenge:**

To enhance the health of the community and reduce health inequalities to a) address the needs of the increasing elderly population and b) to help deliver a healthy workforce.

## F1.4 Environmental Sustainability

1.4.1 This topic addressed in Part E considers the sustainability of the natural environment although it is to be recognised that there is frequently an absence of information on the trends, value, capacities and on ecosystem service provision.

1.4.2 The key sustainability themes to emerge include:

- **Biodiversity has an uncertain future:** With five internationally designated sites within 20km of Telford & Wrekin the effects of climate change and water abstraction may indirectly lead to adverse change that then is reflected in the amount of water that can be abstracted. While the condition of nationally designated sites is improving, there is no information on the state of wildlife and the services provided by natural areas.
- **Green Infrastructure:** Telford & Wrekin is characterised by abundant green space, however there is an imbalance in the distribution of high quality sites across the urban areas with poorer quality sites in Newport. A forecast shortfall in children's teenage and outdoor facilities as well as allotments is set to occur by 2016. Considerable evidence exists to demonstrate the importance of well designed open space to improve public health.
- **Landscape change:** While the landscape has been characterised and the capacity of areas in the vicinity of some settlements to accommodate additional housing determined, there is an absence of information on the state of the landscape and how it may change as a result of climate change, agricultural practices, and the activities of the renewable energy sector etc.
- **Historic environment:** The historic environment in the case of Ironbridge is recognised to bring economic and educational benefits, however the sustainability of the car based visitors and the underlying geological conditions suggest that enhanced management is required. Elsewhere the



status of the seven Conservation Areas and other historic assets, including historic farmsteads is unknown, although it is suggested that a challenge exists between enabling productive uses to sustain historic farmsteads in remote or isolated areas and encouraging development within the larger rural settlements to enhance their sustainability.

- **Two faces to townscape:** There are two faces to the townscape agenda; the first is to create a sense of place and identity to Telford town centre through innovative design that strengthens public thoroughfares. The second is that of recognising the character that can be created by good urban design of both buildings and the public realm.
- **Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions are improving:** No air quality problems exist and emissions of greenhouse gases have been declining faster than in the region, but further effort is required to contribute towards the Government target..
- **Adapting to climate change and flood risk:** This extends beyond reducing the risk from flooding, but includes the health effects of high summer temperatures, increased number of vector borne diseases as well as changes to the business sector as the low carbon economy changes the environment within which businesses operate. Six watercourses have been identified in Telford where flood risk needs to be managed.
- **Noise:** Twelve priority locations requiring noise action plans at several locations along the A442, A518 and M54 have been identified. Tranquil areas are also to be identified.
- **Water quality at risk:** Nutrient enrichment from agricultural runoff and from waste water treatment is a significant pressure on water quality across the watercourses.

- 1.4.3 The planning response to maintaining environmental sustainability is impaired by an apparent lack of information on the state of the environment. It is also weakened by an absence of information on the ecosystem services being provided and area or landscape wide strategies in line with the Natural Environment White Paper.
- 1.4.4 There is an absence of information on how the landscape may change particularly in the context of the agricultural economy, climate change and how renewable technologies may develop. Hence there appears to be no evidence base on which to appraise and manage landscape change.
- 1.4.5 While there is an understandable focus on the World Heritage Site, the management of Conservation Areas and the townscape is important to the promotion of a sense of place and identity that can further the economic attractiveness of the area.
- 1.4.6 Opportunities for spatial planning to contribute towards the provision of amenity and recreational space as well as the establishment of safe routes for walking and cycling are well rehearsed in the Core Strategy. A key action would be to address the affordable housing needs of the rural areas and to help maintain the viability of village life by sustaining younger members of the population while also supporting village shops. It would also be desirable to explore ways in which transport and spatial planning could help in supporting improved access to urban based services.
- 1.4.7 While water quality is the responsibility of the Environment Agency and there is little direct action that the planning system can undertake, spatial planning can contribute by the delivery of sustainable urban drainage systems and opening up culverts to provide enhanced amenity, aid oxygenation and manage flood risk.

**Key challenge:**

Develop an understanding of the services provided by the natural environment and value those assets found within Telford & Wrekin to develop a landscape scale or area-wide management strategy.

## **F1.5 Local Variations in Sustainability Agenda**

- 1.5.1 The sustainability agenda varies across Telford & Wrekin. While there is an authority-wide agenda, the characteristics of Telford, Newport and the rural areas lead to a conclusion that different sustainability priorities exist.
- 1.5.2 Essentially, the Telford agenda focuses upon sustainable economic development and developing the workforce, while the agenda for Newport is focused upon managing the effects of a declining workforce and an increasingly elderly population in the context of proximity to Stafford and the dynamics of the neighbouring county. The rural areas appears to be one of managing the potential for substantial change as the growing elderly population faces increasing isolation from services unless development can help sustain rural services at key settlements.

## **F1.6 Inter-relationships**

- 1.6.1 Key to the sustainability of Telford & Wrekin is the continued diversification of the economy and the development of a workforce able to a) grow its own businesses and b) meet the needs of existing and future businesses. Ultimately, sustainability for the area is about enhancing the qualities of the workforce at a time when the population is becoming increasingly elderly and new forces such as those of a low carbon economy and increasing energy costs increase uncertainty.
- 1.6.2 Enhancing the quality of the workforce involves providing a total offer (housing, retail, environment, community and health services) that will again set Telford as a place to migrate to. Enhancing the workforce also means addressing the inequalities and deprivation so that more of the workforce may become economically productive. Addressing deprivation is clearly a multi-agency task, but one where spatial planning through regeneration efforts has the potential to deliver change. Without the opportunity of major assets such as an airport or the potential High Speed 2, Telford & Wrekin will need to develop its own assets and build upon the qualities that already exist.
- 1.6.3 The demographic profile is such that the Council is facing increasing challenges in managing the housing, transport and access to health and other services of the elderly population particularly in the rural areas and Newport. Allied to this is the increasing frequency of dementia and long term limiting illnesses as well as the long term implications of adult and child obesity means that the public health and community agenda is also central to delivering a sustainable community.
- 1.6.4 The natural environment while offering assets that generate economic value is not well understood in terms of the services and value it provides as well as how it may change over time. Here investment in knowledge is required to best direct resources in line with the Natural Environment White Paper.
- 1.6.5 The relationships between the rural communities and access to services based in the urban centres as well as the maintenance of viable rural services is a key dynamic to be addressed.

## F2: SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS AND MONITORING

### F2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 This chapter draws together the various sustainability objectives and indicators that have been identified for the following themes:
- Sustainable economic development;
  - Resource management & material assets;
  - Community & public amenities;
  - Public health & safety;
  - Environmental sustainability.
- 2.1.2 The sustainability objectives are reviewed against those adopted in the 2008 sustainability Scoping Report with the desire of reducing the number to a manageable set for future appraisals.
- 2.1.3 The 2008 Scoping Report proposed a total of 23 sustainability objectives grouped into social, environmental and economic themes.
- 2.1.4 This 2011 Scoping Report has adopted four themes as noted above and hence there has been a need to re-package and also to re-define the 2008 objectives in the light of the consultee feedback on the 2008 report and the current evidence base.
- 2.1.5 It is further noted that the 2011 Scoping Report provides for the focusing of specific sustainability objectives on specific areas and thus further refinement was required. Finally, an objective was to squarely centre the sustainability objectives on those elements that were within the ambit of spatial planning since the purpose is to develop objectives against which future spatial plans can be appraised. Consequently, some of the 2008 objectives have been either amended or excluded where they are not spatially focused, supported by the current evidence or within the remit of spatial planning.

### F2.2 Sustainable Economic Development

- 2.2.1 The sustainable economic development objectives proposed in this Scoping Report recognise the role of employment land and combating deprivation as being central to sustainable economic development. While the number of objectives doubles to six, they are also more specific in their focus (See Table F2.1).

**Table F2.1: Comparison of Sustainability Objectives 2008 and 2011**

2008 Objectives	2011 Objectives
<b>Sustainable Economic Development</b>	
<b>Employment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a balance of employment opportunities across all sectors.</li> <li>• To improve economic competitiveness in the area.</li> </ul>	<b>Employment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To contribute to regeneration and economic development initiatives that help deliver a low carbon economy spatially targeted towards specific community groups.</li> <li>• To reduce the number of people with difficulties accessing employment, education and training opportunities.</li> </ul> <b>Employment land</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and starter business premises.</li> </ul>

2008 Objectives	2011 Objectives
<b>Housing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide a range of housing that meets the needs of the Council area accompanied by adequate supporting infrastructure.</li> </ul>	<b>Housing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the supply and affordability of accommodation for all groups in areas of greatest need.</li> <li>Locate housing in areas with good accessibility to employment, services and amenities.</li> </ul>

2.2.2 The following specific objectives have been set for the Telford, Newport and Rural Areas:

**Telford:**

- To diversify employment opportunities.
- To deliver the housing needs across all sections of society.
- To develop the central retail area in a manner that provides a set of attributes capable of attracting and retaining young mobile members of the workforce as well as enhancing the attractiveness of the town to inward investment opportunities.
- To protect and enhance district and local retail offers while enhancing the central retail offer such that local needs are catered for particularly for those retail outlets supporting those areas featuring frequently in the Index of Multiple Deprivation

**Newport:**

- To promote the growth of high technology and professional services focused businesses.

**Rural Areas:**

- To enhance the economic resilience of the rural economy.
- To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land.
- To provide local needs including provision of affordable homes.
- To help support rural communities through measures that aid the viability of service delivery methods that meet the needs of a rapidly ageing rural population.

## F2.3 Resource Management & Material Assets

2.3.1 The indicators selected for resource management & material assets are presented below in Table F2.2. Soils have been removed from this theme and located within environmental sustainability.

**Table F2.2: Comparison of Sustainability Objectives 2008 and 2011**

2008 Objectives	2011 Objectives
<b>Resource Management &amp; Material Assets</b>	
<b>Waste &amp; Materials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the generation of waste and maximise re-use and recycling.</li> <li>To promote the use of resources efficiently, as well as sustainably sourced products and resources and re-used and recycled products.</li> </ul>	<b>Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver continued reduction in the quantities of waste being generated and the quantities being disposed of at landfill.</li> </ul> <b>Minerals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the quantities of primary aggregate required for building and infrastructure projects by maximising the use of secondary aggregates to allocate sand and gravel sites for future working to contribute towards sub regional apportionments, to protect mineral resources from sterilisation.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute towards the reduction in the use of carbon intensive energy.</li> </ul>

2008 Objectives	2011 Objectives
<b>Resource Management &amp; Material Assets</b>	
<b>Soils</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make best use of previously developed land (providing this does not harm its biodiversity value) and buildings.</li> <li>To reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity.</li> </ul> <b>Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the need to travel and promote modes of travel other than the car.</li> <li>To increase energy efficiency and increase the use of renewable energy.</li> </ul>	<b>Water supply &amp; waste water treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To minimise demand upon water resources (surface and groundwater) and to enable the timely provision of adequate waste water treatment to support increased housing provision.</li> </ul> <b>Transport</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make travel more reliable and efficient, to attract jobs and support growth and regeneration as well as allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.</li> </ul> <b>Broadband</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined in relation to the plan.</li> </ul> <b>Health care, schools, sport, leisure &amp; community centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To work with other service providers to enable the timely provision of community facilities to accord with the delivery of new houses.</li> </ul>

2.3.2 The following specific objectives have been set for the Telford, Newport and Rural Areas:

**Telford:**

- Deliver significant reductions in water demand from public supplies across development proposals through a combination of water harvesting and water conservation measures.
- To make travel more reliable and efficient, to attract jobs and support growth and regeneration as well as allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.
- To deliver an urban fabric that aids the mobility of all residents within the town and enhances the sense of place and coherence of the town.

**Rural Areas:**

- To allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.

2.3.3 The attention given to water supply in the Telford area reflects the uncertainty on whether groundwater supply restrictions can be met by the actions of Severn Trent and recognises the contributions that can be made through spatial planning.

## F2.4 Sustainable Communities

2.4.1 The public health and safety theme is addressed in a different manner to the 2008 Scoping Report in public health has been addressed within sustainable communities with education taken on board in a wider definition of community facilities under resource management and material assets. For the specific areas additional objectives have been identified as presented below.

**Table F2.3: Comparison of Sustainability Objectives 2008 and 2011**

2008 Objectives	2011 Objectives
<b>Community &amp; Public Amenity</b>	
<b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce poverty and social exclusion.</li> </ul>	<b>Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To achieve a population profile in balance with the employment opportunities that the travel to work area is able to provide.</li> </ul>

2008 Objectives	2011 Objectives
<b>Community &amp; Public Amenity</b>	
<b>Public Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the population's health and reduce inequalities in health.</li> </ul> <b>Crime</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce and prevent anti social activity, crime and fear of crime.</li> </ul> <b>Accessibility</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote accessibility to a range of services and facilities to meet people's basic needs.</li> </ul> <b>Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the education and skills of the population.</li> </ul>	<b>Deprivation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide an environment that helps retain well-educated members of the work force</li> <li>Assist in measures to address community deprivation.</li> </ul> <b>Public Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the health and well-being of the population by developing specialist and supported housing and services to meet the needs of the vulnerable and ageing population as well as improve access to leisure, employment, transport, education and life- long learning opportunities specifically for the disadvantaged members of society.</li> <li>To create opportunities for the community to reduce levels of obesity.</li> <li>To enable vulnerable people to live independently by supporting local retail and community services minimising the need to travel.</li> </ul> <b>Crime &amp; Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure urban design and layout contributes towards reducing the potential for crime.</li> </ul>

2.4.2 The following specific objectives have been set for the Telford, Newport and Rural Areas:

**Telford:**

- To reduce the population within the top 10% most deprived areas across each of the separate deprivation themes.

**Rural Areas:**

- To seek to aid the viability of rural services by managing the distribution of new housing.
- To help maintain the viability of rural communities and their ability to access care services.

## F2.5 Environmental Sustainability

2.5.1 The final topic is that of Environmental Sustainability which has been addressed by nine sustainability objectives that includes townscape (See Table F2.4).

**Table F2.4: Comparison of Sustainability Objectives 2008 and 2011**

2008 Objectives	2011 Objectives
<b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	
<b>Landscape</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect and enhance the quality of the landscape and the countryside.</li> </ul> <b>Biodiversity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect and enhance wildlife and habitats which are important on an international, national and local scale.</li> </ul>	<b>Soils</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the protection of the Weald area of peats from development and human activities so that their carbon storage value is not degraded.</li> </ul> <b>Biodiversity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance the ecological connectivity of non-designated ecological sites and enhance LBAP priority habitats and species.</li> </ul>



<p><b>Geodiversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance geological and geomorphological diversity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Historic Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect and where appropriate enhance the landscape, buildings, sites and features of archaeological, historical or architectural interest and their settings.</li> </ul> <p><b>Climate Change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To address the causes of climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect and enhance the availability and quality of water resources.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Green Infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To deliver the quantity and quality of green infrastructure to help to maintain Telford &amp; Wrekin as a good place to live and work and also to contribute to the health and wellbeing of the local population.</li> </ul> <p><b>Landscape</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect and enhance the landscape effects of development in recognition of the European Landscape Convention as well as the risks and opportunities associated with measures to address climate change</li> </ul> <p><b>Townscape</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To deliver improvements in townscape and enhance local distinctiveness.</li> </ul> <p><b>Historic Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To enhance, conserve and protect heritage assets and their setting to the urban environment as part of development projects.</li> </ul> <p><b>Air Quality &amp; Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% from 1990 levels, by 2050 (36% by 2026).</li> </ul> <p><b>Adaptation to Climate Change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To deliver a built environment that is well adapted to cope with the changing weather conditions that are forecast.</li> </ul> <p><b>Water Quality and Flooding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate measures into development proposals that contribute towards a reduction in flood risk aimed at providing a runoff rate less than greenfield rates.</li> </ul>
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2.5.2 Area specific objectives have been set as recorded below:

**Telford:**

- To maximise the productive potential of the land assets within Telford.
- To deliver the quantity and quality of open space assets to help to maintain the town as a good place to live, work and also to contribute to the health and wellbeing of the local population.
- To deliver a landscape which protects that which is values, enhances and retains that which performs strategic landscape functions as well as aids in the promotion of public health and adaptation to climate change.
- To create a dynamic and inspiring townscape that aids rather than hinders the progression towards sustainable development by designing out crime, aiding social cohesion and creating a sense of place and pride in the districts that comprise Telford.
- To assist in the development of economic activities so Telford is well placed to adapt to and exploit a low carbon environment.

**Newport:**

- To ensure that there are no direct, indirect or cumulative effects associated with the spatial development of Newport that give rise to significant effects upon the Aqualate Mere as part of the Midlands Meres and Mosses Phase 2 Ramsar site.

**Rural Areas:**

- To deliver new housing in a manner that protects and enhances landscape quality.

- To aid the retention of historic farmsteads in a productive use in a manner that does not conflict with the desire of increasing the viability of higher order rural settlements.

### F3: APPRAISAL RATIONALE

- 3.1.1 The appraisal rationale, an interpretation of the SA Framework, to be utilised to assist the appraisal of policies and proposal contained in the revised Core Strategy and future plans as they arise, is presented in below (see Table F3.1 to F3.4).
- 3.1.2 As SA is an iterative process, so new or site specific issues that may arise throughout the plan making process will be subsumed into the SA framework for the future plans during their development.

**Table F3.1: Appraisal Rationale – Sustainable Economic Development**

SA Objective	Appraisal Rationale
<b>Sustainable Economic Development - Employment</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To contribute to regeneration and economic development initiatives with a focus on a low carbon economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies enhance the employment opportunities of those areas experiencing deprivation and rural isolation.</li> <li>Extent to which measures are taken to promote a low carbon economy.</li> </ul>
To reduce difficulties accessing employment, education and training opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving the ability of people to access employment, education and training opportunities.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	
To diversify employment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether a variety of employment opportunities are likely to emerge from the site allocations.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	
To promote the growth of high technology and professional services focused businesses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether the existing employment profile in high technology and professional services businesses is supported.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>	
To enhance the economic resilience of the rural economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies increase the potential for rural businesses to become established.</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainable Economic Development – Employment Land</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and starter business premises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver employment land attractive to inward investment and also provide for a range of business units.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	
To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and small business premises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the employment land needs of Newport are being met.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>	
To ensure an appropriate supply of employment land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the employment land needs of rural economies are being addressed.</li> </ul>

Sustainable Economic Development – Housing	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
Improve the supply and affordability of accommodation for all groups in areas of greatest need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Affordability issues;</li> <li>Size of property needed to retain/attract employees;</li> <li>The needs of an ageing population;</li> </ul> </li> <li>Provision being made for travellers &amp; gypsies.</li> </ul>
Locate housing in areas with good accessibility to employment, services and amenities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which housing sites are served by sustainable transport modes.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	
To deliver the housing needs across all sections of society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the housing needs of an elderly population, and attract a skilled workforce.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	
No sustainability objectives can be defined at present.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>	
To provide local needs and provision of affordable homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Affordability issues;</li> <li>Needs of rural businesses.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Sustainable Economic Development – Community Deprivation	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To provide an environment that helps retain well-educated members of the work force.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies enhance the environmental and community services on offer.</li> </ul>
Assist in measures to address community deprivation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies enhance diversity of employment, crime and public health.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	
To reduce the population within the top 10% most deprived areas across each of the separate deprivation themes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies have specific benefits for the most deprived areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	
As the subject has been scoped out no sustainability objectives are proposed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>	
To help maintain the viability of rural communities and their ability to access care services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies address the needs of rural communities.</li> </ul>
Sustainable Economic Development – Retail	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
Scoped out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoped out.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	
To develop the central retail area in a manner that provides a set of attributes capable of attracting and retaining young mobile members of the workforce as well as enhancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the retail offer is enhanced.</li> </ul>

the attractiveness of the town to inward investment opportunities.	
To protect and enhance district and local retail offers while enhancing the central retail offer such that local needs are catered for particularly for those retail outlets supporting those areas featuring frequently in the Index of Multiple Deprivation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which district and local retail offers are enhanced.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	
To be determined later.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined later.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Areas</b>	
To help support rural communities through measures that aid the viability of service delivery methods that meet the needs of a rapidly ageing rural population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies support the viability of existing retail services.</li> </ul>

**Table F3.2: Appraisal Rationale – Resource Management & Material Assets**

SA Objective	Appraisal Rationale
<b>Waste</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To deliver continued reduction in the quantities of waste being generated and the quantities being disposed of at landfill.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies promote sustainable construction techniques for new development proposals as demonstrated via evidence such as BREEAM and CEEQUAL.</li> <li>Consider policies that require sufficient land to be allocated to encourage self-sufficiency in waste management and processing within housing and commercial development.</li> <li>Extent to which policies promote the waste hierarchy with the encouragement of re-use and recycling of materials including food wastes across the municipal and commercial waste streams.</li> </ul>
<b>Mineral Resources</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To reduce the quantities of primary aggregate required for building and infrastructure projects by maximising the use of secondary aggregates to allocate sand and gravel sites for future working to contribute towards sub regional apportionments, to protect mineral resources from sterilisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies promote sustainable construction techniques for new development proposals as demonstrated via evidence such as BREEAM and CEEQUAL.</li> <li>Extent to which policies make adequate provision for the storage and recycling of aggregate and building materials.</li> </ul>
<b>Energy</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
Contribute towards the reduction in the use of carbon intensive energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent to which policies promote the use of low embodied energy materials from sustainable sources and material from local sources and suppliers in the construction of new</li> </ul>

	<p>developments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of policies which require new build and retrofit development to meet BREEAM and the Ecohomes 'very good'/Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4.</li> <li>• Consider indirect effects of development located to reduce transport distances and design factors such as building orientation (linked to passive solar gain) and building form.</li> <li>• Whether policies encourage the use of renewable energy technologies in new developments and renewable generation schemes at commercial and micro-generation scales.</li> </ul>
<b>Water Supply &amp; Waste Water Treatment</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To minimise demand upon water resources (surface and groundwater) and to enable the timely provision of adequate waste water treatment to support increased housing provision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which policies include measures that require developers to demonstrate how they have reduced water demand.</li> <li>• Extent to which policies sequence development such that adequate capacity is available from waste water treatment plans to respond to additional flows.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	
Deliver significant reductions in water demand from public supplies across development proposals through a combination of water harvesting and water conservation measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which policies include measures that require developers to demonstrate how they have reduced water demand.</li> </ul>
<b>Transport Infrastructure</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To make travel more reliable and efficient, as well as enhance access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider whether policies reduce reliance on the private car.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	
To deliver an urban fabric that aids the mobility of all residents within the town and enhances the sense of place and coherence of the town.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider whether policies aid mobility by creating a layout that aids mobility.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Area</b>	
To allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which policies support access to services.</li> </ul>
<b>Broadband Communications</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To be determined later.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be determined later.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Area</b>	
To be determined later.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be determined later.</li> </ul>



Health Care & Schools etc	
Authority-wide	
Facilitate the timely provision of community facilities to accord with the delivery of new houses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which plans address current and emerging need for community facilities.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	
To be determined later.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined later.</li> </ul>

**Table F3.3: Appraisal Rationale – Sustainable Communities**

SA Objective	Appraisal Rationale
Population	
Authority-wide	
To achieve a population profile in balance with the employment opportunities that the travel to work area is able to provide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which housing, employment and transport and policies assist in moderating the amount of inward and outward commuting.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	
To seek to aid the viability of rural services by managing the distribution of new housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether site allocations directly or indirectly assist in supporting rural services.</li> </ul>
Community Deprivation	
Authority-wide	
To provide an environment that helps retain well-educated members of the work force.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies contribute towards the retention of mobile professionals.</li> </ul>
To assist in measures to address community deprivation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which measures contribute towards the alleviation of deprivation.</li> </ul>
Telford	
To reduce the population within the top 10% most deprived areas across each of the separate deprivation themes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which measures target areas experience deprivation and contribute towards its alleviation.</li> </ul>
Rural Area	
To help maintain the viability of rural communities and their ability to access care services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether site allocations directly or indirectly assist in supporting access to care services.</li> </ul>
Public Health	
Authority-wide	
To improve the health and well-being of the population to meet the needs of the vulnerable and ageing population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies improve access to health facilities, reduce health inequalities and improve well-being.</li> <li>Extent to which measures encourage walking and cycling, improve access to greenspace targeting those communities experiencing health inequalities.</li> <li>Whether policies promote the development of care homes and specialist services for the elderly and as well as those suffering from dementia and mobility difficulties.</li> <li>Whether policies encourage developers to contribute towards local recreational areas such as green gyms.</li> </ul>
To create opportunities for the community to reduce levels of obesity.	
To enable vulnerable people to live independently by supporting local retail and community services minimising the need to travel.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether housing policies deliver homes of a decent standard and minimise fuel poverty.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Area</b>	
To be determined later.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined later.</li> </ul>
<b>Crime &amp; Safety</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To ensure urban design and layout contributes towards reducing the potential for crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies require the designing out of crime for new development.</li> </ul>

**Table F3.4: Appraisal Rationale – Environmental Sustainability**

SA Objective	Appraisal Rationale
<b>Geological Sites &amp; Soils</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To ensure the protection of the Weald area of peats from development and human activities so that their carbon storage value is not degraded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies and site allocations protect areas of peat from direct and indirect impacts.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	
To maximise the productive potential of the land assets within Telford.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which brownfield / contaminated land is allocated for development as a proportion of the total land allocation.</li> </ul>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To enhance the ecological connectivity of non-designated ecological sites and enhance LBAP priority habitats and species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies enhance designated and non-designated habitats and species (e.g. through increased connectivity or reduced disturbance).</li> <li>Extent to which the recreational enjoyment of nature is promoted delivering health benefits to those most deprived communities while not threatening ecological interests.</li> </ul>
<b>Newport</b>	
To ensure that there are no significant effects upon the Aqualate Mere as part of the Midlands Meres and Mosses Phase 2 Ramsar site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether site allocations increase direct or indirect pressures upon the Mere.</li> </ul>
<b>Green Infrastructure</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To deliver green infrastructure making Telford & Wrekin an attractive place and contributes to the health and wellbeing of the local population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies deliver the design and management of open and recreational space in which people of all ages feel safe and confident to use.</li> </ul>
<b>Landscape &amp; Townscape</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To protect and enhance the landscape effects of development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider whether policies maintain and enhance the landscape quality, including historic landscape features.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which landscape character and design considerations both current and future are integrated into development policies.</li> <li>Extent to which policies may directly or indirectly affect the special qualities of the AONB.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	
To protect, enhance and retain areas which perform strategic landscape functions as well as aid promotion of public health and adaptation to climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies and allocations protect and deliver strategic landscape functions.</li> </ul>
To create a dynamic and inspiring townscape that helps design out crime, and creates a sense of place and local pride.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies promote quality design solutions.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Area</b>	
To deliver new housing in a manner that protects and enhances landscape quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which high quality landscape areas are affected by housing allocations.</li> </ul>
<b>Historic Environment</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To enhance, conserve and protect heritage assets and their setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies promote conservation or enhancement and access to sites of geological importance.</li> <li>How policies affect the historic environment.</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Area</b>	
To aid the sustainable use of historic farmsteads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies aid the sustainable use of historic farmsteads.</li> </ul>
<b>Air Quality &amp; Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
To reduce annual CO <sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% from 1990 levels, by 2050 (36% by 2026).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies and site allocations contribute towards reducing emissions.</li> </ul>
<b>Adaptation to Climate Change</b>	
To deliver a built environment that is well adapted to cope with the changing weather conditions that are forecast.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies promote building form and layout that aid adaptation.</li> </ul>
<b>Telford</b>	
To assist in the development of economic activities so Telford is well placed to adapt to and exploit a low carbon environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which policies and site allocations promote a low carbon environment.</li> </ul>
<b>Water Quality &amp; Flooding</b>	
<b>Authority-wide</b>	
Incorporate measures into development proposals that contribute towards a reduction in flood risk aimed at providing a runoff rate less than greenfield rates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether policies would deliver a reduction in flood risk.</li> </ul>

## F4: MONITORING

### F4.1 Context

- 4.1.1 Up until March 2011 when the withdrawal of Government guidance on LDF monitoring occurred, Government advice was that *“monitoring is essential to establish what is happening now, what may happen in the future and then compare these trends against existing policies and targets to determine what needs to be done”*<sup>1</sup>. For this reason any monitoring strategy should be flexible, with sufficient responsiveness to allow adjustment where policies are not being implemented successfully. This flexibility is important where targets are set many years in advance, and indicators may not be sensitive enough to highlight potential problems before they occur.
- 4.1.2 A flexible approach to monitoring is appropriate in that it *“provides information on the performance of policy and its surrounding environment, taking a future orientated approach by identifying the key challenges and opportunities and enabling adjustments and revisions to be made if necessary”*<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, Planning Policy Statement 3 (PPS3) on Housing indicates that LDFs should reflect the principles of “plan, monitor, manage”<sup>2</sup>. The principles outlined in PPS3 with regard to implementation strategy are equally relevant to many other aspects of monitoring the significant effects identified by the sustainability appraisal.
- 4.1.3 The Localism Act 2011<sup>3</sup> continues the requirement on local authorities to make an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) to assess the extent to which policies in Local Development Documents are being implemented; where policies are not being implemented, explain why and to set out what steps are to be taken to ensure that the policy is implemented; or whether the policy is to be amended or replaced; identify the significant effects of implementing policies in local development documents and whether they are as intended; and set out whether policies are to be amended or replaced.
- 4.1.4 The AMR forms part of the LDF and provides the means to assess, firstly, the implementation of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) and, secondly, the extent to which LDD policies is being successfully implemented. The AMR is therefore one mechanism through which adjustments to policies in the Core Strategy can be made, based on monitoring results.
- 4.1.5 Localism Act states that instead of a single annual report in December of each year, discretion will be given to produce more than one report (perhaps on different topics) on a more frequent basis at any time of the year.

### F4.2 Targets and Indicators

- 4.2.1 The issues identified through the Scoping Report and appraisal itself will give rise recommendation on those sustainability issues to be monitored through three types of targets, namely **process targets** to monitor document preparation against milestones in the local development scheme; **policy targets** to provide a benchmark for measuring policy implementation; and **sustainability appraisal targets** to provide a benchmark for measuring the significant effects of implementing policies.
- 4.2.2 The above targets may be measured through a tiered approach using three types of indicator for inclusion in AMRs:

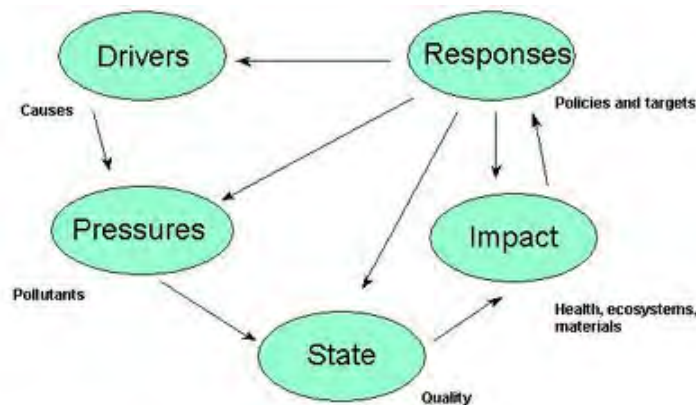
<sup>1</sup> ODPM (2005a) *Local Development Framework Monitoring – A Good Practice Guide*. Available online at [last <http://www.communities.gov.uk/archived/publications/planningandbuilding/localdevelopmentframework>, accessed May 2011]

<sup>2</sup> DCLG (2010) *Planning Policy Statement 3 (PPS3): Housing*. HMSO, Norwich

<sup>3</sup> Localism Act clause 113.

- **Contextual indicators** which describe the wider social, environmental and economic background against which LDF policy operates
- **Output indicators** which are used to assess the performance of policies. There are two types of output indicator:
  - **Core output indicators** provide a consistent data source to inform planning;
  - **Local output indicators** which to address the outputs of policies not covered by the core output indicators;
- **Significant effect indicators** which are used to assess the significant social, environmental and economic effects of policies and should be derived from SA findings.

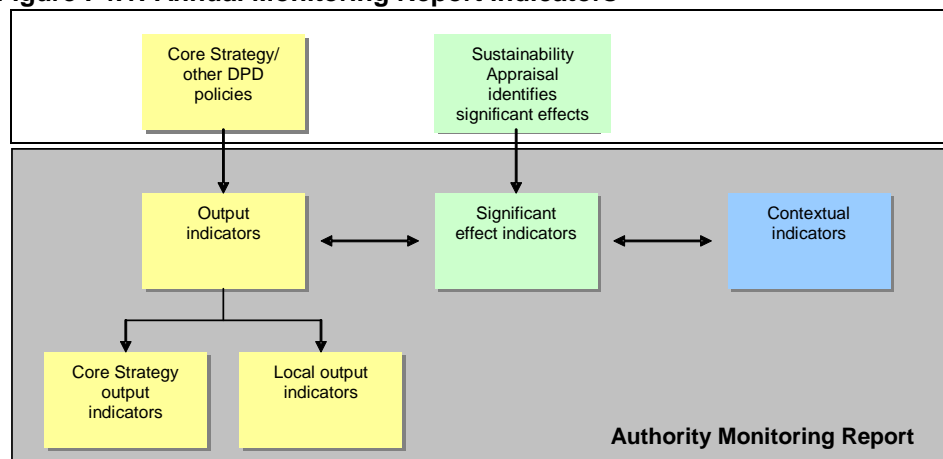
4.2.3 With the removal of Government guidance, it is open for local authorities to adopt a cost effective and targeted approach to the selection of indicators that recognise that monitoring can take place at multiple places in the drivers, pressure, state, impact, response framework (DPSIR)<sup>4</sup>.



4.2.4 It is worth noting that monitoring in the context of the SEA Directive does not necessitate the assembly of a time series of data observations. Rather, using the DPSIR framework, monitoring can be an administrative task that simply records whether a particular action was undertaken. For example, monitoring of carbon emissions or area of open space taken for development ought to be assembled from the supporting documentation to major development proposals.

4.2.5 **Figure F4.1** illustrates the relationship between the different types of indicators.

**Figure F4.1: Annual Monitoring Report indicators**



<sup>4</sup> Based on EEA 1998: *Guidelines for Data Collection and Processing - EU State of the Environment Report*. Annex 3.

## F4.3 Links with Sustainability Appraisal

- 4.3.1 Significant effects indicators should be linked to the AMR. In identifying and evaluating the effects of a core strategy or other plan, LPAs may identify 'significant effects' which require monitoring. For example, there may be concerns that development of a particular area may give rise to impacts on water resources which are not addressed through the output indicators. With this in mind, an LPA might develop a bespoke indicator to address the issue. Monitoring significant effects should enable a comparison to be made between the effects predicted in the SA and the actual effects measured during policy implementation.

*"The linkages between the AMR and SA are, at best, patchy. In several cases SA and AMR processes are treated as two distinct remits that do not yet overlap with each other. Most authorities, however, recognise the need for greater integration, including selecting indicators which enable a causal link to be established between implementation of the LDF and the 'significant effects' being monitored"*

*Communities and Local Government (2007). Using evidence in spatial planning*

- 4.3.2 Under the SEA Directive, the significant environmental effects of the plan must be monitored. The measures envisaged for monitoring – i.e. proposed significant effects indicators - should be set out in the SA report with finalised indicators reported in the plan's adoption statement.
- 4.3.3 The SEA Directive specifically requires monitoring to identify unforeseen adverse effects arising from the plan to enable remedial action to be taken. For this reason, LPAs should consider how to react if significant effects indicators reveal any unforeseen adverse effects, or effects which exceed acceptable limits.

*"1. Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action.*

*2. In order to comply with paragraph 1, existing monitoring arrangements may be used if appropriate, with a view to avoiding duplication of monitoring."*

SEA Directive, Article 10





# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Appendices

1<sup>st</sup> February 2012

047042498

Prepared for:  
Telford & Wrekin  
Borough Council

UNITED  
KINGDOM &  
IRELAND



Prepared for



REVISION SCHEDULE					
Rev	Date	Details	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved by
1	17 <sup>th</sup> July 2011	Draft Scoping Report	Paul Tomlinson Associate	Steve Smith Associate	Steve Smith Associate
2	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2011	Draft Scoping Report	Paul Tomlinson Associate	Steve Smith Associate	Steve Smith Associate
6	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	Final Report	Paul Tomlinson Associate	Steve Smith Associate	Steve Smith Associate
7	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept 2013	Revised Appendices	Paul Tomlinson Associate	Steve Smith Associate	Steve Smith Associate

REVISION RECORD					
Rev	Date	Details	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved by

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## APPENDIX A: STATUTORY BODY COMMENTS ON THE 2008 SCOPING REPORT

Statutory Body Comment	2011 Scoping Report Action
Scoping Reports should be tailored to the type, purpose, and level of plan under consideration	In the absence of discrete plans, scoping has been undertaken to identify the issues anticipated to be relevant to potential plans and spatial areas
The tiering of Scoping Reports, through the use of an overarching report and subsequently fine tuned for particular documents, can help to reduce repetition and give a better focus to the appraisal framework.	A tiered approach has been adopted with Borough-wide and area-based sustainability objectives. Each subsequent appraisal would be expected to confirm applicability of the recommendations contained in this Scoping Report based on any additional evidence. This approach will assist in saving resources by avoiding the need for individual Scoping Reports.
All designated historic assets should be considered together with potential impacts on non-designated features of local historic or architectural interest.	The effort recording all features designated or otherwise is to be proportionate to the risks associated with the level of plan and in recognition of subsequent assessment activities to be undertaken within other plans or at project level. Given restricted resources, evidence has been sought to identify trends, challenges and opportunities.
Specialist staff are best placed to advise on issues and priorities.	Specialists have been involved in workshops and through the formal consultation process.
Omissions to the international, national, regional policy frameworks should be rectified.	While Scoping Reports need to be targeted on relevant policies and exclude guidance or informal documents in their coverage of the policy frameworks, the plan making process is able to be more responsive to the evolving policy framework.
The historic environment ought not to be grouped with other topics.	A process of sustainability themes is adopted, with discrete aspects such as the historic environment separately reported and scoped for transparency.
Data sources to be kept under review during the appraisal.	Sources would be kept under review insofar as they have a bearing upon the subject of the plan. For each plan, the validity of the recommendations of this Scoping Report would be checked reflecting upon any new evidence that is identified at that stage.
Summary narratives are often more useful than reliance upon appendices of tabulated data.	The approach adopted is to provide narratives with tabulated data being made available to allow users quick reference to key data.
<p>The historic environment should be broadly interpreted encompassing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all designated historic assets;</li> <li>• non designated features of local historic interest;</li> <li>• the character of the wider landscape &amp; townscape; and</li> <li>• the potential for as yet unrecorded archaeological interest.</li> </ul>	Scoping is conducted using readily available information and a reasoned interpretation of such evidence. The information assembled cannot be exhaustive and must reflect those attributes that the plan(s) may significantly affect. The SEA Directive recognises that environmental issues should be examined at an appropriate level in the planning hierarchy. It is therefore correct that subsequent plan appraisals, EIAs and planning processes examine other issues as they become significant. Until specific site allocations emerge through the plan making process, the scoping process cannot address issues that are essentially

Statutory Body Comment	2011 Scoping Report Action
	more appropriate at project level appraisal. Nevertheless, should evidence be made available indicating areas of potential risk then such information could be used so subsequent appraisals examine the issue.
Up to date Heritage Counts reports along with Scheduled Monuments and other nationally important archaeological remains should be considered.	Heritage Counts reports have been used. As above the evidence base should be proportionate to the risks posed by the plan. Recognition that a particular Scheduled Ancient Monument is or is not at risk is relevant to site allocation plans and project EIA and not area-wide plans.
For all designated assets, setting issues are also relevant to the baseline	The sustainability evidence base does not equate to a state of the environment report and thus an extensive description of features is not required. Sufficient information is to be gathered to inform the scoping and appraisal process reflecting the stage and focus of the plan being assessed is needed.
Descriptions of the non-designated heritage resource are required.	Descriptions of non-designated heritage resources will be provided where they are available and relevant to the plan being appraised during each appraisal.
The Buildings at Risk Register should be used providing trend data recognising its omissions. Data for unlisted buildings of local historic/architectural interest should also be used.	The level of effort expended reflects the stage in the plan-making process and the spatial scale of the plan. As more spatially specific plans are developed then increasingly local information may be accessed. Information assembly should also be directed towards informing those aspects that are relevant to planning delivery. Historic trends in economic conditions do little to inform the future baseline and the impact of the proposed plan.
The Scheduled Monuments at Risk survey is available.	The heritage at risk evidence has been reviewed although it is of greater relevance once specific site allocations are being considered.
Evidence from the Heritage at Risk programme should be consulted.	The heritage at risk evidence has been reviewed although it is of greater relevance once specific site allocations are being considered.
Additional information on Conservation Areas should be reported including commenting upon whether any are subject to development pressures whether larger-scale to small-scale leading to cumulative changes to their character and appearance?	While information on development pressures in Conservation Areas is not currently available it is only where policies or site allocations have a specific influence on such are that further evidence will be sought.
Analysis of the World Heritage Site could draw upon the management plan and the WHS coordinator.	Information has been provided by the World Heritage Site coordinator and reference made to the management plan. A new Management Plan is underway, which will inform the appraisal of future LDF document.
Consideration should also be given to the historic character of landscapes and townscapes.	Information on the historic landscape and townscape has not been examined becoming of interest in site allocations and planning applications.
The links between landscape character and historic environment must be recognised.	No evidence to identify trends, challenges and opportunities has been found beyond the historic farmsteads study.
Consideration, however, should also be given to	The merits of this approach will be reflected upon

Statutory Body Comment	2011 Scoping Report Action
the need for further urban characterisation data for townscape areas outside of Conservation Areas but under potential development pressure	when the mitigation measures are prepared for those plans dealing with site allocations and locally specific policies.
The loss of historic parkland should be reported.	These trends are reported where information is available, however none was encountered.
A baseline on traditional farm buildings should be reported.	The survey of historic farmsteads has been reviewed, however no information was found to identify particular locations or a baseline inventory of their condition. General threats to the retention of such features have been acknowledged.
Use of resident satisfaction surveys.	Such surveys are by nature retrospective and do not represent good value in assessing the implications of future policies. Some of the proposed indicators are based on such surveys.
Sense of community has links to the historic environment, sense of place and cultural associations.	Such information is of greater relevance to site specific plans and project appraisals.
There is a need to understand the wider contribution of the historic environment to sustainable development and not simply view it as a narrow issue focused on preservation. An option that might be considered may be opportunities offered by heritage-led regeneration, heritage based sustainable tourism, place-making, design of new development to fit with the existing, functional layout of a town, village etc.	The Scoping Report recognises the importance of sense of place and heritage to attracting and retaining businesses and skilled employees.
A suite of problems and opportunities are presented.	The Scoping Report identifies a range of challenges and opportunities.
Objective 09 – (maintain and enhance the quality of landscape and countryside) ought to encompass the historic character of the landscape.	Reference is made in the Scoping Report to the historic landscape character, although the issue raised is essentially a policy matter.
Improved indicators for monitoring are presented: 5 Area of highly sensitive historic landscape characterisation types which have been altered and their character eroded 6 % of Joint Character Areas showing no change or showing change consistent with character area descriptions	The practicality and effectiveness of the indicators will be judged later in the plan-making and appraisal process when significant effects are identified. While further information would be requested from English Heritage on the availability of such evidence, the utility of such information would be defined by the scope of the plans to be prepared.
An explanation of the assessment rationale is welcomed.	An assessment rationale is provided.
State of the environment indicators may not always be suitable for the appraisal or monitoring the significant effects of a plan. At these stages the priority should be devising indicators which will clearly demonstrate the impact(s) of the plan on the historic environment.	These views are supported.
A set of indicators are proposed for monitoring the effects on the historic environment.	Indicators selected focus on the potential significant effects of plans rather than state of the environment parameters.
It should be noted that currently Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and indeed World Heritage Sites are only covered in terms of being a material consideration in the planning	This point is acknowledged.



Statutory Body Comment	2011 Scoping Report Action
system	
The Severn CFMP (catchment flood management plan), The River Severn Fluvial Strategy are relevant.	These reports have been consulted.
The West Midlands Regional Flood Risk Appraisal should be referenced.	This appraisal has been consulted.
The EU Groundwater Daughter Directive as a key document relevant to the LDF and SA ought to be referenced and reference made to groundwater.	Reference has been made to the Directive and to the importance of groundwater to water supplies for Telford.
A Water Cycle needs to be produced and used in the preparation of the LDF to inform on water quality and quantity issues, highlighting areas where new development or intensification of existing development etc could cause over abstraction/environmental deterioration.	A Scoping WCS is due to be commissioned.
Flood maps updated on a quarterly basis.	Noted.
Groundwater Source Protection Zones should be carried forward as a constraint to certain development.	Noted. Additionally Groundwater Protection Zones form part of LDF SUDs evidence document prepared by Halcrow to inform forthcoming documents and SA process.
Groundwater monitoring may be necessary both on and off site when planning permissions are granted for new development to ensure that environmental deterioration is not being caused.	Noted.
For aquatic ecosystems such as streams and rivers the continuity of open channel, its structure and associated corridor habitat, is as important as basic water quality/quantity (e.g. otters, water vole, native crayfish etc). Additionally the channel structure is important in terms of the flooding and the floodplain.	Noted.
Brown-field sites often have a higher ecological value/are more bio-diverse than green-field sites.	Noted.
It would be helpful to make reference to watercourse restoration/rehabilitation through de-culverting and positive structural improvements (naturalisation). This would link into the EA's targets and objectives, as well as to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).	Reference made to this objective.
Acknowledgement of increased flood risk from sewers and drains as well as fluvial sources.	Noted.
Use of ground-source heat pumps should be referenced with links to groundwater resources, brownfield development and groundwater source protection zones.	Noted.
Indicators should include the length of culverts opened up into open watercourse and the length of watercourse restored.	Adopted as an indicator.
Amendment to the scoping report which should read that 91% river lengths in the UK should achieve their assigned river quality objective by 2010.	Noted.
Level 2, the final part of the SFRA report is	Level 2 studies would inform site allocations and

Statutory Body Comment	2011 Scoping Report Action
required as part of the Sustainability Appraisal.	subsequent project appraisals.
Geodiversity Action Plan 2007 should be referenced.	Reference has been made.
Water availability should be set as a consideration.	This has been a key consideration in the Scoping Report.
The indicator and targets relating to the maintaining the character of the AONB with respect to proposals and policies and individual applications could follow the following wording. "Number of plans and proposal agreed by the council where the advice of Natural England and the AONB management plan is not followed". The target being "Nil"	Noted for consideration in particular plans.
Following targets proposed: "No loss of any area of a declared Local Nature Reserve." With an additional target about the area and accessibility of Local Nature Reserves in the Telford and Wrekin area. Targets on progress towards biodiversity and geodiversity are proposed.	Noted. Generally targets will not be promoted at this stage. Targets are matters to be considered within the LDF documents.
Strategies for local sport & recreation need to be considered and is a key sustainability issue.	Recreational issues are considered in the Scoping Report.
Use of data from the Active People survey strongly encouraged.	Data has been incorporated into the Scoping Report
Indicator should be replaced with '% of population partaking in 3 x 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport and physical activity per week'.	This indicator while relevant does not relate to the significant effects of spatial plans.
Targets should be set for new buildings.	Recent Inspector reports from Examinations in Public cast doubt on the appropriateness of this approach.
Targets should be consistent to the Telford Environmental Plan.	Noted. Generally targets will not be promoted at this stage. Targets are matters to be considered within the LDF documents.
Enhanced economic indicators suggested.	A new set of economic indicators are proposed.

## APPENDIX B POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

### European

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
<a href="#">A resource-efficient Europe – Flagship initiative under the Europe 2020 Strategy</a>	EU	2011	<p>To achieve a resource-efficient and low-carbon economy the following are needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coordinated action in a wide range of policy areas</li> <li>• act urgently due to long investment lead-times</li> <li>• empower consumers to move to resource-efficient consumption, to drive continuous innovation and ensure that efficiency gains are not lost</li> </ul> <p>This flagship initiative aims to create a framework for policies to support the shift towards a resource-efficient and low-carbon economy which will help us to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• boost economic performance while reducing resource use;</li> <li>• identify and create new opportunities for economic growth and greater innovation and boost the EU's competitiveness;</li> <li>• ensure security of supply of essential resources;</li> <li>• fight against climate change and limit the environmental impacts of resource use.</li> </ul> <p><b>Adopt policies that promote resource efficiency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Energy Efficiency Plan 2011</a>	EU	2011	<p>The plan focuses on instruments to trigger the renovation process in public and private buildings and to improve the energy performance of the components and appliances used in them. It promotes the exemplary role of the public sector, proposing to accelerate the refurbishment rate of public buildings through a binding target and to introduce energy efficiency criteria in public spending. It also foresees obligations for utilities to enable their customers to cut their energy consumption.</p> <p>Public bodies should take the lead in bringing their buildings up to high energy performance levels. In order to achieve this result it would be appropriate for public authorities at least to double the current renovation rate.</p> <p><b>Steer public spending towards energy efficient products, transport modes, buildings, works and services</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Climate change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">A Roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050</a>	EU	2011	<p>Sets out reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> needed across different sectors by 2050.</p> <p><b>Promote a low carbon economy.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">White Paper: Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area – Towards a competitive and resource efficient transport system</a>	EU	2011	<p>The challenge is to break the transport system's dependence on oil without sacrificing its efficiency and compromising mobility. Transport has to use less and cleaner energy, better exploit a modern infrastructure and reduce its negative impact on the environment and key natural assets like water, land and ecosystems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the energy efficiency performance of vehicles across all modes.</li> <li>• Optimising the performance of multimodal logistic chains.</li> <li>• Using transport and infrastructure more efficiently through use of improved traffic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Climate Change</li> <li>• Material Assets</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			management and information systems <b>Encourage lighter, smaller road passenger vehicles, encourage alternative fuels for buses, taxis etc</b>	
<a href="#">Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 COM(2011) 244 final</a>	EU	2011	This strategy is aimed at reversing biodiversity loss and speeding up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy. By 2050, European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides — its natural capital — are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's intrinsic value and for their essential contribution to human wellbeing and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided. <b>2020 headline target</b> Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss. <b>Address measures to halt biodiversity losses.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond - A Blueprint for an integrated European energy network</a>	EU	2010	The development and modernisation of district heating and cooling networks should therefore be promoted as a matter of priority in all larger agglomerations where local or regional conditions can justify it in terms of, notably heating or cooling needs, existing or planned infrastructures and generation mix etc. This will be addressed in the Energy Efficiency Plan and the 'Smart Cities' innovation partnership, to be launched in 2011. <b>Address provision of district heating systems.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Climate change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Energy 2020 A strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy COM(2010) 639.</a>	EU	2010	The new energy strategy focuses on five priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieving an energy efficient Europe;</li> <li>• Building a truly pan-European integrated energy market;</li> <li>• Empowering consumers and achieving the highest level of safety and security;</li> <li>• Extending Europe's leadership in energy technology and innovation;</li> <li>• Strengthening the external dimension of the EU energy market.</li> </ul> <b>Adopt policies promoting energy efficiency particularly in buildings and transport, smart networks and measures to reduce reliance upon oil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Climate change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">European Council Conclusions of 15 March 2010</a>	EU	2010	New target to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020 and to support efforts to avert global biodiversity loss. <b>Contribute towards reducing loss of biodiversity and maintaining ecosystem services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">European Strategy for Sustainable Development</a>	EC	2009	Economic situation provides an opportunity to address financial and ecological sustainability and develop a dynamic low-carbon and resource-efficient, knowledge-based, socially inclusive society. <b>Contribute towards promotion of low carbon systems</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Action Plan on Urban Mobility</a>	EC	2009	The actions proposed are centred on six themes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting integrated policies through</li> <li>• Focusing on citizens</li> <li>• Greening urban transport</li> <li>• Strengthening funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing experience and knowledge</li> <li>• Optimising urban mobility</li> </ul> <b>Consider opportunities for support from EU initiatives under the Action Plan</b>	
<a href="#">Copenhagen Accord</a>	UN	2009	<p>Agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise the scientific view that the increase in global temperature should be held below 2.0°C</li> <li>• Deep cuts in global emissions are required according to science</li> <li>• Commit to implement the quantified economy wide emissions targets for 2020, to be submitted by 31 January 2010 [Annex I Parties, including the European Union].</li> </ul> <b>Contribute towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Air quality</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Adapting to Climate Change: Towards a European framework for Action</a>	EC	2009	<p>- Promote strategies that increase the resilience to climate change of health, property and the productive functions of land, inter alia by improving the management of water resources and ecosystems.</p> <p>- Framework for adaptation measures and policies to reduce the European Union's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. The White Paper outlined the need for establishing a Clearing House Mechanism by 2011 that would enable exchanging information on climate risks, impacts and best practices between government, agencies and organisations working on adaptation policies.</p> <b>Monitor information on climate risk, impacts and best practices on adaptation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Directive 2009/33 on the Promotion of Clean and Energy-Efficient Road Transport Vehicles</a>	EC	2009	<p>- Requires contracting authorities, contracting entities as well as certain operators to take into account lifetime energy and environmental impacts, including energy consumption and emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> and of certain pollutants, when purchasing road transport vehicles</p> <b>Demonstrate commitment to take consideration of lifetime costs when purchasing vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Air quality</li> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>
<a href="#">White Paper: A Sustainable Future for Transport</a>	EC	2009	<p>- Where justified, dedicated infrastructure for passengers and freight should be considered, either in the form of dedicated freight corridors or by setting 'smart' priority rules</p> <p>- ICT solutions should be developed as a support for better management and integration of transport flows</p> <b>Consider priority rules for modes in congested situations and promote ICT solutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>
Ambient Air and Cleaner Air for Europe Directive 2008/50/EC	EC	2008	<p>- Establishes objectives for ambient air quality and common methods of assessment, provision of information to the public and maintaining good air quality and improving on it in other cases. Requires monitoring and modelling in zones and agglomerations exceeding air pollution thresholds. Limit values not to be exceeded. Air quality plans needed which can include measures for protection of sensitive population groups.</p> <b>Continue to reduce vehicle emissions and enhancing air quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Air quality</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
Directive 2007/60/EC Assessment and Management of Flood Risk	EU	2007	Requires a preliminary flood risk assessment for each river basin district or unit of management. To include maps, significant floods, and assessment of potential adverse consequences of future floods. Flood risk maps and management plans are to be prepared <b>Consider implications of flood risk and management plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Landscape / townscape</li> </ul>
White Paper Together for Health: A Strategy Approach for the EU 2008-2014	EC	2007	Promotes public health. <b>Develop policies for spatial planning that help communities achieve improved public health.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Health</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Green Paper: Towards A New Culture for Urban Mobility</a>	EC	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Authorities should promote co-modality and reallocate space that becomes available after congestion mitigation measures. Intelligent and adaptive traffic management systems have also proven their efficiency in reducing congestion</li> <li>- More sustainable use of the private car should be encouraged for example by carpooling</li> <li>- Adequate parking policy is also necessary to reduce the use of cars in the centre of the cities</li> </ul> <b>Promote sustainable modes of transport.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Strategy on Climate Change: Control Measures Through Until 2020 and Beyond</a>	EC	2007	Plans to reduce CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from cars to reach the target of 120 grams of CO <sub>2</sub> per kilometre (g CO <sub>2</sub> /km). <b>Assist in lowering emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>
EU Sustainable Development Strategy	EU	2006	The Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy was adopted by the European Council in June 2006. It is an overarching strategy for all EU policies which sets out how we can meet the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The Sustainable Development Strategy deals in an integrated way with economic, environmental and social issues and lists the following seven key challenges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change and clean energy</li> <li>• Sustainable transport</li> <li>• Sustainable consumption and production</li> <li>• Conservation and management of natural resources</li> <li>• Public health</li> <li>• Social inclusion, demography and migration</li> <li>• Global poverty</li> </ul> <b>Promote sustainable development across the challenge areas.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</a>	UN	2006	Parties take appropriate measures to ensure access to the physical environment, to transportation, to information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems, and to other facilities and services open or provided to the public, both in urban and in rural areas. <b>Provide equality of access, information and the physical environment for those with disabilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>



Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
Waste Framework Directive 2006/12/EC	EC	2006	The recovery of waste and the use of recovered materials as raw materials should be encouraged in order to conserve natural resources. <b>Provide policies that reduce the amount of waste and maximise use of secondary aggregates and other recycles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material assets</li> </ul>
Directive 2006/44/EC on the quality of fresh waters needing protection or improvement in order to support fish life	EC	2006	Concerns the quality of fresh waters and shall apply to those waters designated by the Member States as needing protection or improvement in order to support fish life salmonid waters or cyprinid waters setting out parameters for their quality <b>Contribute towards the protection of water quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Keep Europe Moving – Sustainable Mobility for Our Continent. Mid-term review of the European Commission's 2001 Transport White Paper</a>	EC	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Future policy will have to optimise each mode's own potential to meet the objectives of clean and efficient transport systems.</li> <li>- Shifts to more environmentally friendly modes must be achieved where appropriate, especially long distance, in urban areas and on congested corridors.</li> <li>- co-modality, i.e. the efficient use of different modes on their own and in combination, will result in an optimal and sustainable utilisation of resources.</li> </ul> <b>Promote environmentally modes on congested corridors and enhance efficient use of individual modes.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic factors</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Action Plan on Biodiversity</a>	EC	2006	The Action Plan stipulates priority objectives, which are divided into four policy areas (biodiversity in the EU, the EU and global biodiversity, biodiversity and climate change, and the knowledge base). It further specifies four main supporting measures (financing, decision-making, building partnerships, and public education, awareness and participation), as well as monitoring, evaluation and review measures. <b>Protect biodiversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Directive 2006/116/EC on the Protection of Groundwater Against Pollution and Deterioration</a>	EC	2006	Measures to protect and control groundwater pollution <b>Consider measures to protect groundwater against pollution from highway runoff where necessary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Collaboration Between the Health and Transport Sectors in Promoting Physical Activity</a>	WHO	2006	Promotion of measures to enhance health particularly through safe cycling and walking <b>Promote non-motorised modes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> <li>Population</li> <li>Climate Change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Thematic Strategic on Air Pollution</a>	EC	2005	Compared with the situation in 2000, the Strategy sets specific long-term objectives (for 2020): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 47% reduction in loss of life expectancy as a result of exposure to particulate matter</li> <li>• 10 % reduction in acute mortalities from exposure to ozone</li> <li>• reduction in excess acid deposition of 74% and 39% in forest areas and surface freshwater areas respectively</li> <li>• 43% reduction in areas or ecosystems exposed to eutrophication</li> </ul> <b>Contribute to reducing vehicle emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
<a href="#">Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society</a>	Council of Europe	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not yet in force.</li> <li>- Sees heritage both as a resource for human development, the enhancement of cultural diversity and the promotion of intercultural dialogue, and as part of an economic development model based on the principles of sustainable resource use.</li> <li>- Efforts to conserve and appreciate the heritage must be regarded not as an activity peripheral to modern life, but as an essential action to sustain and deploy assets which are vital to the quality of everyday life and to future progress.</li> </ul> <b>Promote protection of cultural heritage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Health Effects of Transport-Related Air Pollution</a>	WHO	2005	Sets out the health risks from pollution <b>Contribute to reducing vehicle emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">European Landscape Convention</a>	Council of Europe	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promotes landscape protection, management and planning, and European co-operation on landscape issues</li> <li>- It highlights the importance of developing landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and creation of landscapes, and establishing procedures for the general public and other stakeholders to participate in policy creation and implementation</li> </ul> <b>All landscape issues to be considered in spatial planning, land use and resource management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape</li> </ul>
Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework on Climate Change	International	2005	Reduce greenhouse gases and adapt to climate change. <b>Adopt measures to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> </ul>
EU Directive on the Promotion of Bio-fuels for Transport (2003/30/EC)	EC	2003	Promotes bio-fuels. <b>Consider policies that promote bio-fuels.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context</a>	UNECE	2003	In force 2010 giving explicit recognition to the need to assess the effects of plans and programmes upon health. Requires health authorities to be consulted and significant environmental and health effects to be monitored Additional aspects are the need to describe health problems as well as environmental problems and include monitoring for significant health effects. <b>Consider health issues and provide for monitoring of health issues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
Council Directive 2002/49/EC on the Assessment and Management of Environmental Noise	EC	2002	Required the mapping of exposure to noise, the publication of the findings and the preparation of action plans with a view to preventing and reducing environmental noise where necessary and particularly where exposure levels can induce harmful effects on human health and to preserving environmental noise quality where it is good. <b>Consider measures to reduce noise levels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noise</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
European Transport Policy for 2010: A Time to Decide	EC	2001	Emphasis on shifting the balance between modes, eliminating bottlenecks and ensuring rigorous pricing and safety regimes in the transport sector <b>Promote sustainable modes and transport safety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
Directive 2001/81/EC National Emission Ceiling Directive	EC	2001	Sets ceilings for each EU Member State for emissions of ammonia, nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) <b>Contribute towards improving air quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	EC	2000	Provides framework for management of water resources throughout the EU. Transposed into English law by the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004. Requires all rivers to aim to achieve good status by 2015 and charged the Environment Agency with production of River Basin Management Plans to be implemented by the end of 2009. <b>Take account of River Basin Management Plan for the Humber Basin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Soils</li> </ul>
Directive 99/31/EC on the landfill of waste	EC	1999	Reduces the amount of waste to be sent to landfill Adopt policies to assist in the application of the waste hierarchy and divert waste from landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material Assets</li> </ul>
Council Directive 1999/30/EC on Ambient Air Quality Limits	EC	1999	Sets limit values for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead in ambient air <b>Contribute towards meeting limit values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
Air Quality Framework Directive 1996/62/EC	EC	1996	Sets strategic framework for tackling air quality by setting limit values for twelve air pollutants through daughter directives <b>Contribute towards meeting limit values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
The Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy	EC	1995	Aims to ensure that the ecosystems on which species depend continue to function, rather than protecting only threatened species or a limited number of valuable sites <b>Protect biodiversity beyond protected sites</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage	Council of Europe	1992	Protects archaeology. Provide policies to protect the archaeological heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic environment</li> </ul>
<a href="#">United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</a>	UN	1992	Stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system <b>Contribute towards reducing greenhouse gases</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Flora and Fauna (The Habitats Directive) 1992/43/EEC	EC	1992	Provides for protection and establishment of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC sites) <b>Consider the potential for effects upon SACs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>
The Convention on Biological Diversity	International	1992	Protection and enhancement of biodiversity <b>Protect biodiversity beyond protected sites</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe</a>	Council of Europe	1987	Promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. <b>See to conserve and enhance cultural heritage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
<a href="#">The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance 1971 (amended 1982)</a>		1982	Conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources <b>Protect interests of any Ramsar site that might be affected.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals	Inter national	1979	Protection and enhancement of biodiversity <b>Protect biodiversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats	Inter national	1979	Protection of appendix II species including the destruction of breeding or resting sites, disturbance of wild fauna, taking of eggs and trade in animals <b>Not of relevance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC)	EC	1979	Protection of habitat and wildfowl species <b>Not of relevance as no Special Protection Areas near to the Borough</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
Freshwater Fish Directive (78/659/EEC)	EC	1978	Protection of watercourses with a fisheries interest. <b>Adopt policies to protect fishery interests.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>
Waste Framework Directive 75/442/EEC	EC	1975	Established the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, energy recover, disposal) and seeks waste minimisation across Member States. <b>Reduce promote waste minimisation practices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material assets</li> </ul>
Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage	UNESCO	1972	Provides for the protection of world heritage sites such as Ironbridge. <b>Develop policies to protect world heritage.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historic environment</li> </ul>
Ramsar Convention on Wetland of International Importance especially as waterfowl habitat	Inter national	1971	Habitat of wetland sites. <b>Consider implications of potential indirect effects upon Midlands Meres and Moses Phase 1 and 2 Sites and Fenns's Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses Ramsar sites</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>

## National

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
Healthy Lives, Healthy People, White Paper: Update and Way Forward	DH	2011	Local authorities take responsibilities for public health creating opportunities to develop holistic solutions to health and wellbeing across all sectors. Public Health England will bring together public health experience and develop new approaches. A public health outcomes framework will be issued requiring the collective efforts of all parts of the public health system. There is renewed commitment to reduce health inequalities addressing the wider determinants of health and complementing the role of the NHS. <b>Consider how public health agenda can be integrated into spatial planning.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature	Defra	2011	Sets out commitment to new Biodiversity Strategy for England along with the establishment of Local Nature Partnerships, Nature Improvement Areas, biodiversity offsetting. Also provides a commitment to putting natural capital at the centre of economic thinking and at the heart of how economic progress is measured. It proposes the establishment of a Local Green Areas designation and the establishment of a Green Infrastructure Partnership. <b>Consider and prepare for implications arising from the White Paper.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity,</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Climate Change</li> <li>Landscape</li> <li>Public Health</li> </ul>
Planning our Electric Future: A White Paper for Secure, Affordable and Low- Carbon Electricity	DECC	2011	Promotes delivery of a flexible, smart and responsive electricity system by 2030 through the delivery of long-term contracts for both low-carbon energy and capacity, institutional arrangements to support this contracting approach, with no retrospective change to low-carbon policy incentives. <b>Monitor implications for spatial planning.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate Change</li> <li>Material Assets</li> </ul>
The Importance of Teaching	DfE	2010	Increase the freedom and autonomy for all schools allowing them to develop as they choose. <b>Consider whether White Paper has implications for spatial planning policies.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> </ul>
Local Growth: Realising Every Place's Potential, White Paper	HM Govt	2010	The White Paper sets out its minimal approach to intervening in local affairs and makes the following statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commitment to the greenest government and government for the long term will require 'greening' the whole economy.</li> <li>Localities to lead their own development</li> <li>Government to support investment with a long term impact on growth</li> <li>Local Authorities to have a general power of competence to include providing high quality services such as schools and transport that directly support businesses' investment confidence and individual's life chances. Authorities are also to lead efforts to support and improve the health and well-being of the local population, promoting independence and rehabilitation to ensure that all individuals have the maximum opportunity to benefit from work, and to contribute to the local economy.</li> <li>Local Enterprise Partnerships encouraged to work on transport, housing and planning as part of an integrated approach to growth and infrastructure delivery by setting out: key investment priorities, including transport infrastructure and supporting or coordinating project delivery; coordinating proposals to the Regional Growth Fund; ensuring business is involved in the development and consideration of strategic development applications; coordinating the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> <li>Population - Accessibility</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<p>leverage of funding from the private sector; consider local green infrastructure issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Communities to have right to build powers to deliver small-scale development</li> <li>• Providing a simplified national planning framework</li> <li>• Statutory duty on local authorities, public bodies and private bodies that are critical to plan making such as infrastructure providers</li> <li>• New local income streams for local government</li> <li>• Planning system is to: give people the opportunity to shape the look and feel of their communities including to protect and promote important environmental and social interests; to provide sufficient housing to meet demand; and to support economic development through the provision of infrastructure and by using land use planning to support economic activity.</li> <li>• Neighbourhood plans are to be created and are to respect presumption in favour of sustainable development as well as other local strategic priorities such as the positioning of transport links and meeting housing need.</li> </ul> <p><b>Reflect new opportunities to define needs with Local Enterprise Partnerships to further economic development and the life chances of individuals in a manner that delivers sustainable manner, considers green infrastructure as well as supports and improves the health and well-being of the local population with funding from Regional Growth Fund and changes to local government finances.</b></p>	
<b>Transport</b>				
<a href="#">National Infrastructure Plan 2010</a>	HM Govt	2010	<p>Sets out Government's vision for major infrastructure investment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congestion predicted to rise by around 20% in the period up to 2025 at a cost of £22 billion a year and cost to business of £10 billion</li> <li>• Fundamental change not only on the energy technologies, but also on the way infrastructure is planned, coordinated and delivered is needed. Adaptation to provide security and resilience is also needed.</li> <li>• There is a need to attract private sector capital and reduce the cost of capital for projects and programmes.</li> </ul> <p>A new hierarchy for infrastructure investment is set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance and smarter use of assets</li> <li>• Targeted action to tackle network stress points and develop networks</li> <li>• Transformational large scale capital projects</li> </ul> <p>Other points for transport infrastructure are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A common set of planning assumptions (economic growth, population growth and impacts of climate change, a framework for assessing overall affordability and Green Book supplementary Guidance is to be issued early 2011.</li> <li>• A Local Sustainable Transport Fund to support local priorities including economic growth and reduce carbon emissions focused on behavioural change of short journeys</li> <li>• Simplification of local transport funding to four grant streams</li> <li>• Lorry road user charging</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Population - accessibility</li> </ul>



Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incentives for electric and plug-in hybrid cars</li> </ul> <b>Consider implications of new investment hierarchy and opportunities associated with other changes.</b>	
<a href="#">Active Travel Strategy</a>	DfT/DH	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local authorities introduce 20mph zones and limits into more residential streets</li> <li>Access to Bikeability cycle training for every child</li> <li>Every major public sector employer signed up to provide high quality facilities and support for cyclists through the Cycle to Work Guarantee.</li> <li>Cycle parking at or within easy reach of every public building</li> <li>Sufficient secure bike parking at every rail station</li> </ul> <b>Introduce 20mph zones and provide measures for cycling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Community Transport: LTP Best Practice Guidance</a>	DfT	2010	<p>Local authorities to involve community transport in the development and delivery of their transport plans and policies.</p> <b>Consider community transport objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">The Future of Urban Transport</a>	DfT	2009	<p>Puts forward a vision of urban transport that envisages enhanced mobility through a wider choice of journey, reduced congestion, better health and enjoyable urban spaces as a result of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>enhanced mobility through a wider choice of journey</li> <li>reduced congestion and increased journey time reliability</li> <li>better health as a result of improved safety and much greater levels of walking and cycling; and</li> <li>streets and public spaces which are enjoyable places to be, where exposure to harmful emissions is reduced, and where quality of life is transformed</li> <li>reduced threat from climate change.</li> </ul> <p>- Plans and proposals for investment must be considered against their ability to make progress on all five of the Department's goals – economic development, climate change, safety, security and health, quality of life and equality of opportunity. It is not sufficient to identify an initiative that mitigates one problem without also considering its effects more widely.</p> <p>- The Government wants to see proposals that give:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>effective alignment between decision making on transport and decisions on other areas of policy such as land use, economic development and wider regeneration</li> <li>robust and streamlined decision making arrangements which allow necessary decisions to be taken on complex and difficult issues in a timely and transparent manner</li> <li>a real enhancement of delivery capability and capacity by taking a coherent and integrated approach to managing currently fragmented transport planning and delivery skills and capacity</li> <li>an examination and, if necessary, redress of any operational fragmentation, in particular on highways, traffic management and public transport to ensure greater alignment of policy interventions and maximise delivery efficiencies across public authorities involved, consistent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Climate change</li> <li>Material assets</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<p>with appropriate levels of subsidiarity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>stronger internal challenge and assessment functions, allied to improved performance management, to ensure that urban areas are better equipped to take decisions in relation to future plans and interventions, maximise VfM, monitor impacts of interventions and safeguard public funds</li> </ul> <p><b>- Enhance mobility, reduce congestion and increase journey time reliability, improve safety while providing more cycling and walking in enjoyable streets.</b></p> <p><b>- Consider effects across all DfT goals</b></p> <p><b>- Integrate transport decision making with other policy areas with timely decisions through stronger internal challenge and assessment functions</b></p>	
Providing Transport in Partnership	DfT	2009	<p>Advice to local authorities and NHS agencies on the benefits of integrating the organisation and procurement of transport provided for patients and clients across various sectors.</p> <p><b>Provide for an integrated approach to passenger transport planning procurement and provision. Engage with the commercial and third sector.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material assets</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Strategy for Lorry Parking in England</a>	DfT	2009	<p>Encourage Councils to consider and support the need of lorry parking where it is required</p> <p><b>Consider need for lorry parking</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Material assets</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Transport Guidance: Supporting Access to Positive Activities</a>	DfT/DCFS	2009	<p>- Aimed at the Children's Trusts and transport planners to ensure services for children are delivered coherently alongside transport planning measures.</p> <p>- Part of the Government's strategy 'Aiming high for young people' a ten year strategy with links to the Local Transport Act 2008</p> <p>- Need to consider the following to address young people's participation in positive activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint planning between Children's Trusts and transport planners at an early stage</li> <li>Adopt an holistic approach to young people's transport needs – by reviewing &amp; revising existing arrangements</li> <li>Single over-arching strategy to provide range of transport within an existing LA fleet</li> <li>Young people participating in transport planning.</li> <li>Publicising transport information alongside information on positive activities &amp; youth services</li> <li>Using discretionary powers on transport to develop a 'transport offer'</li> <li>Communicating concessionary transport agreements, including behaviour contracts</li> <li>Linking transport planning with planning for new facilities</li> <li>Review transport routes, availability and cost against changing activity and service provision</li> <li>Explore potential for commercial bus company contributions towards cost of concessionary fares for young people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<p><b>Include an objective to improve accessibility and social inclusion across the county</b></p> <p><b>Establish links to other strategies</b></p> <p><b>Provide opportunities for participation of young in transport planning</b></p>	
<a href="#">Guidance on Local Transport Plans</a>	DfT	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In addition to national goals, local authorities are to address cities &amp; regional network challenges.</li> <li>- Mitigate climate change together with relating to all environmental issues</li> <li>- Integration of Air Quality Action Plans is essential</li> <li>- Analysis of problems not to be restricted to existing problems, but should also attempt to anticipate and prevent any emerging or potential problems</li> <li>- The targets they contain should therefore make clear and visible connections between local transport targets and targets for sustainable economic growth, housing, and social inclusion, through cross-referencing and quotes from wider plan and strategies.</li> <li>- Demonstrate how the authority's processes for drawing up plans and setting targets in those wider areas have responded to the development of its local transport strategy and plan.</li> </ul> <p><b>Take account of guidance</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic Factors</li> <li>• Material Assets</li> <li>• Landscape / townscape</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
The Future of Transport: A Network for 2030			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promotes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustained investment in the long term</li> <li>• Improvements in transport management</li> <li>• Planning ahead</li> <li>• Balancing the need to travel with the need to improve the quality of life</li> </ul> </li> <li>- The transport shared priority covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tackling congestion,</li> <li>• Delivering accessibility,</li> <li>• Safer roads, and</li> <li>• Improving air quality</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Take account of objectives</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Air quality</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Building Sustainable Transport into New Developments</a>	DfT	2008	<p>Aimed at those involved in the planning, design and construction of new housing developments. It sets out advice on how to build an effective sustainable transport system in new developments, from the planning to the implementation stage. It recommends a variety of transport options to integrate and adopt according to the location and needs of the individual development.</p> <p><b>Promote/set out locally relevant solutions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Landscape / townscape</li> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
<a href="#">Delivering a Sustainable Transport System</a>	DfT	2008	<p>- Sets out how local authorities are to deliver the national goals for transport and describes the associated challenges.</p> <p>to support national economic competitiveness and growth, by delivering reliable and efficient transport networks;</p> <p>to reduce transport's emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, with the desired outcome of tackling climate change;</p> <p>to contribute to better safety, security and health and longer life expectancy by reducing the risk of death, injury or illness arising from transport, and by promoting travel modes that are beneficial to health;</p> <p>to promote greater equality of opportunity for all citizens, with the desired outcome of achieving a fairer society; and to improve quality of life for transport users and non-transport users, and to promote a healthy natural environment.</p> <p><b>Address the five national goals</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Landscape / townscape</li> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Meeting Targets through Transport</a>	DfT	2008	<p>- Considers how transport can contribute to wider objectives and the opportunity for local authorities and partners to work together.</p> <p>- As well as transport Indicators, the following Local Performance Framework indicators are influenced by transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change and air quality</li> <li>• Housing delivery</li> <li>• Employment and business growth</li> <li>• Participation in sport, volunteering and cultural activities</li> <li>• Crime</li> <li>• Perceptions of an area</li> <li>• Street cleanliness</li> <li>• Education &amp; skills</li> <li>• Health &amp; well-being</li> </ul> <p><b>Develop relevant targets for objectives.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population; Public health &amp; Safety</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>
Local Transport Act	Govt	2008	<p>Provides power to take tackle congestion and improve public transport particularly by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving quality of local bus services,</li> <li>• Creating a bus passenger champion to represent the interests of bus passengers,</li> <li>• Arrangements for local transport governance</li> </ul> <p><b>Link with bus strategy providing policies and objectives/targets to improve local bus services on strategic routes in the county</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Human health &amp; safety</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> </ul>

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Delivering a Sustainable Railway	DfT	2007	Promotes a railway that can handle double the amount of freight and passenger traffic that is safer, more reliable and efficient and can cater for needs with a reduced carbon footprint and improved environmental performance. <b>Recognise implications that might emerge for other transport networks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> </ul>
PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres	ODPM	2005	Sets out Government's policy on planning for the future of town centres. Promotes viability and vitality of town centres by planning for growth, focusing development in such centres and encouraging a wide range of services, accessible to all. Accessibility to be improved by ensuring that existing or new development is or will be, accessible and well served by a choice of means of transport. <b>Ensure that appropriate transport networks, including public transport, in place to provide access to all social groups to services in town centres.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> </ul>
Walking and Cycling: An Action Plan	DfT	2004	Promotes increasing walking and cycling through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving the environment (through land use planning, the design of streets etc.)</li> <li>Providing better facilities (cycle lanes, pedestrian crossings etc.)</li> <li>Influencing travel behaviour (by changing perceptions, education etc.)</li> <li>Building skills and capacity (through training in areas such as streetscape design)</li> </ul> <b>Incorporate walking and cycling strategies and targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
Powering Future Vehicles Strategy	DfT	2002	Sets targets for sales of ultra-low carbon cars by 2020. <b>Enhance provision for low carbon vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Older People: Their Transport Needs and Requirements</a>	DfT	2001	Details transport needs of elderly and recommends that transport planners and service providers take a more 'holistic' approach to address concerns associated with every element of the journey. Furthermore, when new or improved services are introduced, they are given sufficient time to bed in; short-term pilots are sure to fail if potential users do not have long enough to try them out. <b>Address transport needs of the elderly</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPG 13: Transport</a>	ODPM	2001	Objective to integrate land use and transport planning by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>encouraging more sustainable transport choices for both people and moving freight.</li> <li>promoting accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and other services by public transport, walking and cycling</li> <li>reducing the need to travel, especially by car</li> </ul> <b>Include policies to provide improved accessibility and promote sustainable travel options</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscape / townscape</li> <li>Population</li> <li>Climatic factors</li> <li>Material assets</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainable Development</b>				
<a href="#">An Invitation to Shape the Nature of England</a>	Defra	2010	- Seeks views on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embedding the true value of natural resources into decision making</li> <li>Adopting a "whole systems" approach to incremental impacts</li> <li>Optimising take up of ultra-low carbon vehicles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Climatic</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovation sought in offsetting the impact of development on biodiversity</li> <li>• An integrated approach linking a healthy natural environment to economic prosperity, sustainable development, a better quality of life health and wellbeing is sought</li> <li>• Ways to manage the natural environment where cross-boundary issues occur and links with mechanisms for economic growth, transport and planning are needed</li> <li>• The costs of environmental degradation needs to be better understood and reflected in decisions.</li> <li>• Landscape scale approach is needed to managing natural resources</li> </ul> <p><b>Address the new agenda for environmental management</b></p>	<p>factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Landscape/ townscape</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPS3 – Housing</a>	GLG	2010	<p>Planning authorities are to develop housing density policies having regard to the current and future levels of accessibility, particularly public transport accessibility among other factors.</p> <p><b>Endeavour to support housing policies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPS4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth</a>	CLG	2009	<p>Relevant objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build prosperous communities by improving the economic performance of cities, towns, regions, sub-regions and local areas, both urban and rural</li> <li>• Reduce the gap in economic growth rates between regions, promoting regeneration and tackling deprivation</li> <li>• Deliver more sustainable patterns of development, reduce the need to travel, especially by car and respond to climate change</li> <li>• Promote the vitality and viability of town and other centres as important places for communities</li> <li>• Raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas by promoting thriving, inclusive and locally distinctive rural communities whilst continuing to protect the open countryside for the benefit of all</li> </ul> <p><b>Contribute to economic vitality and promotion of locally distinctive rural communities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Climate change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPS12 Local Spatial Planning</a>	CLG	2008	<p>Core strategies are to be supported by evidence of the physical, social and green infrastructure needed to enable the amount of development proposed for the area, taking account of its type and distribution. This evidence should cover who will provide the infrastructure and when it will be provided. The core strategy should draw on and in parallel influence any strategies and investment plans of the local authority and other organisations.</p> <p>Infrastructure planning for the core strategy should also include the specific infrastructure requirements of any strategic sites which are allocated in it.</p> <p><b>Contribute to the planning of infrastructure to support core strategies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Planning for a Sustainable Future, White Paper</a>	CLG, DfT, Defra,	2007	<p>- Introduced reforms to land use planning and major infrastructure planning. Vision is for a planning system which:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supports vibrant, healthy sustainable communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>



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	DTI		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promotes the UK's international competitiveness</li> <li>• enables an infrastructure that is integrated with the delivery of other sustainable development objectives.</li> </ul> <p><b>Include objectives to promote healthy and sustainable communities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climatic factors</li> </ul>
<a href="#">UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future</a>	Defra	2005	<p>Key commitments in the strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• researching environmental limits and environmental inequalities</li> <li>• taking account of natural systems as a whole, through the use of an ecosystems approach</li> </ul> <p><b>Consider the use of ecosystems and environmental limit approaches to inform decision making</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Landscape/ townscape</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPS 1: Delivering Sustainable Development</a>	ODPM	2005	<p>- In planning for sustainable development, the key factors include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social cohesion and Inclusion</li> <li>• Protection and enhancement of the environment</li> <li>• Prudent use of natural resources</li> <li>• Sustainable economic development</li> <li>• Integrating sustainable development in development plans</li> </ul> <p><b>To be supported by a commitment sustainable development and community participation in the plan making process and policies to deliver the objectives</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Landscape / townscape</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Noise</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Material Assets</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas</a>	ODPM	2004	<p>- Relevant objectives include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To raise the quality of life and environment in rural areas through promotion of thriving, inclusive and sustainable communities, sustainable economic growth and diversification, good quality sustainable development and continued protection of the open countryside.</li> <li>• where possible, ensure that new development in identified service centres is supported through improvements to public transport, and to walking and cycling facilities, provided in partnership with the developer where appropriate;</li> <li>• To promote more sustainable patterns of development by focusing development in and next to existing towns and villages, preventing urban sprawl, discouraging the development of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Landscape /townscape</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Noise</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>

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			<p>'greenfield' land, promoting a range of uses and providing appropriate leisure opportunities for urban and rural dwellers.</p> <p><b>Address the need of the rural communities.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPG 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation</a>	ODPM	2002	<p>Promote accessibility by walking, cycling and public transport, and ensure that facilities are accessible for people with disabilities</p> <p><b>Aid access to open space, sports and recreational areas by sustainable modes for all members of society</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Sustainable Distribution: A Strategy</a>	DfT	1999	<p>Government's objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the efficiency of distribution</li> <li>Minimise congestion</li> <li>Make better use of transport infrastructure</li> <li>Minimise pollution and reduce greenhouse gas emissions</li> <li>Manage development pressures on the landscape - both natural and man-made</li> <li>Reduce noise and disturbance from freight movements</li> <li>Reduce the number of accidents, injuries and cases of ill-health associated with freight movement</li> </ul> <p><b>Manage needs and impacts of freight transport</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Climate change</li> <li>Noise</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPG2 - Green Belts</a>	ODPM	1995	<p>When seeking to locate park and ride development, Non-Green Belt alternatives should be investigated first. Park and ride development is not inappropriate in Green Belts, provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A thorough and comprehensive assessment of potential sites has been carried out</li> <li>The assessment establishes that the proposed green belt site is the most sustainable option taking account of all relevant factors including travel impacts</li> <li>The scheme will not seriously compromise the purposes of including land in Green Belts</li> <li>The proposal is contained within the local transport plan and based on a thorough assessment of travel impacts</li> <li>New or re-used buildings are included within the development proposal only for essential facilities associated with the operation of the park and ride scheme</li> </ul> <p><b>Consider above issues should park and ride sites be proposed in green belt</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material Assets</li> </ul>
<b>Biodiversity</b>				
The Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) as amended (most notably by the	HM Govt	1981	<p>Principal instrument for the protection of Sites of Special Scientific Interest and endangered wildlife within the UK.</p> <p>The CRoW Act aims for increased public access to the countryside and strengthens protection for</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>

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Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act <sup>1</sup> (2000)			wildlife.	
Natural Environment White Paper	DEFRA	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnerships of local authorities, local communities and landowners, the private sector and conservation organisations will establish new <b>Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs)</b>, based on a local assessment of opportunities for restoring and connecting nature on a significant scale.</li> <li>A new voluntary approach to biodiversity offsetting tested on pilot areas is proposed.</li> <li>Coherent and resilient ecological networks are to be created.</li> </ul> <b>Consider developing a strategy for biodiversity offsetting.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
Securing Biodiversity – a new framework for delivering priority habitats and species in England	Natural England	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embed consideration of ecosystems approach and climate change adaptation principles</li> </ul> <b>Contribute to achievement of biodiversity improvements across whole landscapes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Conserving Biodiversity – The UK Approach</a>	Defra	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting the best sites for wildlife</li> <li>Targeting action on priority species and habitats;</li> <li>Embedding proper consideration of biodiversity and ecosystem services in all relevant sectors of policy and decision-making</li> <li>Engaging people, and encouraging behaviour change</li> <li>Developing and interpreting the evidence base</li> <li>Ensuring that the UK plays a proactive role in influencing the development of Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and contributes fully to their domestic delivery</li> </ul> <b>Protect wildlife and employ ecosystems services approach decision making</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Guidance to Local Authorities on Implementing the Biodiversity Duty</a>	Defra	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The overarching aims include:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>raising the profile and visibility of biodiversity,</li> <li>clarifying existing commitments</li> <li>make biodiversity an integral part of policy and decision making.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Local Authorities have a key role in conserving biodiversity, this includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity should be a key component of sustainable development.</li> <li>Recognising the quality of life benefits and integrating biodiversity throughout a range of functions and services.</li> <li>Integrate with corporate priorities and internal policy.</li> <li>Identify opportunities to deliver through Local Strategic Partnership, Sustainable Community Strategies and Local Area Agreements.</li> <li>Utilise Local Biodiversity Action Planning.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Air</li> <li>Soil</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-1377>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<b>Require LBAPs to be considered during proposals for new measures and maintenance regimes.</b>	
PSA Delivery Agreement 28 Secure a Healthy Natural Environment for Today and the Future <a href="http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/1/3/pbr_csr07_psa28.pdf">http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/1/3/pbr_csr07_psa28.pdf</a>	Govt	2007	Secure a healthy natural environment for today and the future across water quality, biodiversity, air quality, marine health and land management <b>Contribute towards deliver of biodiversity indicator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act	Govt	2006	Requires local authorities to have regard to biodiversity conservation in carrying out their functions - referred to as their "Biodiversity Duty". Defra's guidance on Biodiversity Duty states that biodiversity should be a key component of sustainable development and that local authorities should utilise of Local Biodiversity Action Planning – highlighting the role of the LBAPs. <b>Consider LBAP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPS 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation</a>	ODPM	2005	<p>- Objectives for planning are as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced and integrated in social, environmental and economic development, therefore biodiversity and geological factors are considered along with other considerations in the development process.</li> <li>• Conserve, enhance and restore diversity of wildlife and geology – sustaining and improving the quality of natural and geological habitats and sites.</li> <li>• Contribute to rural renewal and urban renaissance .</li> </ul> <p>- The following key principles are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development plan policies and planning decisions – based on current information about the environmental characteristics of their areas.</li> <li>• Plan policies and decisions need to maintain, restore or enhance biological interests.</li> <li>• Development design should incorporate biodiversity and geological features and be reflected in planning policies.</li> <li>• Planning decisions should be to prevent harm to biodiversity and geological conservation interests therefore considering alternative sites or including measures to mitigate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ensure policies or schemes consider the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of biological conservation interests</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Landscape / townscape</li> </ul>
<b>Landscape/Townscape</b>				
Natural Environment White Paper	DEFRA	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new Green Areas Designation giving local people an opportunity to protect green spaces that have significant importance to their local communities is proposed to be introduced by April</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape / townscape</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<p>2012.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures to reduce the negative impacts of artificial light and protect existing dark areas will be explored. Exemptions from artificial light statutory nuisance are to be explored.</li> </ul> <p><b>Consider implications on site allocations.</b></p>	
<a href="#">The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution (RCEP) Report on Artificial Light in the Environment Government Response</a>	Defra	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government supports the recommendation at highway authorities reassess the lighting of roads against potential road safety and crime reduction benefits.</li> <li>Guidance on this topic in any future edition of "Well-lit Highways", their code of practice on street lighting maintenance management anticipated.</li> <li>Replacement of road lighting to minimise impacts of stray light.</li> <li>Government to disseminate information from trials on reducing or turning off lights where there is unlikely to be any significant use of the road</li> </ul> <p><b>Address lighting of roads and take measures to reduce impact</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic Factors</li> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Landscape / townscape</li> </ul>
<a href="#">A Strategy for Trees, Woods and Forests</a>	Defra	2007	<p>Strategy seeks to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provide, in England, a resource of trees, woods and forests in places where they can contribute most in terms of environmental, economic and social benefits now and for future generations</li> <li>ensure that existing and newly planted trees, woods and forests are resilient to the impacts of climate change and also contribute to the way in which biodiversity and natural resources adjust to a changing climate</li> <li>protect and enhance the environmental resources of water, soil, air, biodiversity and landscapes (both woodland and non-woodland), and the cultural and amenity values of trees and woodland</li> <li>increase the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to the quality of life for those living in, working in or visiting England</li> <li>improve the competitiveness of woodland businesses and promote the development of new or improved markets for sustainable woodland products and ecosystem services where this will deliver identifiable public benefits, nationally or locally, including the reduction of carbon emissions</li> </ul> <p><b>Support the provision of trees and protect and enhance environmental resources as well as increase the contribution that woods and forests can make potentially by enhancing accessibility</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscape / townscape</li> </ul>
Climate Change				

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
The Carbon Plan	DECC	2011	Government wishes to support and enable communities in their wish to adopt higher environmental standards for new homes including through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that there are robust sustainability standards for local authorities to use if they want to set higher standards than those in the national regulations in their local plans; and</li> <li>Supporting eco-towns and eco-developments where there is local support and a wish to adopt higher standards of sustainability and design.</li> </ul> <b>Develop sustainability standards to support low carbon homes.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic factors</li> </ul>
The Household Energy Management Strategy	DECC	2010	Emphasises the role of district heating schemes and identified a essential role for planning in facilitating delivery of these and other community-scale energy schemes. <b>Consider opportunities and policies to deliver district heating schemes.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic factors</li> <li>Material Assets</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Transport Carbon Reduction Delivery Plan</a>	DfT	2010	All local authorities are encouraged to promote cycling, walking and sustainable travel and bring forward initiatives in the third round of Local Transport Plans. <b>Promote sustainable transport measures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic factors</li> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Landscape / townscape</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Strategic Framework and Policy Statement on Improving the Resilience of Critical Infrastructure to Disruption from Natural Hazards</a>	Cabinet Office	2010	Sets approach to risk to infrastructure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build a level of resilience into critical infrastructure assets that ensures continuity during a worst case flood event</li> <li>Considering the threat from current and future natural hazards in the design of new assets</li> <li>Increase the robustness and resilience of existing services or assets by building additional network connections</li> <li>Identifying key components and moving them out of harm's way</li> <li>Improved arrangements for sharing of information on infrastructure network performance and standards.</li> <li>Enhancing skills and capabilities to respond to emergencies arising from natural hazards</li> </ul> <b>Prepare for defining and adapting to increase resilience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Transport 2010-2012</a>	DfT	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that regional and local transport authorities are encouraged and supported in taking action to assess and address climate change impacts</li> <li>Management of the 'soft estate' (verges, embankments and untrafficked paved areas) could be adapted to increase drainage capacity, reduce runoff, prevent flooding and landslides</li> <li>Authorities should establish contingency plans for dealing promptly and effectively with unplanned events such as extremes in weather</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic Factors</li> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Landscape / townscape</li> </ul>



Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<b>Adapt to risks from climate change through management of the soft estate and contingency planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Delivering Sustainable, Low Carbon, Travel: An Essential Guide for Local Authorities</a>	DfT	2009	<p>Sustainable travel approach rests on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>creating positive choices for travellers;</li> <li>a holistic package of measures, which 'lock-in' the benefits; and</li> <li>local application tailored to local circumstances.</li> </ul> <p>Stresses importance of generating the right evidence about the nature of the problems to be tackled, the priorities and the likely value and feasibility of different options</p> <p><b>Create local choice based on evidence leading to packages of measures locking in benefits</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Climate change</li> <li>Material assets</li> </ul>
Low Carbon Transition Plan <a href="http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/publications/lc_trans_plan/lc_trans_plan.aspx">http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/publications/lc_trans_plan/lc_trans_plan.aspx</a>	DECC	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maps out the "route" to 2020 greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining secure energy supplies, maximising economic opportunities, and protecting the most vulnerable.</li> <li>Details how targets for UK greenhouse gas reductions from the first three carbon budgets will be achieved. Around half the reductions to come from the power and heavy industry sectors. About one third of reductions are to be made by transport, homes and communities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Contribute towards reductions in greenhouse gas emissions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic change</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Low Carbon Transport: a Greener Future</a>	DfT	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Save around 85 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> over the third carbon budget period from 2018-2022, in addition to existing policies by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting a shift to new technologies and cleaner fuels</li> <li>Promoting lower carbon choices</li> <li>Using market mechanisms to encourage a shift to lower carbon transport</li> </ul> </li> <li>Strategy to deliver cuts in CO<sub>2</sub> up to 2022 and 2050 based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting a shift to new technologies and fuels</li> <li>Promoting lower carbon transport choices</li> <li>Using market based measures to encourage a shift to lower carbon transport</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Government is also to reports on the risks to the UK of climate change at least every five years and publishes a programmes setting out how these will be addressed</li> </ul> <p><b>Promote measures that reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</b></p> <p><b>Implementation Plans to remain abreast of requirements to address climate change risks</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic change</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
Updated Energy and Carbon Emissions Projections, The Energy White Paper	DECC	2008	<p>Provides of energy prices and carbon emission projections based upon three illustrative fuel price scenarios.</p> <p><b>Consider as part of scenario development activities.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate Change</li> <li>Material Assets</li> </ul>
Local Transport Act 2008 <a href="http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/">http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/</a>	Govt	2008	Requires local transport authorities to take into account any Government policies and guidance with respect to mitigation of, or adaptation to, climate change when formulating Local Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic change</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
<a href="#">acts2008/pdf/ukpga_20080026_en.pdf</a>			Plans and policies. <b>Adopt measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Climate Change Act</a>	Govt	2008	- Provides for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setting emissions reduction targets in statute and carbon budgeting – a duty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050 below 1990 levels and the setting of “carbon budgets” representing UK emissions for five year periods beginning with the period 2008–2012.</li> <li>Annual reporting by the Government on the UK’s greenhouse gas emissions</li> <li>Powers to enable the Government and the devolved administrations to introduce new domestic trading schemes to reduce emissions</li> <li>Procedure for assessing the risks of the impact of climate change for the UK, and a requirement on the Government to develop an adaptation programme, contributing to sustainable development.</li> </ul> <b>Include a specific objective in relation to tackling climate change and targets to show the contribution made towards the 80% reduction by 2050.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic change</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Planning and Climate Change – Supplement to PPS1</a>	CLG	2007	- Local spatial strategies to consider:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>full contribution to climate change programme and energy policies</li> <li>Consider energy efficiency and reduction in emissions</li> <li>Ensure that urban growth and sustainable rural development</li> <li>Enable the use of sustainable travel for moving freight, the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</li> <li>Secure and develop places that minimise vulnerability to climate change, therefore providing resilience.</li> <li>Conserve and enhance biodiversity.</li> <li>Enable community contribution in the tackling of climate change</li> <li>Encourage competitiveness and technological innovation</li> </ul> <b>Adopt principles of sustainable development and include measures that:</b> <b>Measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote more energy efficient vehicles or vehicles that use renewable forms of energy</li> <li>Promote sustainable travel options</li> <li>Support the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity</li> <li>Increase community participation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic factors</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Climate Change: The UK Programme</a>	Defra	2006	Reduce total current carbon dioxide emissions by some 60 per cent by 2050 from 1990 levels. <b>Show how wider local policies would contribute to the achievement of CO<sub>2</sub> targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change</li> </ul>
<b>Health</b>				
Public Health White Paper	DH	2011	Seeks new partnerships in important areas such as transport. Every child is to be offered high-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			quality instruction on how to ride safely and confidently by the end of year 6 of school. The £560m Local Sustainable Transport Fund will support active travel and further support will be outlined in the Local Transport White Paper. Public health is to be better integrated into social care, transport, leisure, planning and housing with the focus upon keeping people connected, active, independent, and in their own homes. <b>Integrate public health considerations into spatial planning.</b>	health
Active Travel Strategy	DH/ DfT	2010	Plans to put walking and cycling at centre of local transport and public health strategies over the next decade. Also recognises value to talking congestion, reduce carbon emissions and improve local environment. Local authorities are to develop a robust local monitoring and evaluation framework. <b>Ensure policies maximise the health benefits and walking and cycling can bring through a variety of measures including School Travel Plans and Work Place Plans.</b> <b>Use the Health Economic Assessment Tool for walking and cycling investments.</b> <b>Created in consultation with the LSP to ensure effective delivery.</b> <b>Include measures to monitor and evaluate outcome of measures.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
Confident Communities, Brighter Futures: A Framework for Developing Well-Being	DH	2010	Seeks to enhance the connections between mental and physical health in order to improve overall well-being; the connections between people to improve resilience and reduce inequalities; and the connections between communities and their environment to ensure a sustainable future. <b>Contribute to sustainable connected communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
Be active, be healthy: a plan for getting the nation moving	DH	2009	Establishes a framework for the delivery of physical activity alongside sport. The plan will contribute to the Government's ambition to get 2 million more people active by 2012. <b>Embrace the ambition behind the framework and contribute to improving physical activity by supporting sustainable modes of travel and access to recreation.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
Change4Life	DH	2009	A social marketing campaign seeking to reduce obesity and enhance life styles. Provides toolkits to promote physical activity (Walk4Life and Bike4Life). <b>Embrace the Change4Life campaign.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Climate factors</li> </ul>
A Children's Environment and Health Strategy for the UK	HPA	2009	A strategic approach is required to ensure all children and young people have easy access to safe and well-maintained green, open spaces that are in easy reach of their homes so they can take full advantage of the benefits that green, open spaces can provide. <b>Aid access to green and open space particularly for children and young people.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
Independent Living Strategy	Govt	2008	Aims to give disabled people more choice and control over the support they need and greater access to employment, transport and mobility, health and housing. <b>Engage with and provide greater access to employment, transport, health and housing for disabled people</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives: One Year On	DH	2008	Encourages local authorities to deliver active initiatives. <b>Incorporate the promotion of healthier lifestyles into the actions taken by spatial planning to design healthy communities through a suitable physical environment as well as access to employment, education, local fresh food and health services.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
PH8: Promoting and creating built of natural environments that encourage and support physical activity	NICE	2008	Public health guidance complements and support Clinical guidance on obesity (eg CG43- NICE 2006). Includes recommendations on land use planning, relevant to the development of Local Development Frameworks, and recommendations relevant to the development of local transport plans. Those relevant to transport include : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>re-allocate road space to support physically active modes of transport (as an example, this could be achieved by widening pavements and introducing cycle lanes)</li> <li>restrict motor vehicle access (for example, by closing or narrowing roads to reduce capacity)</li> <li>introduce road-user charging schemes</li> <li>introduce traffic-calming schemes to restrict vehicle speeds (using signage and changes to highway design)</li> <li>create safe routes to schools (for example, by using traffic-calming measures near schools and by creating or improving walking and cycle routes to schools); and</li> <li>plan and provide a comprehensive network of routes for walking, cycling and using other modes of transport involving physical activity, which offer everyone (including people whose mobility is impaired) convenient, safe and attractive access to workplaces, homes, schools and other public facilities. They should be built and maintained to a high standard.</li> </ul> <b>Embrace aim behind the recommendations and adopt recommendations where practicable and appropriate.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
A <a href="#">Sure Start to Later Life: Ending Inequalities for Older People</a>	SEU	2006	Sets out 30 cross government actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
CG43: Obesity: the prevention, identification, assessment and management of overweight and obesity in adults and children	NICE	2006	Clinical guidance and the related publications seek to produce the first comprehensive and integrated approach to prevention, maintenance and treatment. It is generally accepted that obesity is one of the major challenges to public health at this time and I hope that these publications will contribute to both informed debate and action. <b>Seek to support actions to reduce obesity by promoting sustainable modes of transport and opportunities for physical activity, e.g through improved access to recreation and measures such as school travel plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Choosing Health: Making Healthy Choices Easier</a>	DH	2004	- Focuses on public health with 3 core principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informed choice</li> <li>Personal support in making healthy choices and particularly to tackle health inequalities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting healthier choices</li> <li>- Priorities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reducing obesity and improving diet and nutrition</li> <li>Increasing exercise</li> <li>Improving mental health</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <b>Promote sustainable transport &amp; travel options as well as address the links with health improvement</b>	
<a href="#">Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation</a>	DH	1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Focuses on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>tackling poor health and</li> <li>improving the health of everyone in Britain, especially the worst off.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Targets set for four priority areas relating to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cancer - reduce the death rate in people under 75 by at least a fifth.</li> <li>Coronary heart disease and stroke - reduce death rate in people under 75 by at least two fifths</li> <li>Accidents - reduce the death rate by at least a fifth and serious injury by at least a tenth</li> <li>Mental Illness - reduce the death rate from suicide and undetermined injury by at least a fifth.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Recognised role of social, economic and environmental factors and behavioural factors in health.</li> </ul> <b>Contribute by targets on sustainable travel and the promotion of physical activity.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Air quality</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Issues</b>				
<a href="#">Rural Strategy</a>	Defra	2004	<p>Governments three priorities for rural policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Economic and Social Regeneration</b> – supporting enterprise across rural England, but targeting greater resources at areas of greatest need</li> <li><b>Social Justice for All</b> – tackling rural social exclusion wherever it occurs and providing fair access to services and opportunities for all rural people</li> <li><b>Enhancing the Value of our Countryside</b> – protecting the natural environment for this and future generations</li> </ul> <b>Target interventions to address social exclusion, support regeneration and protect the natural environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> </ul>
<b>Noise and Air Pollution</b>				
Natural Environment White Paper	DEFRA	2011	<p>Mechanisms to identify and protect urban quiet areas will be established.</p> <b>Consider policies to protect quiet areas.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noise</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
Noise Policy Statement for England	CLG	2011	<p>Sets out aims to manage and control environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise.</p> <b>Consider implications for spatial planning.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<a href="#">Air Pollution in a Changing</a>	Defra	2010	Sets out the policy basis for reducing emissions and consequences of climate change adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
<a href="#">Climate</a>			on air quality <b>Take into account the implications of climate change on air quality through consideration of the Air Quality Action Plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> <li>Climate change</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland</a>	Defra	2007	<p>Sets health-based ambient air quality objectives for nine main pollutants: Benzene; 1,3-butadiene; carbon monoxide (CO); Lead; nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>); Ozone; Particles (PM<sub>10</sub>); sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>); polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.</p> <p>- Includes programme of LAQM action plans comprising following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commitment to put LAQM at heart of policies across departments.</li> <li>Closer working with authorities responsible for highway/environmental regulation concerning emission reduction</li> <li>Traffic management measures to limit access to identified problem areas.</li> <li>Developing/promotion of green travel plans.</li> <li>Strategy for informing local people about air quality.</li> <li>Quality partnerships for buses or vehicle fleets.</li> <li>Longer term – congestion charging where appropriate</li> <li>Integrate AQMAs</li> <li>Sustainable transport measures and initiatives to reduce emissions and congestion</li> </ul> <p><b>Local AQMAs to be included with measures to be identified and delivered to tackle local air quality issues.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPS 23 Planning and Pollution Control</a>	ODPM	2004	<p>- Considers relationship between planning and pollution control systems noting that matters relating to the quality of land, air or water and the potential impacts arising from development, possibly leading to impacts on health, should be dealt with as a material planning consideration</p> <p><b>Include policies to reduce or mitigate pollution</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Population</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Soil</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPG 24: Planning and Noise</a>	DoE	1994	<p>- Directs the planning system to locate noise sensitive developments at a distance from major noise sources (including road, rail and air transport and some industrial development).</p> <p>- Special consideration to be given when noisy development is proposed near to SSSI or other areas of landscape, wildlife or historic value.</p> <p><b>Consider effects of developments on noise sensitive activities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> <li>Landscape /townscape</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>



Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
<b>Heritage</b>				
<a href="#">PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment</a> and accompanying practice guide	CLG	2010	Policies and decisions are to recognise the role that the heritage asset plays in wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits with protection of the resource being proportionate to the importance of the heritage asset in terms of its value to local character and sense of place <b>To be informed by an understanding of the historic environment and to conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Landscape/ townscape</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance</a>	EH	2008	Provide a comprehensive framework for the sustainable management of the historic environment, under six headlines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principle 1: The historic environment is a shared resource</li> <li>• Principle 2: Everyone should be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment</li> <li>• Principle 3: Understanding the significance of places is vital</li> <li>• Principle 4: Significant places should be managed to sustain their values</li> <li>• Principle 5: Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent</li> <li>• Principle 6: Documenting and learning from decisions is essential</li> </ul> <b>Demonstrate an understanding of the value of the historic environment and how the transport estate can be managed to sustain their values with evidence of learning from decisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Landscape/ townscape</li> </ul>
Climate Change and the Historic Environment	EH	2008	Sets out English Heritage's current views on the implications of climate change for the historic environment. It recognises that adaptations and mitigation to address the causes and consequences of climate change can have a damaging effect on historic buildings, sites and landscapes. <b>Demonstrate an understanding of the historic environment and the need to protect and conserve historic assets when implementing measures to adapt to climate change.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Landscape/ townscape</li> </ul>
Transport and the Historic Environment	EH	2004	Policy statement states out English Heritage's vision for long-term transport policy. The vision is one where Government, its agencies and local authorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• encourage a switch to less damaging forms of transport and promote planning policies that reduce the need to travel;</li> <li>• seek imaginative solutions to transport problems;</li> <li>• ensure that transport appraisal properly assesses the impacts on the historic environment to an appropriate level of detail;</li> <li>• take account of the wider historic environment</li> <li>• continue to promote good design and push for proposals that recognise local and regional distinctiveness;</li> <li>• encourage innovative transport management strategies; and</li> <li>• minimise the impact of air travel on the historic environment.</li> </ul> <b>Seek to protect and conserve the historic environment and seek opportunities for innovative solutions.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Landscape/ townscape</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
<b>Water Resources &amp; Flood Risk</b>				
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Strategy for England (2011)	Defra	2011	Sets out a statutory framework that will help communities, the public sector and other organisations to work together to manage flood and coastal erosion risk. Aim is to ensure that flooding and coastal erosion risks are well-managed and co-ordinated. The strategy covers flooding from the sea, rivers, surface water, sewers, groundwater and reservoirs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Climate change</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
Guidance for risk management authorities on sustainable development in relation to their flood and coastal erosion risk management	Defra	2011	Provides guidance on how authorities can contribute towards achievement of sustainable development when exercising flood and coastal erosion risk management functions, as required by the Flood and Water Management Act (2000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Climate change</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
The Flood and Water Management Act 2010	HM Govt	2010	The Act Section 21 sets a duty on the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) <sup>2</sup> to maintain a register of structures or features, and a record of information about each of those structures or features, which, in the opinion of the authority, are likely to have a significant effect on flood risk in its area helping to improve our understanding and management of local flood risk. Section 30 allows the Environment Agency, LLFAs and Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs) to designate natural or artificial features that are important for flood or coastal erosion risk management. The effect of a designation is that a feature may not be altered, replaced or removed without consent. A new regulation will require all LLFA's to assess all drainage designs prior to construction to determine whether the design meets national sustainable drainage standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Climate change</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>
Appraisal of Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management	Defra	2009	<p>Sets out the principles that should guide decision making on the sustainable management of flood and coastal erosion risk in England. In particular it emphasises the need to ensure that appraisals for all activity (whether strategic level plans or individual projects):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give more consideration to 'risk management' and 'adaptation', as opposed to only 'protection' and 'defence';</li> <li>• Are undertaken consistently, transparently, with value for money in mind and in a way that complies with the Treasury guidance on appraisal and evaluation in central Government (The Green Book);</li> <li>• Help achieve better social and environmental outcomes as part of sustainable development, both by considering a broader range of issues and by using a broader range of analysis techniques;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Climate change</li> <li>• Human health</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> The Unitary or County Council for the area.  
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt a risk-based approach, whilst considering impacts within the whole of a catchment or shoreline process area.</li> </ul>	
Flood Risk Regulations (2009) (SI 3042)	HM Govt	2009	Sets duty on Environment Agency and lead local flood authorities to prepare preliminary assessment maps and reports for river basin districts and flooding. A further duty is to identify flood risk areas and prepare flood risk management plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> <li>Climate change</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>
Groundwater (England and Wales) Regulations (2009)	HM Govt	2009	Seeks to prevent or limit the input of pollutants into groundwater.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England</a>	Defra	2008	<p>Recognises that poor surface water management can cause water quality problems. The Government vision for water policy and management is one where, by 2030 at the latest, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology which it supports, and continued to provide high levels of drinking water quality from our taps</li> <li>Sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water</li> <li>Ensured a sustainable use of water resources, and implemented fair, affordable and cost reflective water charges</li> <li>Cut greenhouse gas emissions and</li> <li>Embedded continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users</li> </ul> <p><b>Contribute towards managing risk from flooding and improving water quality</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>
Groundwater Protection Policy & Practice	EA	2006	Protection of groundwaters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> </ul>
<a href="#">PPS 25: Development and Flood Risk</a>	CLG	2006	<p>- The main aims are to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding.</li> <li>direct development away from areas of highest risk, or where new development is necessary, the policies within the guidance aim to make it safe, without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, reducing flood risk overall.</li> </ul> <p><b>Consider flood risk management and be aware of areas of flood risk in considering proposals</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic factors</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Landscape / townscape</li> </ul>
Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2003.	HM Govt	2003	<p>Requires all rivers to aim to achieve good status by 2015 and charged the Environment Agency with production of River Basin Management Plans to be implemented by the end of 2009.</p> <p><b>Demonstrate awareness of requirements of river basin management plan</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Soils</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
Water Act 2003	HM Govt	2003	Encourage more efficient use of water resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> </ul>
<b>Soils, Waste and Material Assets</b>				
Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England <a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/land/soil/documents/soil-strategy.pdf">http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/land/soil/documents/soil-strategy.pdf</a>	Defra	2009	<p>Sets out a vision to improve the sustainable management of soil and tackle degradation within 20 years with a focus on: The focus is on four main themes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable use of agricultural soils.</li> <li>• The role of soils in mitigating and adapting to climate change.</li> <li>• Protecting soil functions during construction and development.</li> <li>• Preventing pollution and dealing with historic contamination</li> </ul> <p><b>Recognise the importance of efficiency of land use and the need to conserve soil resources, in relation to proposed developments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Landscape / townscape</li> </ul>
Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites <a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/land/soil/built-environment/documents/code-of-practice.pdf">http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/land/soil/built-environment/documents/code-of-practice.pdf</a>	BIS/ WRAP	2009	<p>Conservation of soils</p> <p><b>Provide policy for protection of soils</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Landscape / townscape</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Waste Strategy for England</a>	Defra	2007	<p>Objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce waste and focus on re-use</li> <li>• Increase diversion from landfill of non-municipal waste</li> </ul> <p><b>Contribute towards directing the use of recycled materials and reduction of waste generation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>
PPS10 - Planning for Sustainable Waste Management	ODPM	2005	<p>Planning authorities should, to the extent appropriate to their responsibilities, prepare and deliver planning strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drive waste management up the waste hierarchy, addressing waste as a resource and looking to disposal as the last option</li> <li>• Provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste, and enable sufficient and timely provision of waste management facilities</li> <li>• Help implement the national waste strategy, and supporting targets</li> <li>• Help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment, and enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations</li> <li>• Reflect the concerns and interests of communities, the needs of waste collection authorities,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>

Title	Author	Date	Implications	SA Topics
			<p>waste disposal authorities and business, and encourage competitiveness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect green belts but recognise the particular locational needs of some types of waste management facilities, together with the wider environmental and economic benefits of sustainable waste management, are material considerations that should be given significant weight</li> <li>• Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management</li> </ul> <p><b>Promote reduced waste arisings.</b></p>	

## West Midlands & Local

Title/Weblink	Author	Date	Implications	SEA Topics
Regional Rural Development Framework		2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance value of the countryside</li> <li>Develop a diverse and dynamic business base</li> <li>Improve learning and skills</li> <li>Establish conditions for growth</li> <li>Achieve fair access to services for all</li> <li>Secure vibrant, active, inclusive and sustainable communities</li> </ul> <b>Recognise unique needs of rural areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Material assets</li> <li>Transport</li> </ul>
Water Resources Strategy		2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prudent and sustainable use of natural resources</li> <li>Efficient use of water while bringing forward proposals for resource development</li> <li>Provide robustness to uncertainty and change</li> <li>Where uncertainty exists adopt the precautionary principle</li> </ul> <b>Promote policies and proposals that recognise resource constraints and adopt the precautionary principle where appropriate.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> </ul>
The Local Transport Plan 2011-2026	Telford & Wrekin	2011	<p>The Local Transport Plan sets out six goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making travel more reliable and efficient, to attract jobs and support growth and regeneration;</li> <li>Maintain highways effectively and efficiently;</li> <li>Reduce carbon emissions to help tackle climate change;</li> <li>Allow everyone to access jobs, education, healthcare, shops and leisure;</li> <li>Improve safety and security on the transport network and promote active travel choices which encourage people to be healthier.</li> <li>Improve the quality of life by reducing the visual, noise, air quality and other impacts of transport on people and the local environment.</li> </ul> <b>Promote policies that complement LTP3.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transport</li> </ul>



Title/Weblink	Author	Date	Implications	SEA Topics
Core Strategy 2006-2026 Adopted 24 February 2011	Telford & Wrekin	2011	Sets out a series of spatial planning policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Landscape/ townscape</li> <li>• Historic environment</li> </ul>
Severn Tidal Tributaries Catchment Flood Management Plan	EA		<p>The objectives of the CFMP are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain or reduce flood risk to provide an acceptable level of public safety</li> <li>• Reduce flood risk to critical infrastructure communication and transport links</li> <li>• Minimise economic damage from floods</li> <li>• Protect and enhance economic benefits of waterside/water based recreation and tourism</li> <li>• Minimise the economic losses from flooding to agriculture</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the landscape character of the catchment, recognising its value for nature conservation, leisure recreation and tourism</li> <li>• Help maintain and enhance priority habitats and species in line with BAP targets</li> <li>• Protect designated and undesignated heritage sites and Scheduled Ancient Monuments adversely affected by flooding</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of diffuse pollution from surface water run-off and minimise the risk of flow water flooding</li> </ul> <p><b>Provide measures to reduce the risk and mitigation to reduce the consequences of flooding</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> </ul>

Title/Weblink	Author	Date	Implications	SEA Topics
Regional Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2007)	WM Dept of Health	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote health and well-being as an integral part of the social, environmental and physical regeneration</li> <li>Reduce social exclusion and promote independence by improving safe access to services</li> <li>Encourage employers to have active travel plans Encourage 'designing for health'</li> <li>Support the provision of affordable decent homes built to the lifetime standard</li> <li>Reduce the excess number of winter deaths, and deaths through excess heat</li> <li>Promote the housing needs of diverse and additional needs groups and support people to remain in their own homes</li> <li>Promote the benefits of a diverse natural environment for physical and mental health and support the development of green Infrastructure</li> <li>Increase the number of people using the countryside and green spaces, and work to meet emerging standards for accessible local green space</li> <li>Tackle climate change and its impacts and promoting adaptation to climate change</li> <li>Reverse the trend of rising obesity levels by 2020, particularly in childhood</li> <li>Protect people and their environment from threats such as air pollution, land contamination, water pollution and noise pollution</li> <li>Ensure children and adults get the most out of life by supporting them to develop their skills for employment and access to employment</li> <li>Develop workplaces as appropriate as centres for promoting the health and well-being of the workforce and their families, and to promote both health, and safety at work as a way of increasing productivity.</li> <li>Broaden access to jobs by targeting unemployed people to take up entry level jobs in health and social care</li> <li>To reduce the number of adults in the Region doing less than 30 minutes of physical activity, sport and active recreation per week and contribute to exceeding the target for a 1% year on year increase in physical activity levels in the population</li> <li>Improve the quantity, quality and accessibility of cultural, leisure and play opportunities and facilities for residents</li> </ul> <p><b>Integrate the health agenda into spatial planning</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> </ul>

Title/Weblink	Author	Date	Implications	SEA Topics
<b>Heritage</b>				
The West Midlands Historic Environment Forum <a href="http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about/working-locally/west-midlands/">http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about/working-locally/west-midlands/</a> Regional Historic Environment Strategy (2010-2015)'Putting the Historic Environment to Work	EH	2009	<p>Sets out the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the rich cultural diversity of the region by ensuring that all people and communities can enjoy the historic environment, physically and intellectually, reducing barriers to access.</li> <li>• Foster and increase in community engagement with, and enjoyment of, the historic environment of the region, particularly in those areas where take-up of historic environment-related activities appears to be low.</li> <li>• Use the historic environment to address the skills gap in young people and adults including safeguarding, and developing, traditional building skills in the region</li> <li>• Continue to develop a deep understanding of the historic environment and how it contributes to the sense of place and distinctiveness of the region.</li> <li>• Ensure that historic character is respected and historic buildings, landscapes and archaeological remains are conserved and enhanced when development or change is planned.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how well used and managed historic environment can contribute to sustainable development, carbon reduction and climate change adaptation.</li> <li>• Undertake and contribute to studies and surveys of how the historic environment is valued and used and its impact on the region's economy and quality of life.</li> <li>• Influence and contribute to the development of other policies and plans in the region to ensure that the historic environment contributes to the delivery of key aspirations and outcomes.</li> <li>• Align the objectives and marshal the efforts of the historic environment sector in the region, to realise some key goals and initiatives, including making the most of the Cultural Olympiad.</li> </ul> <p><b>Promote policies that protect and promote the values of the historic environment in maintaining a sense of place and contributing to economic and cultural objectives.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic environment</li> </ul>
Ironbridge Gorge WHS Management Plan.	Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust	2001	<p>Management plan seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conserve and improve the Ironbridge Gorge area.</li> <li>• To increase public awareness of and interest in the WHS and to promote the educational and cultural value of the historic landscape.</li> <li>• To outline a sustainable approach to the future management of the WHS which balances conservation of the historic and natural environments.</li> <li>• To work with the local community to develop the economy and culture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic environment</li> </ul>

Title/Weblink	Author	Date	Implications	SEA Topics
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To establish a programme of action and bid for sources of funding to contribute further to the conservation, enjoyment and understanding of the WHS.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coordinate policies to complement the management objectives for the Gorge.</b></p>	