

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

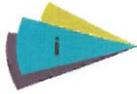
Integrated Assessment of the Tameside Local Plan

Scoping Report



March 2017

Amec Foster Wheeler Environment
& Infrastructure UK Limited



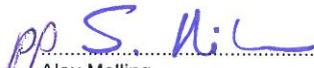
Report for

Planning Policy
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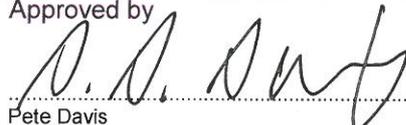
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Document revisions

No.	Details	Date
1	Draft Report	08.02.17
2	Final Report	01.03.17
3	Final Report v2	02.03.17



Non-Technical Summary

Introduction

This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides an overview of the Scoping Report produced as part of the Integrated Assessment (IA) of the new Tameside Local Plan (the Local Plan) that is currently being prepared by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (the Council). The IA will include a Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and will assess the environmental, social and economic performance of the Local Plan.

The Scoping Report sets out the proposed approach to undertaking the IA of the emerging Local Plan. It provides an opportunity for statutory consultees (Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England) as well as other bodies and the public to comment on the scope of the IA and the level of detail that should be included within the assessment and subsequent IA Reports.

The following sections of this NTS:

- ▶ provide an overview of the Local Plan;
- ▶ describe the scope of the IA and the key stages in the IA process;
- ▶ summarise the key economic, social and environmental issues relevant to the assessment of the Local Plan;
- ▶ outline the proposed approach to undertaking the assessment of the Local Plan; and
- ▶ set out the next steps in the IA process including how to respond to consultation on the Scoping Report.

The Scoping Report and this NTS have been prepared by Amec Foster Wheeler Environment and Infrastructure UK Ltd (Amec Foster Wheeler).

What is The Tameside Local Plan?

The Tameside Local Plan will reflect National Policy, guidance and the strategic context provided by the emerging Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) as it evolves. It will set out the vision, objectives, local planning policies and site allocations that will guide development in the Borough up to at least 2035. Once adopted, the Local Plan will replace the saved policies of the Tameside Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2004.

Development of the Local Plan will be informed by ongoing consultation, evidence gathering and assessment (including IA) before it is submitted for Examination in Public. The Council expects to adopt the Local Plan in Autumn 2019.

The Council's timetable for preparation of the Local Plan is contained in **Table NTS.1**.



Table NTS.1 Local Plan Preparation Milestones

Local Plan Development Stage	Timetable
Regulation 18 Notification	January to March 2017
Consultation on Draft Local Plan	August 2017 to September 2017
Publication of Submission Draft Local Plan and Public Consultation	May 2018 to June 2018
Submission of the Local Plan	November 2018
Public Examination	March to April 2019
Formal Adoption	Autumn 2019

Further information in respect of the preparation of the Local Plan is set out in Section 1.3 of the Scoping Report and is available via the Council's website:

<http://www.tameside.gov.uk/planning/tamesidelocalplan>

What is Integrated Assessment?

Consistent with the approach being taken to the development of the GMSF, the Council has determined to undertake an IA of the Local Plan that is to include SA, SEA, EqIA and HIA. The requirements relating to each assessment are discussed in-turn below.

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

National planning policy¹ states that local plans are key to delivering sustainable development and that they must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. Sustainable development is that which seeks to strike a balance between economic, environmental and social factors to enable people to meet their needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

It is therefore very important that the Local Plan contributes to a sustainable future for the Borough. To support this objective, the Council is required to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Local Plan². SA is a means of ensuring that the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan are identified, described and appraised and also incorporates a process set out under a European Directive³ and related UK regulations⁴ called Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

Equalities Impact Assessment

The Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires public authorities to have due regard to a number of equality considerations when exercising their functions. EqIA is not required by law, but it is a way of ensuring that the Public Sector Equality Duty, alongside requirements under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and Disability Discrimination Act 2005, have been complied with by considering the effect of Council services, practices and policies (such as the Local Plan) on different groups protected from discrimination by the Equality Act. It is a tool that can help local authorities ensure that their policies and decisions do not discriminate, that they promote equality wherever possible and that they foster good community relations.

¹ See paragraph 150-151 of the National Planning Policy Framework (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2012).

² The requirement for SA of local plans is set out under section 19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

³ Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.

⁴ Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (statutory instrument 2004 No. 1633).

Carrying out EqIA involves assessing the likely effects of policies on “protected characteristics” as defined in the Equality Act (the protected characteristics or groups are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation).

To ensure the IA meets the requirements of EqIA, it will consider whether there is potential for the Local Plan to affect people differently based on the protected characteristics. This is reflected in the considerations for IA assessment and in the IA Framework. Furthermore, consideration of equality issues within the IA will be supported by an equality screening assessment that will be presented as an appendix to the subsequent IA Reports.

Health Impact Assessment

There is no statutory requirement to undertake HIA as part of the plan-making process. However, HIA can support decision making by predicting the health consequences of proposals, helping to ensure that plans and policies avoid or minimise negative, and maximise positive, health impacts.

Department of Health (DOH) guidance⁵ on HIA states that “*the determinants of health are the focus of HIA. They are the social, economic, environmental and cultural factors that indirectly influence health and wellbeing. They include what we eat and drink; where we live and work; and the social relationships and connections we have with other people and organisations*”. The determinants of health referred to in the DOH guidance have been used to inform the IA Framework, guiding how the IA will assess the health impacts of the Local Plan. Subsequent HIA stages align with those of the IA. As such, by including consideration of health alongside other environmental, sustainability and equality considerations, the IA will cover the scope of a HIA. Additionally, the Local Plan will be subject to initial HIA screening.

Key Stages in the Integrated Assessment Process

There are five key stages in the IA process which are shown in **Figure NTS.1**. The preparation of, and consultation on, the Scoping Report is the first stage of the IA process (**Stage A**). The scoping stage itself includes five tasks that are listed below:

1. Review of other relevant policies, plans, programmes and strategies (hereafter referred to as ‘plans and programmes’).
2. Collation and analysis of baseline information.
3. Identification of key sustainability, health and equality issues.
4. Development of the IA Framework.
5. Consultation on the scope of the assessment (the Scoping Report).

The Scoping Report sets out the proposed IA Framework to be used to assess the effects of the Local Plan (and any reasonable alternatives). This Framework has been informed by:

- ▶ the framework developed as part of the GMSF Integrated Assessment;
- ▶ the objectives and criteria that comprised the SA Framework developed in support of the SA of the Joint Core Strategy and

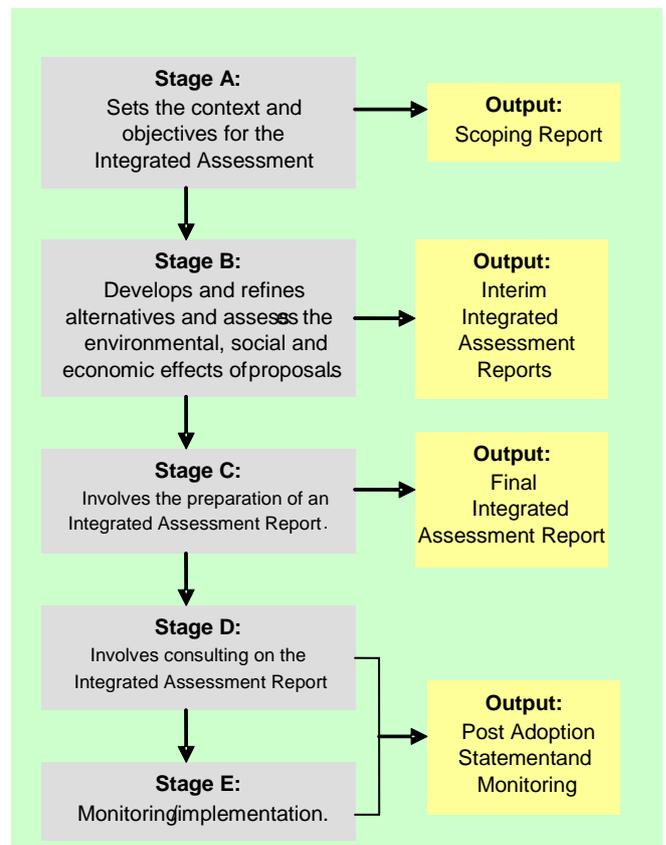
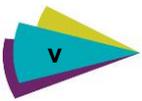


Figure NTS.1 The IA Process

⁵ Department of Health (2010) *Health Impact Assessment of Government Policy*.



Development Management Policies DPD;

- ▶ a review of plans and programmes;
- ▶ baseline analysis and the identification of key sustainability (including health and equality) issues;
- ▶ the determinants of health; and
- ▶ the equality considerations set out in the Equality Act 2010.

Following the conclusion of scoping consultation, the IA Framework will be amended to take into account consultation responses as appropriate.

The revised IA Framework will be used to assess the effects of the emerging Local Plan (**Stage B**). This stage is iterative and will involve the development and refinement of the Local Plan by testing the sustainability, health and equality strengths and weaknesses of the emerging Plan options. In this respect, IA will be undertaken throughout the preparation of the Local Plan with the findings presented in a series of interim IA Reports to accompany the publication of, and consultation on, the various iterations of the draft Local Plan.

At **Stage C**, a final IA Report will be prepared to accompany the submission draft Local Plan. This will be available for consultation alongside the draft Local Plan itself prior to consideration by an independent planning inspector at an Examination in Public (**Stage D**).

Following Examination in Public, and subject to any significant changes to the draft Local Plan that may require assessment, the Council will issue a Post Adoption Statement as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Local Plan. This will set out the results of the consultation and IA processes and the extent to which the findings of the IA have been accommodated in the adopted Local Plan. During the period of the Local Plan, the Council will monitor its implementation and any significant social, economic and environmental effects (**Stage E**).

Section 1.4 of the Scoping Report describes in further detail the scope of the IA and the key stages in the assessment process.

What are the Key Sustainability, Health and Equality Issues for the Local Plan?

Based on a review of other plans and programmes relevant to the Local Plan and an analysis of the characteristics of the Borough, a number of key sustainability, health and equality issues relevant to the Local Plan have been identified. These issues are summarised in **Table NTS.2** below.

Table NTS.2 Key Sustainability, Health and Equality Issues Relevant to the Local Plan

Topic	Key Sustainability, Health and Equality Issues
Population and Demographics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to meet future requirements for housing including for a mix of accommodation types and tenures.• The need to meet the needs of an ageing population.• The need to ensure that the needs of different ethnic groups are met and that community cohesion is fostered.
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to provide an adequate supply of land for housing to meet the requirements set out in the GMSF.• The need to ensure the delivery of an appropriate range of housing types and tenures to meet local needs.• The need to make best use of, and where appropriate improve, the quality of the existing housing stock including bringing empty properties back into use.• The need to address homelessness in the Borough.• The need to make appropriate provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.



Topic	Key Sustainability, Health and Equality Issues
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to provide sufficient employment land in locations well served by transport and other infrastructure and in locations attractive to the market, particularly in the key growth sectors.• The need to facilitate the growth of an appropriately educated and skilled workforce.• The need to support the development of innovative and knowledge-based businesses.• The need to support the growth and development of existing businesses.• The need to increase local employment opportunities.• The need to support the expansion of the manufacturing sector.• The need to maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres.
Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to enhance the health and wellbeing of Tameside's population.• The need to tackle inequalities in health.• The need to ensure appropriate open space provision across Tameside.• The need to reduce crime levels, minimise risk and increase community safety.• The need to ensure appropriate health care facilities and services are available and accessible to meet needs arising from new development and anticipated population growth.• The need to plan for an ageing population.
Education and Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to raise educational attainment and skills.• The need to ensure that educational facilities meet the changing demands of the population and the economy.
Deprivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to address the many causes of deprivation within the Borough.• The need to specifically tackle deprivation and promote regeneration in the Borough's most deprived communities.• The need to promote social inclusion and reduce inequality.
Transport and Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services to accommodate anticipated growth.• The need to support proposals contained in the TFGM Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 and those identified by Highways England to address highways capacity issues in the Borough.• The need to capitalise on the Borough's good transport accessibility links to Manchester Airport and the proposed transport interchange and potential new Droylsden railway station.• The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the private car.• The need to ensure that new development is accessible to community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.• The need to encourage walking and cycling.• The need to protect and enhance the PRow network in the Borough.
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity including sites with international, national and local designations for their nature conservation value.• The need to maintain, restore and expand, where appropriate, the Borough's priority habitats.• The need to recognise the key role that green infrastructure plays in supporting wellbeing and climate change resilience.• The need to enhance the green infrastructure network, ensuring adequate provision, improving accessibility and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.
Land Use, Geology and Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to encourage development on previously developed (brownfield) land.• The need to make best use of existing buildings and infrastructure.• The need to protect the limited areas of best and most versatile agricultural land in the Borough from inappropriate development.• The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their geological interest.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to protect and enhance the quality of the Borough's water resources.• The need to promote the efficient use of water resources.• The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development.• The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk, taking into account the effects of climate change.• The need to encourage the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems.• The need to appropriately manage surface water.
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to minimise the emission of pollutants to air.• The need to improve air quality, particularly in the Greater Manchester AQMA.

Topic	Key Sustainability, Health and Equality Issues
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to ensure that new development is able to adapt to the effects of climate change. The need to mitigate climate change including through increased renewable energy provision. The need to contribute to the Greater Manchester target of reducing CO₂ emissions by 48% by 2020.
Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to minimise waste arisings and encourage reuse and recycling. The need to promote the efficient use of mineral resources, recognising that the Greater Manchester area is reliant on minerals won in other MPAs. The need to ensure the protection of the Borough's mineral resources in accordance with the Great Manchester Joint Minerals Plan (2013). The need to promote resource efficiency through sustainable design and construction techniques to minimise resource depletion and waste creation.
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to protect and enhance Tameside's cultural heritage assets, including industrial heritage assets, and their settings. The need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets and their settings. The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets where appropriate. The need to tackle heritage at risk. The need to recognise the positive contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes.
Landscape and Townscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to conserve and enhance Tameside's distinctive landscape and townscape character. The need to promote high quality design that respects local character. The need to maximise opportunities associated with new development to enhance townscape character and the quality of urban environments.

The key sustainability, health and equality issues listed in **Table NTS.2** above have informed the framework that will be used to assess the effects of the Local Plan.

Section 2 of the Scoping Report summarises the review of plans and programmes relevant to the Local Plan that is contained at Appendix B. Section 3 and Appendix C present the socio-economic and environmental baseline conditions for the Borough, along with how these conditions are likely to change in the future without the Local Plan.

What is the Proposed IA Framework?

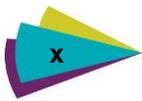
The main purpose of the scoping stage of the IA is to identify the framework for the assessment of the Local Plan. The framework contains a series of objectives and guide questions developed to reflect both the current socio-economic and environmental issues which may affect (or be affected by) the Local Plan and the objectives contained within other plans and programmes. **Table NTS.3** presents the proposed IA Framework for the Local Plan.

Table NTS.3 Proposed IA Framework

IA Objective	Guide Questions <i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	SEA Directive Topic(s)
1. Housing: To provide a sustainable supply of housing land and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet housing need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet the Borough's objectively assessed housing need (consistent with the requirements of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework), providing a range of housing types, tenures and sizes to meet current and emerging need for market and affordable housing? Reduce homelessness? Reduce the number of unfit homes? Make best use of the Borough's existing housing stock? Help to ensure the provision of good quality, well designed homes? 	Population

IA Objective	Guide Questions <i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure housing land is well-connected with employment land, centres and green space or co-located where appropriate? • Deliver pitches/plots required for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople? 	
<p>2. Economy and Employment: To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a balanced supply of flexible, good quality employment land to meet the needs of the Borough's existing businesses and to attract inward investment, consistent with the requirements of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework? • Help to diversify the local economy and support the delivery of the Greater Manchester Growth and Reform Plan and Manufacturing Strategy and the New Economic Strategy for Tameside? • Provide good quality, well paid employment opportunities that meet the needs of local people? • Increase average income levels? • Improve the physical accessibility of jobs? • Promote a low carbon economy? • Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's towns? • Create jobs in high knowledge sectors? 	Population
<p>3. Transport and Communications: To reduce the need to travel, promote sustainable modes of transport and ensure that there is sufficient coverage and capacity of transport and utilities to support growth and development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce travel demand and the distance people travel for jobs, employment, leisure and services and facilities? • Encourage a shift to more sustainable modes of transport? • Encourage walking and cycling? • Help to manage traffic congestion? • Deliver investment in the Borough's transportation infrastructure and support proposals identified in the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040? • Help to develop a safe transport network that minimises the impact on the environment and public health? • Reduce the level of freight movement by road? • Improve transport connectivity? • Ensure that utilities / digital infrastructure can support growth? 	Population Human Health Air
<p>4. Regeneration: To promote regeneration and tackle levels of deprivation and disparity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate provision of community facilities and services? • Enhance accessibility to key community facilities and services? • Tackle deprivation in the Borough's most deprived areas and reduce inequalities? • Support reductions in poverty (including child and fuel poverty), deprivation and disparity across the domains of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation? • Contribute to regeneration initiatives including in the proposed Eastern Gateway? • Promote participation in cultural activities? • Enhance the public realm? • Support rural regeneration? 	Population Human Health
<p>5. Equality and Social Inclusion: To promote equality of opportunity and the elimination of discrimination.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster good relations between different people? • Improve people's perception of their local area as being a place where people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together? • Create a sense of belonging and wellbeing for all members of the community? • Ensure equality of opportunity and equal access to facilities and infrastructure for all? • Appropriately consider 'protected characteristics' groups, as defined in the Equality Act 2010? • Ensure that the needs of different areas (namely urban, suburban, urban fringe and rural) are equally addressed? 	Population Human Health

IA Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive
	<i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	Topic(s)
6. Health and Wellbeing: To improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid locating development in locations that could adversely affect people's health? • Reduce death rates and negative health impacts in key vulnerable groups? • Ensure adequate provision of, and access to, green infrastructure, open space, leisure and recreational facilities? • Enhance the opportunities for physical activity? • Improve access to healthcare facilities and services? • Reduce health inequalities? • Meet the needs of the elderly? • Support those with disabilities? • Promote community safety? • Reduce actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour? • Reduce the fear of crime? • Promote design that discourages crime? • Align healthcare facilities and services with growth? • Help to improve mental health and wellbeing? • Improve living conditions? • Support the aims and objectives of the Greater Manchester Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Tameside and Glossop Mental Wellbeing Strategy and Our Life in Tameside? 	Population Human Health
7. Education and Skills: To improve educational attainment and skills for all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to training to raise employment potential? • Promote investment in the Borough's educational establishments? • Improve education levels of children, regardless of their background? • Improve educational and skill levels of the population of working age? • Provide access to work experience, apprenticeships and training? • Support the priorities of the Greater Manchester Work and Skills Strategy? 	Population Human Health
8. Air Quality: To improve air quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and improve air quality, particularly within the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Air Quality Management Area? • Avoid locating development in areas of existing poor air quality? • Minimise emissions to air from new development? 	Air Human Health
9. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance European designated nature conservation sites? • Conserve and enhance nationally designated nature conservation sites such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest? • Conserve and enhance Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Biological Importance? • Conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to indigenous species of principal importance, or priority species and habitats? • Enhance ecological connectivity, providing green spaces that are well connected and biodiversity rich? • Maintain and enhance woodland cover? • Avoid damage to, and protect, Regionally Important Geological Sites (as they are designated)? • Provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment including green and blue infrastructure? • Enhance the resilience of the natural environment to the impacts of climate change? 	Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora Human Health
10. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and ensure communities, developments and infrastructure are resilient to the effects of expected climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise energy use and reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions? • Plan for adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change? 	Climatic Factors



IA Objective	Guide Questions <i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy in the Borough and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources? Ensure that communities, existing and new developments and infrastructure systems are resilient to the predicted effects of climate change? 	
<p>11. Flood Risk: To minimise flood risk and reduce the impact of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help to minimise the risk of flooding to existing and new developments/infrastructure? Ensure that development does not unacceptably increase flood risk? Ensure adequate measures are in place to manage existing flood risk? Restrict inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding? Deliver sustainable urban drainage systems and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding? Ensure development is appropriately future proof to accommodate future levels of flood risk including from climate change? 	<p>Climatic Factors Water</p>
<p>12. Water: To protect and improve the quality and availability of water resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help to achieve the objective of good status under the Water Framework Directive? Promote management practices that will protect surface and ground water from pollution? Reduce water consumption and encourage water efficiency? Ensure that new water/wastewater management infrastructure is delivered to support new development? 	<p>Water</p>
<p>13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the Borough's historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic built environment and their settings, including archaeological assets? Reduce the instances and circumstances where heritage assets are identified as being 'at risk'? Promote sustainable repair and reuse of heritage assets? Protect or enhance the significance of designated heritage assets? Protect or enhance the significance of non-designated heritage assets? Help to conserve historic buildings, places and spaces that enhance local distinctiveness, character and appearance through sensitive adaptation and re-use? Provide opportunities for people to value and enjoy the Borough's cultural heritage? Improve and promote access to buildings of historic/cultural value? Encourage heritage-led regeneration? 	<p>Cultural Heritage</p>
<p>14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance the Borough's landscape character and townscapes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve and enhance the Borough's landscape character and townscapes? Promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape? Protect and enhance visual amenity? Improve the character of open spaces and the public realm? 	<p>Landscape</p>
<p>15. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the use of previously developed (brownfield) land and minimise the loss of greenfield land? Avoid the loss of agricultural land including best and most versatile land? Make best use, and reduce the amount, of derelict, degraded and underused land in the Borough? Encourage the reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure? Prevent land contamination and facilitate remediation of contaminated sites? Maintain and enhance soil quality? 	<p>Soil Material Assets</p>

IA Objective	Guide Questions <i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	SEA Directive Topic(s)
16. Resource Use and Waste: To encourage sustainable resource use and promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the objectives and proposals of the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan? • Minimise the demand for raw materials and assist in maximising the use of recycled and secondary materials (including aggregates)? • Promote the use of local resources? • Reduce minerals extracted and imported? • Increase efficiency in the use of raw materials and promote recycling? • Avoid sterilisation of mineral reserves? • Support the objectives and proposals of the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document? • Assist or facilitate compliance with the waste hierarchy (i.e. reduce first, then reuse, recycle and recover)? 	Material Assets

Section 4.2 of the Scoping Report provides further information in relation to the development of the IA Framework.

How will the IA be Undertaken?

The Council expects that the IA will assess the following key parts of the Local Plan (and reasonable alternatives where these exist):

- ▶ Vision and Objectives;
- ▶ Spatial Strategy (in respect of the distribution of development);
- ▶ Plan Policies; and
- ▶ Site Allocations.

It is proposed that each part of the Local Plan will be assessed using the IA Framework set out in **Table NTS.3**. The **vision and objectives** of the Local Plan will be tested for their compatibility with the objectives that are contained in the IA Framework using a compatibility matrix. The **spatial strategy** (including reasonable alternatives) and **plan policies** (by plan chapter) will be assessed using an assessment matrix. This matrix will include:

- ▶ the IA objectives;
- ▶ a score indicating the nature of the effect for each spatial strategy option/policy;
- ▶ a commentary on likely significant effects (including consideration of the cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects as well as the geography, duration, temporary/permanence and likelihood of any effects) and on any assumptions or uncertainties; and
- ▶ recommendations, including any mitigation or enhancements measures.

Definitions of significance will be used to guide the assessment and to determine the type and scale of effects of Local Plan proposals on the IA objectives.

Site allocations (including reasonable alternatives) will be assessed using tailored assessment criteria with associated thresholds of significance to determine the type and magnitude of effect against each IA objective.

Section 4.3 of the Scoping Report presents in detail the proposed approach to the IA of the key components of the Local Plan including the matrices, scoring system and site assessment criteria that will be used. Appendix D contains the proposed definitions of significance.



What are the Next Steps in the IA Process?

This NTS and the accompanying Scoping Report are being issued for consultation from **6th March to 10th April 2017**. Details of how to respond to the consultation are provided overleaf. Comments and responses received on this NTS and Scoping Report will be considered by the Council and used to finalise the approach to the IA of the Local Plan.

The assessment will be an iterative process and will involve the development and refinement of the Local Plan by testing the sustainability, health and equality strengths and weaknesses of the emerging Plan options with the findings presented in a series of IA Reports. The IA Reports will consist of:

- ▶ A Non-Technical Summary;
- ▶ A chapter setting out the scope and purpose of the assessment and including an overview of the emerging Local Plan;
- ▶ A chapter summarising the key objectives of other plans and programmes and socio-economic (including health and equality) and environmental issues relevant to the Local Plan;
- ▶ A chapter setting out the approach to the assessment and any difficulties encountered;
- ▶ A chapter outlining the likely effects of the implementation of the Local Plan and reasonable alternatives, including cumulative effects, mitigating measures, uncertainties and risks. This will include dedicated sections for EqIA and HIA. The reasons for selecting the preferred Local Plan options and for the rejection of alternatives will be explained;
- ▶ A chapter presenting views on implementation and monitoring.

The Council is currently working towards consultation on a Draft Local Plan which is due to take place between August and September 2017. An interim IA Report will be published for consultation alongside the Draft Local Plan and will consider the sustainability, health and equality performance of key plan options and proposals.

This Consultation: How to Give Us Your Views

We would welcome your views on any aspect of this Scoping Report. However, we would particularly welcome responses to the following questions:

- 1. Do you think that this Scoping Report sets out sufficient information to establish the context for the IA of the Local Plan in terms of the review of plans and programmes and baseline evidence and analysis? If not, which areas do you think have been missed and where is information on these topics available from?**
- 2. Are the main economic, social and environmental issues identified in this Scoping Report relevant to the IA of the Local Plan? If not, which issues do you think need to be included or excluded?**
- 3. Do you agree with the proposed approach to the IA of the Local Plan? Do the IA objectives and guide questions that comprise the IA Framework cover a sufficient range of environmental, social and economic topics? If not, which objectives should be amended and which other objectives do you believe should be included?**

Comments should be made in writing, include the name and address of the respondent and be returned by email or post. Documents are available to view on the Councils website throughout the consultation period <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/planning/tamesidelocalplan>.

Reference copies are also available at all Council Libraries, Customer Service Centre and the Planning Departments Principal Office during normal opening hours, as per the address details below.

Please provide your comments by 10th April 2017. Comments should be sent to:

By email: planpolicy@tameside.gov.uk.

By post: Planning Policy, Tameside MBC, Clarence Arcade, Stamford Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 7PT.

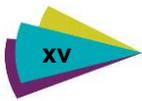
Please note all comments will be held by the Council and will be available to view publicly. Comments cannot be treated as confidential. Your personal information such as your postal and email address will not be published but your name and organisation (if relevant) will.

Tameside Council maintains a database of consultees who wish to be kept informed about the Local Plan. In responding to this consultation your contact details will automatically be added to the consultation database (if not already held). If you do not want to be contacted about future Local Plan consultations please state this in your response.



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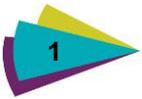
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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (the Council) is currently preparing a new Local Plan for the Borough that will, once adopted, replace the saved policies of the Tameside Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2004. The Tameside Local Plan will reflect the strategic context provided by the emerging Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF), setting out the vision, objectives and local planning policies that will guide development in the Borough up to at least 2035.
- 1.1.2 In support of the development of the Local Plan, the Council is undertaking an Integrated Assessment (IA) that will include a Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Health Impact Assessment (HIA). The IA will assess the environmental, social and economic performance of the Local Plan and in doing so, it will help to inform the selection of Plan options concerning (in particular) the distribution and location of future development in the Borough. The IA process will also identify measures to avoid, minimise or mitigate any potential negative effects that may arise from the Plan's implementation as well as opportunities to improve the contribution of the Local Plan towards sustainability.

1.2 Purpose of this Scoping Report

- 1.2.1 This Scoping Report represents the first formal output of the IA of the Local Plan. The purpose of the Scoping Report is to provide sufficient information to consultees to enable them to comment on the proposed scope of the assessment. More specifically, the Scoping Report sets out:
- ▶ an overview of the Tameside Local Plan;
 - ▶ a review of relevant international, national, regional, sub-regional and local plans, policies and programmes;
 - ▶ baseline information for the Borough across key sustainability (including health and equalities) topics;
 - ▶ key economic, social and environmental issues relevant to the assessment of the Local Plan;
 - ▶ the proposed approach to undertaking the assessment of the Local Plan including a draft IA Framework (comprising assessment objectives, guide questions and matrices); and
 - ▶ an overview of the next steps in the IA process including the proposed structure of future IA Reports.
- 1.2.2 This Scoping Report has been prepared by Amec Foster Wheeler Environment and Infrastructure UK Ltd (Amec Foster Wheeler).

1.3 The Tameside Local Plan – An Overview

Requirement to Prepare a Local Plan

- 1.3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (March, 2012) sets out (at paragraphs 150-157) that each local planning authority should prepare a local plan for its area. Local plans should set out the strategic priorities and policies to deliver:
- ▶ the homes and jobs needed in the area;
 - ▶ the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;

- ▶ the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater and flood risk, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
- ▶ the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
- ▶ climate change mitigation and adaptation and conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.

1.3.2 Planning Practice Guidance (2014) clarifies (at paragraph 002, 'Local Plans') that local plans "should make clear what is intended to happen in the area over the life of the plan, where and when this will occur and how it will be delivered".

Scope and Content of the Tameside Local Plan

1.3.3 In accordance with the NPPF, the Council is currently preparing a new Local Plan for Tameside that will, once adopted, formally replace the adopted UDP. The UDP had previously been reviewed with the aim of replacing it with a Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD). However, this timetable was superseded due to the collaborative work being undertaken by all the Greater Manchester authorities on the GMSF which commenced in 2014. As a result, the development of the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD ceased.

The Greater Manchester Spatial Framework

1.3.4 The GMSF will provide the overarching strategic context for the Greater Manchester conurbation. The key policy areas of the plan will primarily focus on housing and employment land requirements, the infrastructure requirements to deliver this and the environmental capacity of the conurbation to accommodate growth in the most sustainable manner. The GMSF is currently being progressed as a Joint Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) Plan. Once adopted, the GMSF will be a spatial development strategy and the Tameside Local Plan will need to be in general conformity with it.

1.3.5 Consultation on the first Draft GMSF took place between 31st October 2016 and 16th January 2017 and set out:

- ▶ how much housing and employment land is needed up to 2035;
- ▶ a number of strategic sites across Greater Manchester to assist in meeting these requirements;
- ▶ revisions to the Greater Manchester Green Belt to accommodate the identified strategic sites;
- ▶ the importance of infrastructure such as health, education, transport, green spaces and utilities to support neighbourhoods and employment; and
- ▶ ways to protect and improve the natural environment.

1.3.6 The Draft GMSF makes provision for (inter alia):

- ▶ 2,450,000 m² of gross new office floorspace, including 35,000 m² of floorspace in Tameside;
- ▶ 8,126,000 m² (indicative) of industrial and warehousing floorspace, including 483,000 m² of floorspace in Tameside; and
- ▶ 227,200 dwellings (11,360 per annum), including 13,600 dwellings in Tameside (680 per annum).

1.3.7 To meet the growth requirements for Greater Manchester, the Draft GMSF identifies a number of strategic locations for development. These locations include the Eastern Gateway, which is to deliver significant regeneration (linked to a Manchester EXPO 2025 bid), industrial and manufacturing floorspace and housing growth in Tameside alongside infrastructure such as a new

Droylsden railway station and highways improvements. Sites located outside of the urban area and to be released from the Green Belt are also (provisionally) allocated including the following six sites in Tameside:

- ▶ Little Moss/Ashton Moss (allocated for 1,980 new homes, 200,000 m² of employment floorspace and enhanced sports facilities);
- ▶ Godley Green (allocated for approximately 2,350 new homes alongside supporting infrastructure and facilities);
- ▶ Sidebottom Fold (allocated for 650 new homes);
- ▶ South Tameside (allocated for 935 dwellings);
- ▶ Mottram M67 North and South (allocated for 70,000 m² of employment floorspace and 174 dwellings); and
- ▶ North Ashton-under-Lyne Area (allocated 675 dwellings).

1.3.8 Further information relating to the emerging GMSF is available via the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) website, https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/info/20018/greater_manchester_spatial_framework.

The Tameside Local Plan

1.3.9 The Tameside Local Plan will incorporate the growth options, strategy, policy, site allocations and Green Belt revisions as they evolve through the GMSF and will, at a local level, set out a complementary vision, strategy and policy to guide development in the Borough up to at least 2035. The indicative Local Plan subject and scope is set out below:

- ▶ Overview of the Borough.
- ▶ Themes and objectives incorporating GMSF strategy and policy.
- ▶ Overarching principle policies such as urban regeneration, design quality and sustainability.
- ▶ Strategic allocations and policies incorporating GMSF allocations.
- ▶ Non-strategic employment policies and allocations.
- ▶ Non-strategic housing policies and allocations.
- ▶ Town centre, retail and leisure policies.
- ▶ Green Belt, countryside, open space, sport and recreation policies.
- ▶ Infrastructure policies (including, for example, transport, health, education and utilities) incorporating an infrastructure delivery plan/programme.
- ▶ Conservation and historic environment policies.
- ▶ Nature conservation, trees and woodland policies.

Preparation of the Local Plan

1.3.10 The Council approved its latest Local Development Scheme (LDS) in December 2016. The LDS sets out the timetable for production of the Local Plan in accordance with the requirements for plan preparation set out in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The key plan preparation milestones are detailed in **Table 1.1**.

Table 1.1 Local Plan Preparation Milestones

Local Plan Development Stage	Timetable
Regulation 18 Notification	January to March 2017
Consultation on Draft Local Plan	August 2017 to September 2017
Publication of Submission Draft Local Plan and Public Consultation	May 2018 to June 2018
Submission of the Local Plan	November 2018
Public Examination	March to April 2019
Formal Adoption	Autumn 2019

- 1.3.11 Adoption of the Local Plan is due to take place in Autumn 2019 and will be preceded by three principal periods of consultation during which the Local Plan will be developed and refined prior to its submission. Consultation on the scope of the Local Plan (Regulation 18)⁶ is currently taking place over a six week period from 23rd January to 6th March 2017. This is the first formal consultation on the Local Plan and will inform the Draft Local Plan that will be subject to consultation in Summer/Autumn 2017.
- 1.3.12 Development of the Local Plan will take into account (inter-alia) national planning policy and guidance, the GMSF, the Council's evidence base, the outcomes of consultation and the findings of socio-economic and environmental assessment and appraisal including IA.
- 1.3.13 Further information in respect of the preparation of the Local Plan is available via the Council's website: <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/planning/tamesidelocalplan>.

1.4 Integrated Assessment

Scope

- 1.4.1 Consistent with the approach being taken to the development of the GMSF, the Council has determined to undertake an IA of the Local Plan that is to include SA, SEA, EqlA and HIA. The requirements relating to each assessment are discussed in-turn below.

Sustainability Appraisal

- 1.4.2 Under Section 19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council is required to carry out a SA of the Local Plan to help guide the selection and development of policies and proposals in terms of their potential social, environmental and economic effects.

- 1.4.3 At paragraphs 150-151, the NPPF sets out that local plans are key to delivering sustainable development and that they must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. In this context, paragraph 165 reiterates the requirement for SA/SEA as it relates to local plan preparation:

“A sustainability appraisal which meets the requirements of the European Directive on strategic environmental assessment should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors.”

- 1.4.4 The Planning Practice Guidance (2014) (paragraph 001 'Strategic environmental assessment and sustainability appraisal') also makes clear that SA plays an important role in demonstrating that a local plan reflects sustainability objectives and has considered reasonable alternatives. In this

⁶ Tameside Local Plan Notification under Regulation 18, The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

regard, SA will help to ensure that a local plan is “justified”, a key test of soundness that concerns the extent to which the plan is the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives and available and proportionate evidence.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.4.5 In undertaking the requirement for SA, local planning authorities must also incorporate the requirements of European Union Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, referred to as the SEA Directive, and its transposing regulations, the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (statutory instrument 2004 No. 1633).
- 1.4.6 The aim of the Directive is “*to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.*”

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 1.4.7 The Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires public authorities to have due regard to a number of equality considerations when exercising their functions. The aims of the Duty are:
- ▶ to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010;
 - ▶ to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (i.e. to remove or minimise disadvantages or barriers, and to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people); and
 - ▶ to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (i.e. to tackle prejudice and promote understanding).
- 1.4.8 EqIA is not required by law, but it is a way of ensuring that the Public Sector Equality Duty, alongside requirements under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and Disability Discrimination Act 2005, have been complied with by considering the effect of Council services, practices and policies (such as the Local Plan) on different groups protected from discrimination by the Equality Act. It is a tool that can help local authorities ensure that their policies and decisions do not discriminate, that they promote equality wherever possible and that they foster good community relations.
- 1.4.9 Carrying out EqIA involves assessing the likely effects of policies on “protected characteristics” as defined in the Equality Act (the protected characteristics or groups are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation). It comprises two stages:
- ▶ **Stage 1: Screening** - this involves the assessment of impacts of the strategy/plan against the protected characteristics outlined above. If no direct or indirect impacts are identified during screening, no further assessment is required. If there are effects that cannot easily be mitigated, a full EqIA should be undertaken.
 - ▶ **Stage 2: Full EqIA** - this involves more in-depth assessment of the impacts of the strategy/plan, the recommendation of mitigation measures, definition of monitoring and evaluation measures and public consultation.
- 1.4.10 To ensure that the IA meets the requirements of EqIA, it will consider whether there is potential for the Local Plan to affect people differently based on the protected characteristics. This is reflected in the considerations for IA assessment and in the IA Framework in **Section 4**. Furthermore, consideration of equality issues within the IA will be supported by an equality screening

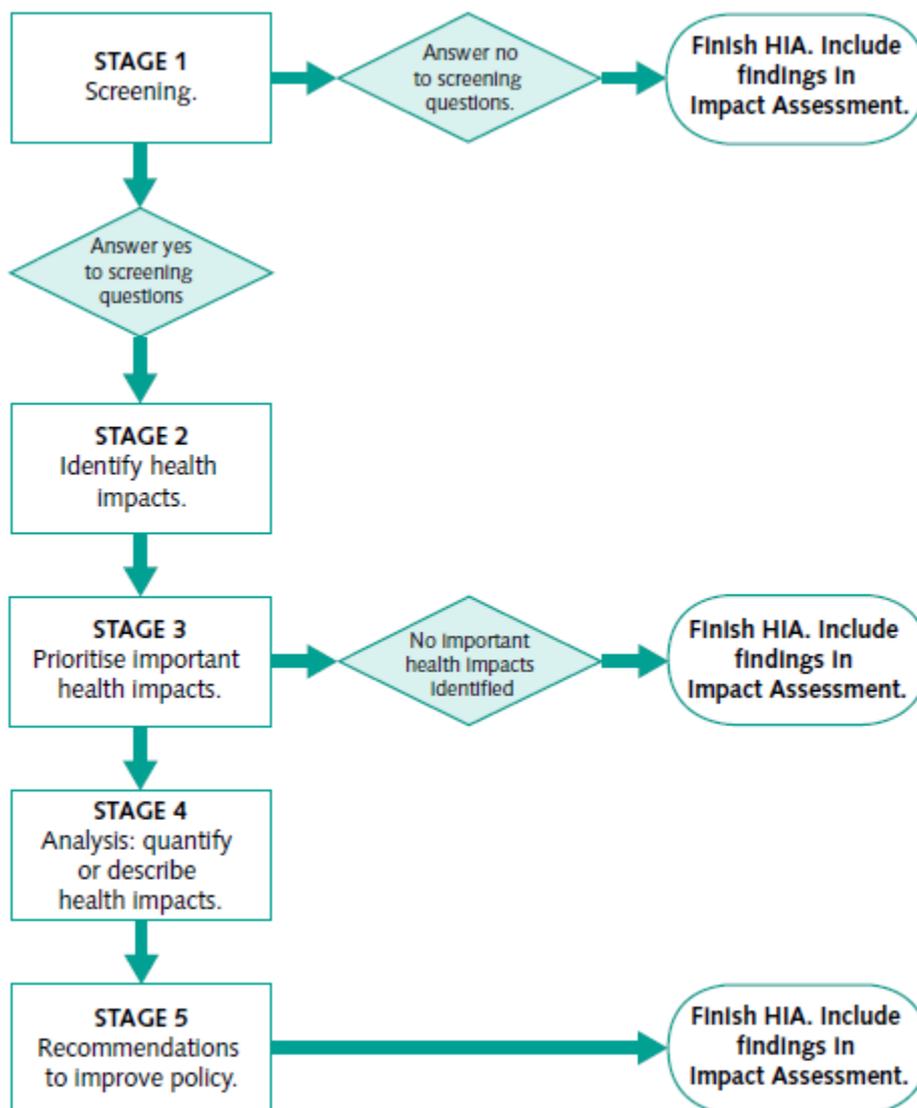
assessment (in line with Stage 1 above) which will be presented as an appendix to the IA Reports (see **Section 4.4** for further information).

Health Impact Assessment

1.4.11 There is no statutory requirement to undertake HIA as part of the plan-making process. However, HIA can support decision making by predicting the health consequences of proposals, helping to ensure that plans and policies avoid or minimise negative, and maximise positive, health impacts.

1.4.12 The HIA process is well-established and comprises five stages which are show in **Figure 1.1**.

Figure 1.1 The HIA Process



Source: Department of Health (2010) *Health Impact Assessment of Government Policy*.

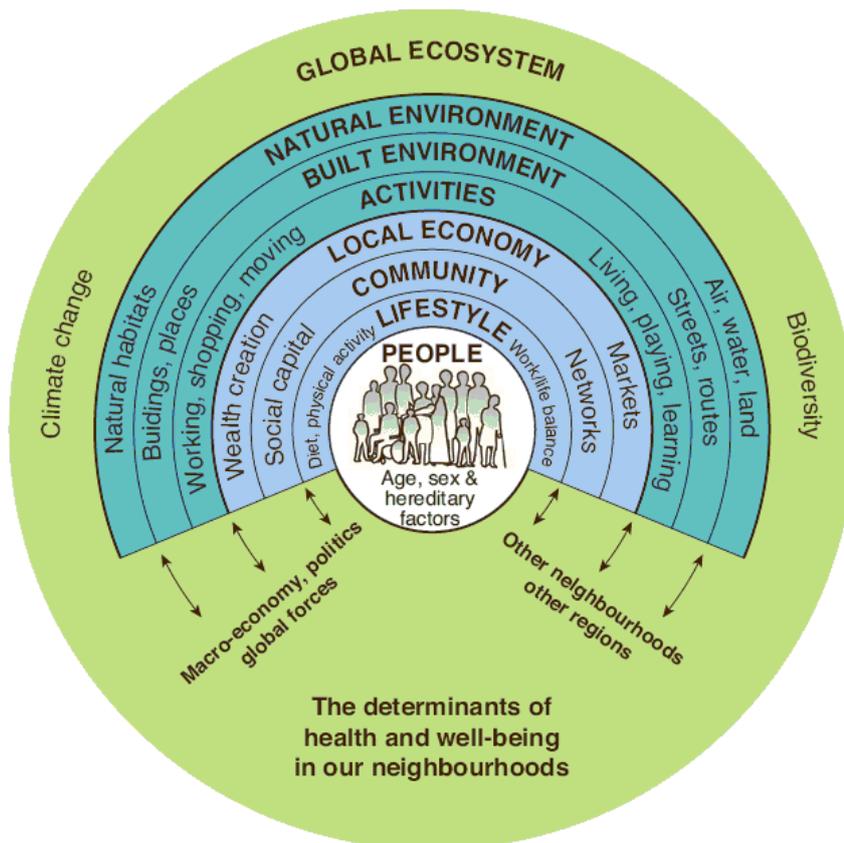
1.4.13 Department of Health (DOH) guidance⁷ on HIA states that “*the determinants of health are the focus of HIA. They are the social, economic, environmental and cultural factors that indirectly influence health and wellbeing. They include what we eat and drink; where we live and work; and the social relationships and connections we have with other people and organisations*”.

⁷ Department of Health (2010) *Health Impact Assessment of Government Policy*.

1.4.14

The determinants of health referred to in the DOH guidance are highlighted in **Figure 1.2** and, alongside the five HIA screening questions set out in Appendix A of the DOH guidance (and reproduced in **Appendix F** to this report), have been used to inform the IA Framework in **Section 4**, guiding how the IA will assess the health impacts of the Local Plan. Subsequent HIA stages align with those of the IA. As such, by including consideration of health alongside other environmental, sustainability and equality considerations, the IA will cover the scope of a HIA. Additionally, the Local Plan will be subject to initial HIA screening using the questions contained in Appendix A of the DOH guidance in order to inform and guide the more detailed appraisal (see **Section 4.4** for further information).

Figure 1.2 The Determinants of Health



Source: Barton H. and Grant M (2006) *A health map for the local human habitat*. The Journal of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health, 126: 252-253.

Integrating the Different forms of Assessment

1.4.15

There are a number of overlaps between EqIA, HIA and SA/SEA. In particular, SA/SEA includes the consideration of a range of socio-economic and environmental effects that may influence health and wellbeing. The SEA Directive also explicitly requires the consideration of issues relating to population and health. In consequence, there are significant overlaps in terms of both baseline data collection and assessment and in this context, IA provides the opportunity for each form of assessment to inform the other.

Stages in the Integrated Assessment Process and the Relationship with the Local Plan

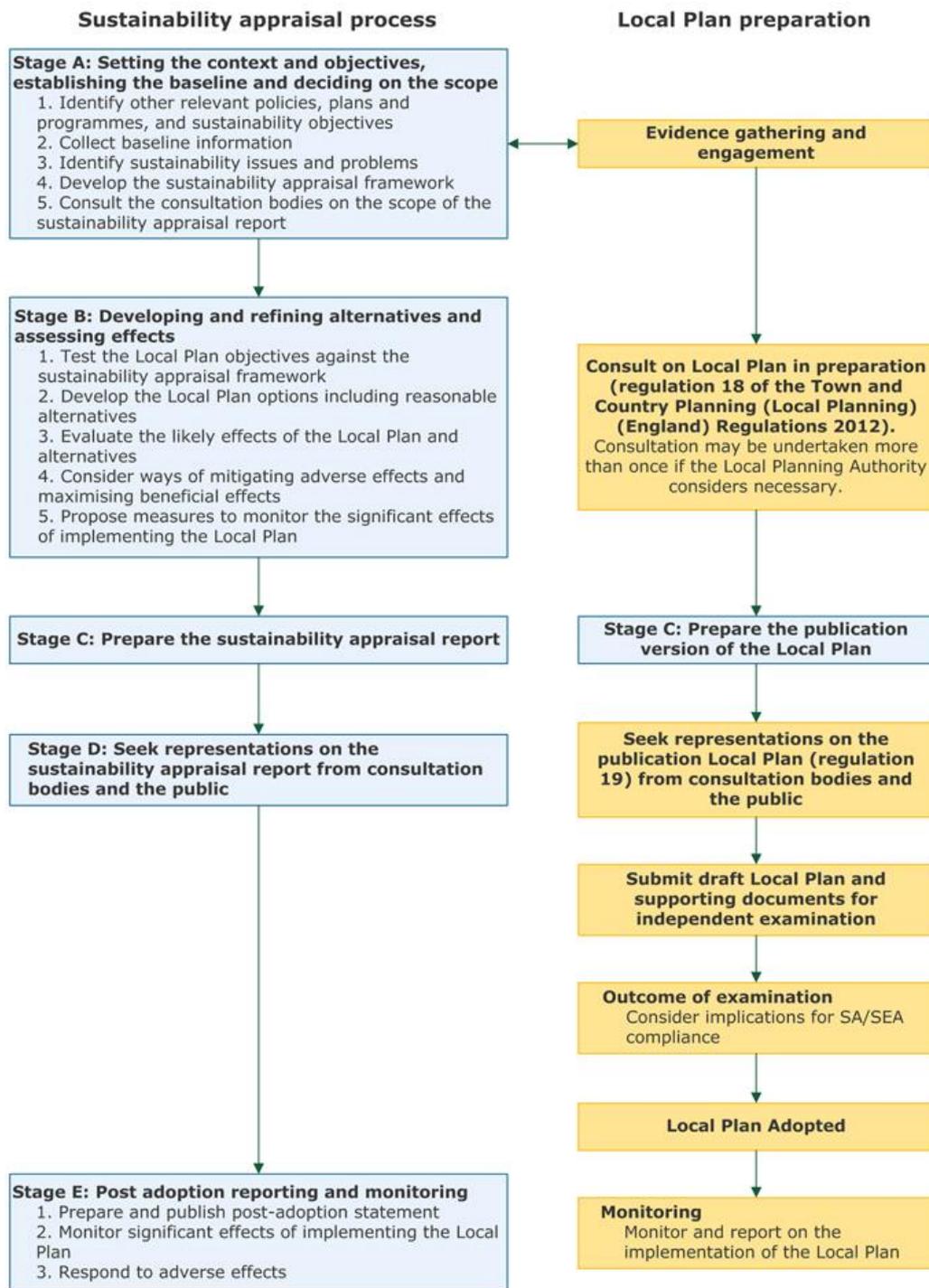
1.4.16

IA will be an integral part of the preparation of the Local Plan. IA of the Local Plan will help to ensure that the likely social (including health and equality), economic and environmental effects of the Plan are identified, described and assessed. Where negative effects are identified, measures will be proposed to avoid, minimise or mitigate such effects. Where any positive effects are identified, measures will be considered that could enhance such effects. IA will also help to inform

the selection of plan options by assessing reasonable alternatives in respect of, in particular, different spatial distributions and land allocations whilst at the same time helping to make the decision making process more transparent.

1.4.17 The stages of SA/SEA, EqIA and HIA are similar and therefore the IA of the Local Plan will follow the five key stages of the SA process set out in the Planning Practice Guidance, as shown in **Figure 1.3**.

Figure 1.3 The Sustainability Appraisal Process and Linkages with Local Plan Preparation



Source: Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2014) *Planning Practice Guidance*. NB: Stages B and C will be repeated for each iteration of the draft Local Plan that is issued for consultation.

- 1.4.18 The first stage (**Stage A**) of the IA process has led to the production of this Scoping Report. The scoping stage itself comprises five tasks that are listed below:
- i. Review of other relevant policies, plans, programmes and strategies (hereafter referred to as ‘plans and programmes’).
 - ii. Collation and analysis of baseline information.
 - iii. Identification of key sustainability, health and equality issues.
 - iv. Development of the IA Framework.
 - v. Consultation on the scope of the assessment (this Scoping Report).
- 1.4.19 Based on the review of other plans and programmes, baseline analysis and identification of key sustainability, health and equality issues, this Scoping Report sets out the proposed IA Framework which, when finalised, will be used to assess the effects of the Local Plan (and any reasonable alternatives). Following the conclusion of scoping consultation, the IA Framework will be amended to take into account consultation responses as appropriate.
- 1.4.20 The revised IA Framework will be used to assess the effects of the emerging Local Plan in terms of the key plan components (the Plan vision, objectives, spatial strategy and policies including reasonable alternatives) (**Stage B**). This stage is iterative and will involve the development and refinement of the Local Plan by testing the sustainability, health and equality strengths and weaknesses of the emerging Plan options. In this respect, IA will be undertaken throughout the preparation of the Local Plan with the findings presented in a series of interim IA Reports to accompany the publication of, and consultation on, the various iterations of the draft Local Plan.
- 1.4.21 At **Stage C**, a final IA Report will be prepared to accompany the submission draft Local Plan. This will be prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the SEA Directive and will be available for consultation alongside the draft Local Plan itself prior to consideration by an independent planning inspector at Examination in Public (EiP) (**Stage D**).
- 1.4.22 Following EiP, and subject to any significant changes to the draft Local Plan that may require assessment as a result of the EiP, the Council will issue a Post Adoption Statement as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Local Plan. This will set out the results of the consultation and IA process and the extent to which the findings of the IA have been accommodated in the adopted Local Plan. During the period of the Local Plan, the Council will monitor its implementation and any significant social, economic and environmental effects (**Stage E**).

1.5 Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.5.1 Regulation 102 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the ‘Habitats Regulations’) requires that competent authorities assess the potential impacts of land use plans on the Natura 2000 network of European protected sites⁸ to determine whether there will be any ‘likely significant effects’ on any European site as a result of the plan’s implementation (either alone or ‘in combination’ with other plans or projects); and, if so, whether these effects will result in any adverse effects on that site’s integrity with reference to the site’s conservation objectives. The

⁸ Strictly, ‘European sites’ are any Special Area of Conservation (SAC) from the point at which the European Commission and the UK Government agree the site as a ‘Site of Community Importance’ (SCI); any classified Special Protection Area (SPA); any candidate SAC (cSAC); and (exceptionally) any other site or area that the Commission believes should be considered as an SAC but which has not been identified by the Government. However, the term is also commonly used when referring to potential SPAs (pSPAs), to which the provisions of Article 4(4) of Directive 2009/147/EC (the ‘new wild birds directive’) are applied; and to possible SACs (pSACs) and listed Ramsar Sites, to which the provisions of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) are applied a matter of Government policy when considering development proposals that may affect them (NPPF para 118). ‘European site’ is therefore used in this report in its broadest sense, as an umbrella term for all of the above designated sites.

process by which the effects of a plan or programme on European sites are assessed is known as 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' (HRA)⁹.

- 1.5.2 In accordance with the Habitats Regulations, what is commonly referred to as a HRA screening exercise will be undertaken to identify whether the Local Plan has any likely significant effects on any European sites, either alone or 'in combination' with other projects or plans. Where there are likely significant effects, a more detailed Appropriate Assessment will be required to consider any adverse effects on the integrity of any European site.
- 1.5.3 The HRA screening exercise will be reported separately from the IA of the Local Plan but importantly will help inform the assessment process, particularly in respect of the potential effects of proposals on biodiversity.

1.6 Scoping Report Structure

- 1.6.1 Reflecting the five scoping tasks set out in **Section 1.4** above, this Scoping Report is structured as follows:
- ▶ **Non-Technical Summary** - Provides a summary of the Scoping Report, including information on both the Local Plan and the proposed approach to the IA;
 - ▶ **Section 1: Introduction** - Includes a summary of the Local Plan, an overview of IA, report contents and an outline of how to respond to the consultation;
 - ▶ **Section 2: Review of Plans and Programmes** - Provides an overview of the review of those plans and programmes relevant to the Local Plan and IA that is contained at **Appendix B**;
 - ▶ **Section 3: Baseline Analysis** - Presents the baseline analysis of the Borough's social, economic and environmental characteristics and identifies the key sustainability, health and equality issues that have informed the IA Framework;
 - ▶ **Section 4: IA Approach** - Outlines the proposed approach to the IA of the Local Plan including the IA Framework;
 - ▶ **Section 5: Next Steps** - Details the next steps in the assessment process including a proposed IA Report structure.
- 1.6.2 This Scoping Report has been prepared to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive and associated Regulations. It fulfils the requirements of Stage A, as outlined within the Quality Assurance Checklist presented at **Appendix A**.

1.7 How to Comment on this Scoping Report

- 1.7.1 This Scoping Report will be subject to a 5 week consultation period from 6th March to 10th April 2017. Details of how to respond to the consultation are provided below.

⁹ 'Appropriate Assessment' has been historically used as an umbrella term to describe the process of assessment as a whole. The whole process is now more usually termed 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' (HRA), and 'Appropriate Assessment' is used to indicate a specific stage within the HRA.

This Consultation: How to Give Us Your Views

We would welcome your views on any aspect of this Scoping Report. However, we would particularly welcome responses to the following questions:

4. Do you think that this Scoping Report sets out sufficient information to establish the context for the IA of the Local Plan in terms of the review of plans and programmes and baseline evidence and analysis? If not, which areas do you think have been missed and where is information on these topics available from?
5. Are the main economic, social and environmental issues identified in this Scoping Report relevant to the IA of the Local Plan? If not, which issues do you think need to be included or excluded?
6. Do you agree with the proposed approach to the IA of the Local Plan? Do the IA objectives and guide questions that comprise the IA Framework cover a sufficient range of environmental, social and economic topics? If not, which objectives should be amended and which other objectives do you believe should be included?

Comments should be made in writing, include the name and address of the respondent and be returned by email or post. Documents are available to view on the Councils website throughout the consultation period <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/planning/tamesidelocalplan>.

Reference copies are also available at all Council Libraries, Customer Service Centre and the Planning Departments Principal Office during normal opening hours, as per the address details below.

Please provide your comments by 10th April 2017. Comments should be sent to:

By email: planpolicy@tameside.gov.uk.

By post: Planning Policy, Tameside MBC, Clarence Arcade, Stamford Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 7PT.

Please note all comments will be held by the Council and will be available to view publicly. Comments cannot be treated as confidential. Your personal information such as your postal and email address will not be published but your name and organisation (if relevant) will.

Tameside Council maintains a database of consultees who wish to be kept informed about the Local Plan. In responding to this consultation your contact details will automatically be added to the consultation database (if not already held). If you do not want to be contacted about future Local Plan consultations please state this in your response.

2. Review of Plans and Programmes

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 One of the first steps in undertaking IA is to identify and review other relevant plans and programmes that could influence the Local Plan. The requirement to undertake a plan and programme review and to identify the environmental and wider sustainability objectives relevant to the plan being assessed is set out in the SEA Directive. An 'Environmental Report' required under the SEA Directive should include:

“An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes” to determine “the environmental protection objectives, established at international (European) community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme...and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation” (Annex 1 (a), (e)).

2.1.2 Plans and programmes relevant to the Local Plan may be those at an international/ European, UK, national, regional, sub-regional or local level, as relevant to the scope of the document. The review of relevant plans and programmes aims to identify the relationships between the Local Plan and these other documents i.e. how the Local Plan could be affected by the other plans' and programmes' aims, objectives and/or targets, or how it could contribute to the achievement of their sustainability objectives. The review also ensures that the relevant environmental protection and sustainability (including health and equality) objectives are integrated into the IA. Additionally, reviewing plans and programmes can provide appropriate information on the baseline for the plan area and help identify the key sustainability, health and equality issues.

2.1.3 The completed review of plans and programmes will be used to provide the policy context for the subsequent assessment process and has helped to inform the development of the objectives and guide questions that comprise the IA Framework (see **Section 4**).

2.2 Review of Plans and Programmes

2.2.1 Over 100 international/European, national, regional/sub-regional and local level plans and programmes have been reviewed in preparing this Scoping Report. These are listed in **Table 2.1**, with the results of the review provided in **Appendix B**.

Table 2.1 Plans and Programmes Reviewed for the Integrated Assessment of the Local Plan

Plan/Programme
International/European Plans and Programmes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cancun Agreement (2011) • The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention) • The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valetta Convention) • Council Directive 91/271/EEC for Urban Waste-water Treatment • European Commission (EC) (2011) A Resource- Efficient Europe- Flagship Initiative Under the Europe 2020 Strategy, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions (COM 2011/21) • European Landscape Convention 2000 (became binding March 2007) • European Union (EU) Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC) • EU Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC) & Subsequent Amendments • EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC) • EU Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC) • EU Directive on the Landfill of Waste (99/31/EC) • EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) • EU 2001/42/EC Directive on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment (SEA Directive)

Plan/Programme

- EU Directive 2002/91/EC (2002) Directive 2002/91/EC on the Energy Performance of Buildings
- EU Environmental Noise Directive (Directive 2002/49/EC)
- EU Bathing Waters Directive 2006/7/EC
- EU (2006) European Employment Strategy
- EU (2006) Mining Waste Directive (2006/21/EC)
- EU (2006) Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy
- EU Floods Directive 2007/60/EC
- EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) and previous directives (96/62/EC; 99/30/EC; 2000/69/EC & 2002/3/EC)
- EU Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive (2008/1/EC)
- EU Directive on Waste (Directive 75/442/EEC, 2006/12/EC 2008/98/EC as amended)
- EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (09/147/EC) (codified version of Council Directive 79/409/EEC as amended)
- EU Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC)
- EU Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU)
- EU (2011) EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – towards implementation
- EU Directive 2016/2284/EU on the Reduction of National Emissions of Certain Atmospheric Pollutants
- United Nations (2015) United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 21) Paris Agreement
- UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972)
- UNFCCC (1997) The Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC
- World Commission on Environment and Development (1987) Our Common Future (The Brundtland Report)
- The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg, September 2002 - Commitments arising from Johannesburg Summit (2002)

National Plans and Programmes

- Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) (2001) The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future
- DCMS (2007) Heritage Protection for the 21st Century - White Paper
- DCMS (2008) Play Strategy for England
- Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2011) Planning for Schools Development
- DCLG (2012) National Planning Policy Framework (including proposed changes)
- DCLG (2014) Planning Practice Guidance
- DCLG (2014) National Planning Policy for Waste
- DCLG (2014) Witten Statement on Sustainable Drainage Systems
- DCLG (2015) Planning Policy for Traveller Sites
- Department for Education (2014) Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance
- Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) (2009) The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan: National Strategy for Climate and Energy
- Department for Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) (2007) The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Defra (2007) Strategy for England's Trees, Woods and Forests
- Defra (2009) Safeguarding Our Soils: A Strategy for England
- Defra (2011) Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services
- Defra (2011) Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature
- Defra (2012) UK Post 2010 Biodiversity Framework
- Defra (2013) The National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate
- Defra (2013) Waste Management Plan for England
- Department of Health (2009) Living Well with Dementia: A National Dementia Strategy
- Department of Health (2015/2016) Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia 2020 and Implementation Plan
- Department of Health and NHS England (2015) Future in Mind: Promoting, Protecting and Improving Our Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Environment Agency (2013) Managing Water Extraction
- Environment Agency (2013) Water Stressed Areas – Final Classification
- Forestry Commission (2005) Trees and Woodlands Nature's Health Service
- Historic England (2015) Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 1
- HM Government (1974) Control of Pollution Act 1974
- HM Government (1979) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act
- HM Government (1981) Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- HM Government (1990) Environmental Protection Act 1990
- HM Government (1990) Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
- HM Government (1991) Water Resources Act 1991
- HM Government (2000) Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
- HM Government (2004) Housing Act 2004
- HM Government (2005) Securing the Future - Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy
- HM Government (2006) The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006
- HM Government (2008) The Climate Change Act 2008
- HM Government (2009) The Flood Risk Regulations 2009
- HM Government (2009) The UK Renewable Energy Strategy
- HM Government (2010) The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010
- HM Government (2010) Flood and Water Management Act 2010

Plan/Programme

- HM Government (2011) Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future
- HM Government (2011) No Health Without Mental Health: A Cross-government Mental Health Outcomes Strategy for People of All Ages
- HM Government (2011) Water for Life, White Paper
- HM Government (2012) Health and Social Care Act 2012
- HM Government (2012) Preventing Suicide in England: A Cross-government Outcomes Strategy to Save Lives
- HM Government (2013) The Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) Regulations 2013
- HM Government (2015) English Apprenticeships: Our 2020 Vision
- HM Government (2016) Childhood Obesity: A Plan for Action
- NHS England (2014) Five Year Forward View

Regional Plans and Programmes

- Defra and Environment Agency (2015) North West District River Basin Management Plan
- Environment Agency (2016) North West River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan 2015-2021
- HM Government (2014) Greater Manchester Growth Deal
- HM Government (2016) The Northern Powerhouse: One Agenda, One Economy, One North
- HM Government (2016) Northern Powerhouse Strategy
- United Utilities (2014) Final Drought Plan
- United Utilities (2015) Water Resources Management Plan

Sub-Regional (County) Plans and Programmes

- Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) (2008) An Ecological Framework for Greater Manchester
- AGMA and Natural England (2008) Towards a Green Infrastructure Framework for Greater Manchester
- AGMA (2011) Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy 2011-2020
- AGMA (2012) Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document
- AGMA (2012) Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan
- AGMA (2013) Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan
- Environment Agency (2009) Irwell Catchment Flood Management Plan
- Environment Agency (2009) Upper Mersey Catchment Flood Management Plan
- Environment Agency (2013) Northern Manchester Abstraction Licensing Strategy
- Environment Agency (2013) Upper Mersey Abstraction Licensing Strategy
- Greater Manchester Biodiversity Project (2009) Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan
- Greater Manchester Biodiversity Project (2011) Greater Manchester Biodiversity and Geodiversity Action Plan for Quarries
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) (2016) Climate Change and Low Emission Strategies' Whole Place Implementation Plan for Greater Manchester (2016-2020)
- GMCA (2016) Draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (emerging)
- GMCA (2016) Greater Manchester Work & Skills Strategy and Priorities 2016 to 2019
- GMCA and AGMA (2013) Strong Together: Greater Manchester Strategy 2013
- GMCA, Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership (GMLEP) and AGMA (2014) Greater Manchester Growth and Reform Plan
- GMCA and GMLEP (2015) Greater Manchester Manufacturing Strategy
- GMCA and NHS (2015) Taking Charge of Our Health and Social Care in Greater Manchester
- GMCA and NHS (2016) Greater Manchester Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- GMCA and TGM (2016) Greater Manchester Air Quality Action Plan
- GMCA and TGM (2016) Greater Manchester Low-Emission Strategy
- GMCA and TGM (2017) Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040
- Greater Manchester Economic Advisory Panel (2011) Greater Manchester Growth Plan
- Greater Manchester Mayor and Police & Crime Commissioner (2016) Police and Crime Plan Greater Manchester
- NHS Tameside and Glossop (2010) Tameside and Glossop Healthy Weight Strategy (2010-2015)
- NHS Tameside and Glossop Tameside *et al* (2010) and Tameside and Glossop Mental Wellbeing Strategy 2011-2013
- NHS Tameside and Glossop Commissioning Group (2015) Tameside and Glossop Locality Plan
- TGM (2012) Greater Manchester Rail Policy 2012 – 2024

Local Plans and Programmes (including neighbouring authority local plans)

- High Peak Borough Council (2016) High Peak Local Plan Adopted April 2016
- Manchester City Council (2012) Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted July 2012
- Oldham Council (2011) Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Adopted November 2011
- Peak District National Park Authority (2011) Core Strategy Development Plan Document Adopted October 2011
- Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council (2011) Core Strategy DPD Adopted March 2011
- Tameside Children's Trust (2013) Interim Statement for a Children and Young People's Plan 2013 – 2016
- Tameside and Glossop Single Commission (2016) Care Together: Commissioning for Reform Strategy 2016 - 2020
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (undated) Equal Opportunities Policy
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2004) The Tameside Unitary Development Plan Adopted November 2004
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2005) Brookbottom Mossley Supplementary Planning Guidance

Plan/Programme

- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2005) Tameside Sustainable Design and Construction Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2007) Draft Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2007-2016
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2007) Trees and Landscaping on Development Sites SPD
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2009) Employment Land SPD
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2009) Tameside Countryside Strategy 2009-2019
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2010) Ashton Town Centre SPD
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2010) Residential Design SPD
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2010) Tameside Housing Strategy 2010-16
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2011) Hyde Town Centre SPD (emerging)
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (emerging) Haughton Green SPD (emerging)
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2012) Tenancy Strategy 2013-2016
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2013) Homelessness Prevention Strategy 2013-2018
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council *et al* (2013) Tameside Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2016
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2013) Tameside Domestic Abuse Strategy 2013-2016
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2013) Tameside Empty Property Strategy 2013-2015
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2014) Tameside Poverty Strategy 2014-2017
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2015) Corporate Equality Scheme 2015-19
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council *et al* (2015) Tameside and Glossop Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Transformation Plan 2015-2020
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2016) Corporate Plan 2016-21
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2016) Playing Pitch Strategy 2015
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2016) Tameside Pledges 2016
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2016) Tameside Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Tameside Safeguarding Children Board (2015) Learning and Improvement Framework
- Tameside Safeguarding Children Board (undated) Tameside Multi-agency Neglect Strategy
- Tameside Strategic Partnership (2004) Tameside Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy
- Tameside Strategic Partnership (2009) Our Life in Tameside 2009 – 2019: Tackling Health Inequalities and Improving Health
- Tameside Strategic Partnership (2010) Sustainable Use of Resources Strategy and Action Plan 2010-20
- Tameside Strategic Partnership (2012) Enterprising Tameside: A New Economic Strategy for Tameside 2012-26 and Action Plan

2.3 Key Objectives and Policy Issues

2.3.1 The review of plans and programmes presented in **Appendix B** has identified a number of objectives and policy issues relevant to the Local Plan and the scope of the IA across the following topic areas:

- ▶ Population and Community (including housing, economy, education and skills and deprivation);
- ▶ Equality;
- ▶ Health and Wellbeing;
- ▶ Transport and Accessibility;
- ▶ Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure;
- ▶ Land Use, Geology and Soil;
- ▶ Water;
- ▶ Air Quality;
- ▶ Climate Change;
- ▶ Materials Assets;
- ▶ Cultural Heritage; and
- ▶ Landscape and Townscape.

2.3.2 These objectives and policy issues are summarised in **Table 2.2** together with the key sources and implications for the IA Framework. Only the key sources are identified; however, it is acknowledged that many other plans and programmes could also be included.

Table 2.2 Key Objectives and Policy Issues Arising from the Review of Plans and Programmes

Key Objectives and Policy Issues	Key Source(s)	Implications for the IA Framework
Population and Community (including housing, economy, education and skills and deprivation)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address deprivation and reduce inequality through regeneration. Ensure social equality and prosperity for all. Ensure appropriate access to high quality services, community facilities and social infrastructure. Ensure that Tameside contributes towards meeting the housing and employment requirements of the emerging GMSF. Enable housing growth and deliver a mix of high quality housing to meet local needs. Make appropriate provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. Ensure that there is an adequate supply of employment land to meet local needs and to attract inward investment. Support the manufacturing sector and encourage economic diversification including growth in high value, high growth, and high knowledge economic sectors. Encourage rural diversification and support rural economic growth. Create local employment opportunities. Enhance skills in the workforce to reduce unemployment and deprivation. Improve educational attainment and ensure the appropriate supply of high quality educational facilities. Promote the vitality of town centres and support the retail and leisure sectors. 	<p>NPPF; Planning Policy for Traveller Sites; Greater Manchester Growth Plan; GMSF; Greater Manchester Work & Skills Strategy and Priorities 2016 to 2019; Greater Manchester Manufacturing Strategy; Greater Manchester Growth Deal; The Northern Powerhouse: One Agenda, One Economy, One North; Northern Powerhouse Strategy; Employment Land SPD; Corporate Plan 2016-21; Tameside Housing Strategy 2010-16; Tameside Pledges; Tameside Learning and Improvement Framework; Enterprising Tameside: A New Economic Strategy for Tameside 2012-26 and Action Plan; Homelessness Prevention Strategy 2013-2018; Tameside Empty Property Strategy 2013-2015; Tameside Poverty Strategy 2014-2017.</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> addressing deprivation and promoting equality and inclusion; the adequate provision of high quality community facilities and services; the provision of housing, including sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, to meet local needs; the enhancement of education and skills; delivery of employment land that supports economic diversification and the creation of high quality, local jobs; and enhancing town centres.
Equality		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that services give access to all members of the community in a fair and equitable way. Ensure all members of the community are treated equally irrespective of ethnicity, sexual orientation, race, religion or background. Promote confidence and socialisation. 	<p>Tameside Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2016; Our Life in Tameside 2009–2019: Tackling Health Inequalities and Improving Health; Tameside Equal Opportunities Policy; Corporate Equality Scheme 2015-19; Tameside Poverty Strategy 2014-2017; Tameside and Glossop Children and Young People’s Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Transformation Plan 2015-2020; Tameside Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include specific objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the promotion of social cohesion; addressing deprivation; and promoting equality and inclusion.
Health and Wellbeing		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote improvements to the mental and physical health and wellbeing of all members of the community. Promote healthier lifestyles. 	<p>Preventing Suicide in England: A Cross-government Outcomes Strategy to Save Lives; NPPF; Taking Charge of Our Health and Social Care in Greater Manchester;</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include a specific objective and/or guide questions relating to:</p>

Key Objectives and Policy Issues	Key Source(s)	Implications for the IA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise noise pollution. Reduce crime including the fear of crime. Reduce anti-social behaviour. Reduce instances of domestic abuse. Ensure that there are appropriate facilities for the disabled and elderly. Deliver safe and secure networks of green infrastructure and open space. 	<p>Greater Manchester Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy; Police and Crime Plan Greater Manchester; Tameside Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2016; Corporate Plan 2016-21; Tameside and Glossop Locality Plan; Tameside and Glossop Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Transformation Plan 2015-2020; Tameside Countryside Strategy 2009-2019; Tameside Playing Pitch Strategy; Tameside Domestic Abuse Strategy 2013-2016.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the promotion of health and wellbeing including mental health; appropriate provision of health facilities and services; the adequate provision of open space and recreational facilities; the adequate provision of facilities and ensuring access for the disabled and elderly; and reducing crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.
Transport and Accessibility		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage sustainable transport and reduce the need to travel. Manage traffic and congestion. Improve public transport provision. Encourage walking and cycling. Enhance accessibility to key community facilities, services and jobs for all. Ensure timely investment in transportation infrastructure to accommodate new development. Reduce road freight movements. 	<p>NPPF; Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040: Greater Manchester Rail Policy 2012–2024; Our Vision; Tameside Countryside Strategy 2009-2019</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing the need to travel, particularly by car; the promotion of sustainable forms of transport; encouraging walking and cycling; maintaining and enhancing accessibility to key facilities, services and jobs; investment in transportation infrastructure to meet future needs.
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance biodiversity, including designated sites, priority species, habitats and ecological networks. Identify opportunities for green infrastructure provision. Identify opportunities for open space provision. 	<p>Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature; Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services; UK post 2010 Biodiversity Framework; NPPF; Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan; Greater Manchester Biodiversity and Geodiversity Action Plan for Quarries; GMSF; Trees and Landscaping on Development Sites SPD; Tameside Countryside Strategy 2009-2019.</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity including appropriate green infrastructure provision.</p>
Land Use, Geology and Soil		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the use of previously developed (brownfield) land. Promote the re-use of derelict land and buildings. Reduce land contamination. Protect soil quality and minimise the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land. Promote high quality design. Avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites. Encourage mixed use development. 	<p>Safeguarding Our Soils: A Strategy for England; NPPF; GMSF; Tameside Empty Property Strategy 2013-2015; Residential Design SPD.</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encouraging the use of previously developed land and buildings; reducing land contamination; avoiding the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land; promoting high quality design including mixed use development; protecting and avoiding damage to geologically important sites.
Water		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance surface and groundwater quality. Improve water efficiency. Avoid development in areas of flood risk. Reduce the risk of flooding arising from new development. 	<p>Water Framework Directive; Drinking Water Directive; Floods Directive; The Flood Risk Regulations 2009; Flood and Water Management Act 2010; Water for Life, White Paper; NPPF; North West District River Basin Management Plan; North West River Basin District Flood Risk</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include specific objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of water quality and quantity, avoidance of flood risk and minimising surface water run-off.</p>

Key Objectives and Policy Issues	Key Source(s)	Implications for the IA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure timely investment in water management infrastructure to accommodate new development. Promote the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems. 	<p>Management Plan 2015-2021; United Utilities Final Drought Plan; United Utilities Water Resources Management Plan; Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan; Irwell Catchment Flood Management Plan; Upper Mersey Catchment Flood Management Plan; Northern Manchester Abstraction Licensing Strategy; Upper Mersey Abstraction Licensing Strategy; Tameside Floodrisk Management Strategy.</p>	
Air Quality		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that air quality is maintained or enhanced and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum. 	<p>Air Quality Directive; Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; NPPF; Greater Manchester Air Quality Action Plan; Greater Manchester Low-Emission Strategy.</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include a specific objective and/or guide question relating to air quality.</p>
Climate Change		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise the effects of climate change. Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases that may cause climate change. Encourage the provision of renewable energy. Move towards a low carbon economy. Promote adaptation to the effects of climate change. 	<p>Climate Change Act 2008; Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future; UK Renewable Energy Strategy; NPPF; Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy 2011-2020; Climate Change and Low Emission Strategies' Whole Place Implementation Plan for Greater Manchester 2016-2020.</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include a specific objective relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p>
Material Assets		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover). Ensure the adequate provision of local waste management facilities. Promote the efficient and sustainable use of mineral resources. Promote the use of local resources. Avoid the sterilisation of mineral reserves. Promote the use of substitute or secondary and recycled materials and minerals waste. 	<p>Waste Framework Directive; Landfill Directive; Waste Management Plan for England; NPPF; National Planning Policy for Waste; Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan; Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan; Sustainable Use of Resources Strategy and Action Plan 2010-20.</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> promotion of the waste hierarchy; and the sustainable use of minerals.
Cultural Heritage		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve and enhance cultural heritage assets and their settings. Maintain and enhance access to cultural heritage assets. Respect, maintain and strengthen local character and distinctiveness. Improve the quality of the built environment. 	<p>NPPF; Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 1; GMSF; Tameside Sustainable Design and Construction Guide SPD; Residential Design SPD.</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the conservation and enhancement of the Borough's cultural heritage.</p>
Landscape and Townscape		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of natural landscapes and townscapes. Promote access to the countryside. Promote high quality design that respects and enhances local character. 	<p>NPPF; GMSF; Trees and Landscaping on Development Sites SPD; Tameside Countryside Strategy 2009-2019; Draft Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2007-2016; Tameside Sustainable Design and Construction Guide SPD; Residential Design SPD; Hyde Town Centre SPD.</p>	<p>The IA Framework should include a specific objective relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the protection and enhancement of the Borough's distinctive landscapes and townscapes.

3. Baseline Analysis

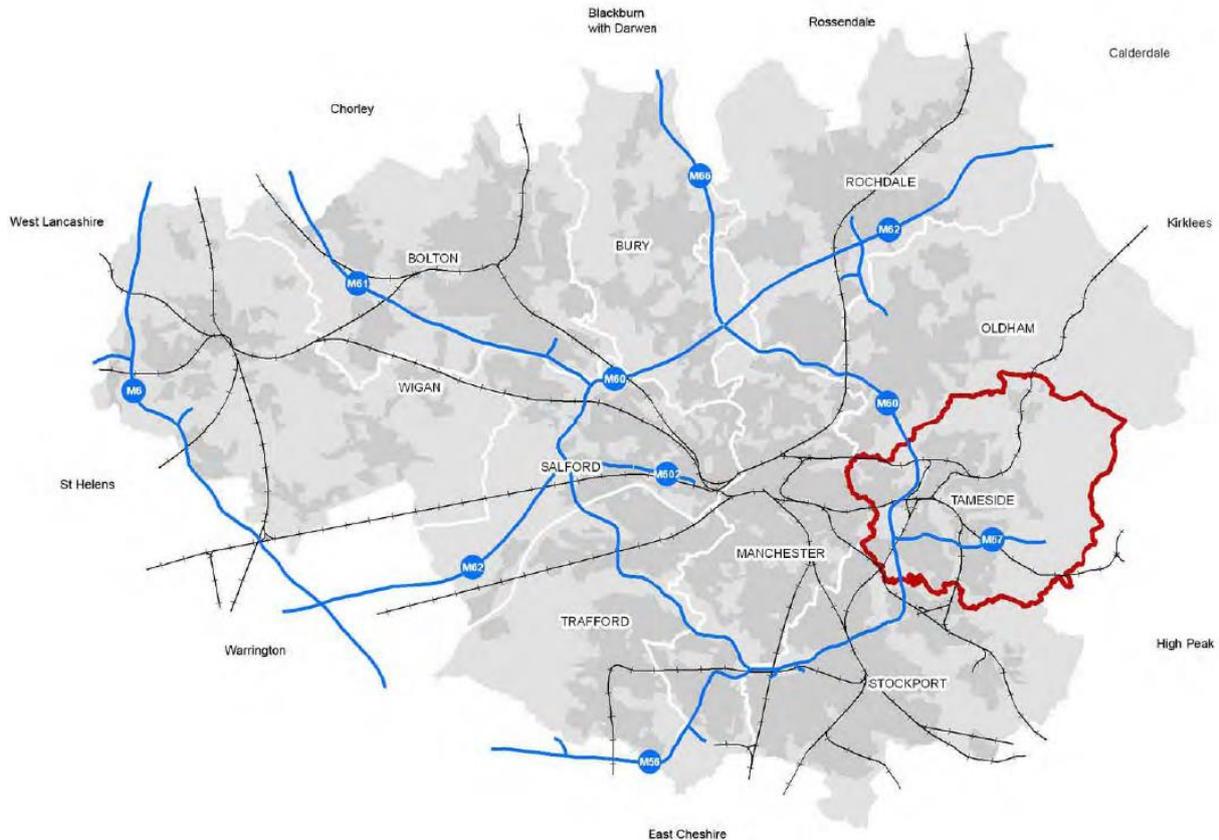
3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 An essential part of the IA scoping process is the identification of the current baseline conditions and their likely evolution. It is only with a knowledge of existing conditions, and a consideration of their likely evolution, that the effects of the Local Plan can be identified and assessed and its subsequent success or otherwise be monitored. The SEA Directive also requires that the evolution of the baseline conditions of the plan area (that would take place without the plan or programme) is identified, described and taken into account. Consideration of the baseline and its subsequent evolution without the Local Plan is also useful in determining the key issues for each topic that should be taken forward in the IA, through the IA objectives and guide questions that comprise the IA Framework (see **Section 4**).
- 3.1.2 This section of the Scoping Report identifies and characterises current socio-economic (including health and equality) and environmental baseline conditions for Tameside, along with how these are likely to change in the future. The analysis is presented for the following topic areas:
- ▶ Population and Demographics;
 - ▶ Housing;
 - ▶ Economy;
 - ▶ Health and Wellbeing;
 - ▶ Education and Skills;
 - ▶ Deprivation;
 - ▶ Transport and Accessibility;
 - ▶ Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure;
 - ▶ Land Use, Geology and Soil;
 - ▶ Water;
 - ▶ Air Quality;
 - ▶ Climate Change;
 - ▶ Materials Assets;
 - ▶ Cultural Heritage; and
 - ▶ Landscape and Townscape.
- 3.1.3 Additionally, this section (with reference to **Appendix C**) presents a high level overview of the characteristics of the Borough's key settlements in terms of key environmental constraints.
- 3.1.4 To inform the baseline analysis, data has been drawn from a variety of sources, including: 2011 Census; Nomis; the Council's existing plan evidence base including the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR); the Environment Agency; Historic England; Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra); and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).
- 3.1.5 The key sustainability, health and equality issues arising from the review of baseline conditions are summarised at the end of each topic together with the linkages between the topics considered.

3.2 Tameside Metropolitan Borough – An Overview

- 3.2.1 Tameside is one of ten Metropolitan Boroughs that make up the Greater Manchester conurbation. The Borough is located in the east of Greater Manchester (see **Figure 3.1**), bordering the borough of Oldham at its northern boundaries, the borough of Stockport at its southern boundary and Manchester City to the west. At its eastern boundary, Tameside neighbours the Derbyshire borough of High Peak and the Peak District National Park.

Figure 3.1 Tameside Metropolitan Borough



- 3.2.2 As with much of Greater Manchester, the industrial revolution has played a key part in shaping Tameside's urban and rural landscapes, with the historic mill towns of Ashton-under-Lyne, Hyde, Denton, Droylsden, Stalybridge, Mossley, Dukinfield and Audenshaw, together with the villages of Longendale, retaining their status as urban centres and/or settlements today. With it remains the industrial heritage of terraced housing, mills and industrial infrastructure characterising much of the Borough. High level constraint mapping for each of the Borough's key settlements is contained in **Appendix C**.
- 3.2.3 The Borough has a great number of strengths which enhance the area's uniqueness as a Greater Manchester authority. There are, however, also a number of key issues which need to be addressed to improve sustainability within the Borough. These issues are discussed further in the sections that follow.

3.3 Population and Demographics

Population Trends

- 3.3.1 At the 2011 Census, Tameside had a population of 219,324, an increase of 2.9% since the 2001 Census when the population stood at 213,043. 2015 Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid-year

population estimates indicate that the population had risen to 221,700, a 1.1% increase since 2011. The estimated population growth in Tameside between 2011 and 2015 is lower than for Greater Manchester as a whole (2.6%) and the North West (1.7%).

- 3.3.2 Of the total resident population, 49.1% are male and 50.9% are female. This percentage split has remained the same between 2011 and 2014. The proportion of males and females in Tameside is similar to both the North West and England, but with Tameside having a slightly higher percentage of females and lower percentage of males (see **Table 3.1**).

Table 3.1 Male / Female Population Split (2014)

	Tameside (%)	Greater Manchester (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Male	49.1	49.6	49.2	49.3
Female	50.9	50.4	50.8	50.7

Source: ONS (2014) *Population and Migration*.

- 3.3.3 The 2011 Census shows that the majority of the Borough's population (93%) were born in the UK, higher than the averages for the North West and England (91.8% and 86.2% respectively) (see **Table 3.2**). Only 0.5% of the Borough's population had been resident in the UK for less than 2 years, lower than the percentage for England as a whole (which stood at 1.8% in 2011).

Table 3.2 Place of Birth

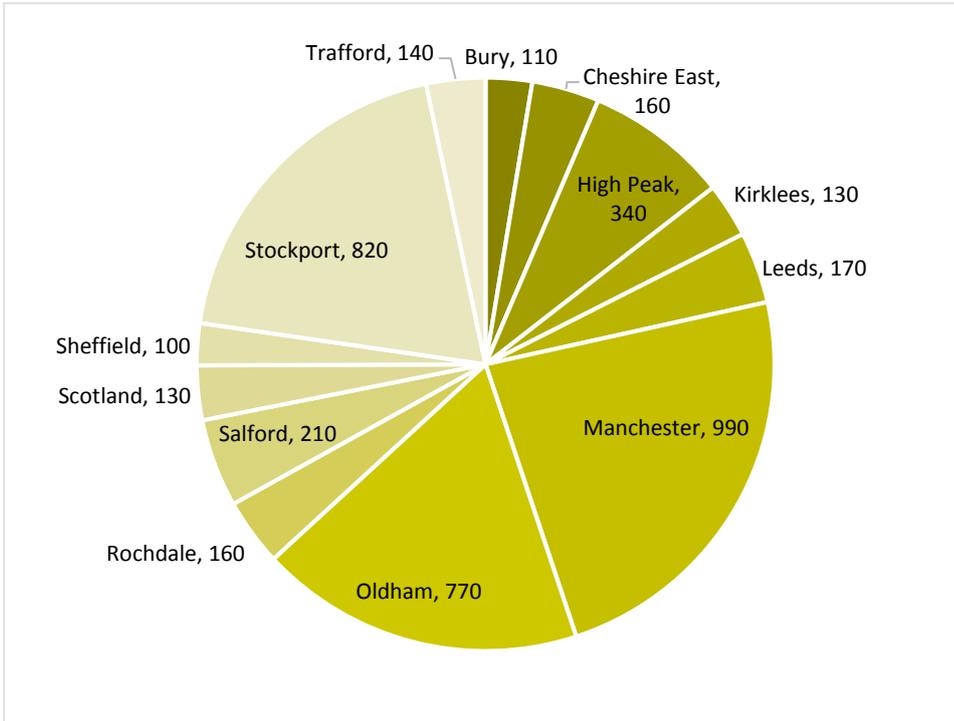
	Tameside (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
UK	93	91.8	86.2
England	91.4	89.0	83.5
Northern Ireland	0.3	0.5	0.4
Scotland	0.9	1.4	1.3
Wales	0.4	0.9	1.0
Europe (excluding UK)	2.3	2.7	4.4
Africa	1.0	1.2	2.4
Middle East and Asia	3.1	3.5	4.8
The Americas and the Caribbean	0.2	0.5	1.3
Antarctica and Oceania	0.1	0.1	0.3

Source: ONS (2011) *2011 Census*.

- 3.3.4 Net migration for the year ending June 2015 was fairly balanced with a total of 6,750 residents moving from the Borough to other areas within the UK and 6,810 people moving to the Borough from within the UK¹⁰. Migration, both in and out of Tameside, is primarily to/from other parts of the Greater Manchester conurbation and particularly the Manchester City Council, Stockport and Oldham local authority areas. **Figure 3.2** and **Figure 3.3** show principal migration origins/destinations.

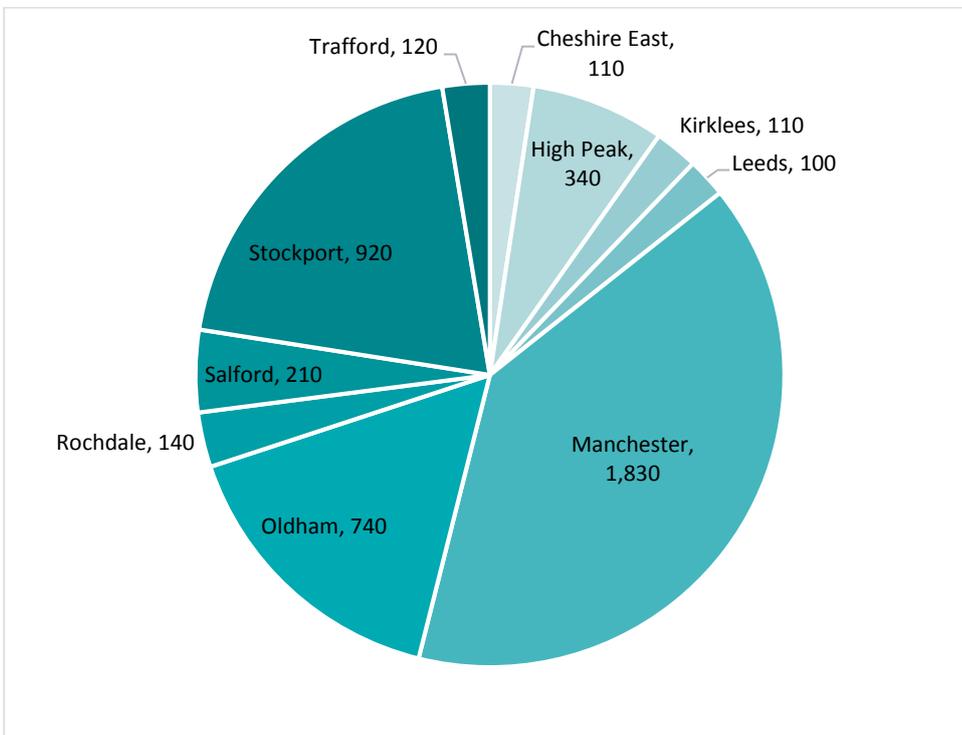
¹⁰ ONS (2016) *Internal migration datasets*. Available from <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/migrationwithintheuk/datasets/internalmigrationbyoriginanddestinationlocalauthoritiessexandsingleyearofagedetailedestimatesdataset> [Accessed January 2017].

Figure 3.2 Main Migration from Tameside to other UK Local Authority Areas (year to June 2015)



Source: ONS (2016) *Internal migration datasets*.

Figure 3.3 Main Migration in to Tameside from other UK Local Authority Areas (year to June 2015)



Source: ONS (2016) *Internal migration datasets*.

Age Structure

- 3.3.5 The age structure of the Borough's population is similar to that of the North West region, although trends are closer to the age structure of England (see **Table 3.3**). The percentage of those 15 or under is slightly above the regional and national averages whereas the percentage of those who are 65 and over is slightly lower.

Table 3.3 Population by Age Group

Age Group	Tameside (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
0 – 15 years	19.5	18.6	18.9
16 – 24 years	11.4	12.1	11.9
25 – 44 years	27.0	26.4	27.5
45 – 59 years	20.2	19.8	19.4
60 – 64 years	6.3	6.2	6.0
65 and over	15.6	16.6	16.4

Source: ONS (2011) *2011 Census* (Note: Totals taken directly from ONS data but North West and England percentages do not total 100% due to the effect of rounding).

Households

- 3.3.6 As at the 2011 Census, there were 94,953 households¹¹ in Tameside, an increase of 5.5% from 2001 when the number stood at 89,981. Over the same period, the North West experienced a 7.0% increase in households and England a 7.9% increase.
- 3.3.7 Household composition in Tameside has also changed between 2001 and 2011 (see **Table 3.4**). In particular, there has been an increase in the number of one person households which, at 11.3%, is similar to the increase in one person households across the North West (11.4%) but higher than for England (8.4%) over the same period. The rate of increase of family and other household types in the Borough, meanwhile, was lower than for the North West and England.

Table 3.4 Percentage Change of Household Composition between 2001 and 2011

	Tameside (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
All Households	5.5	7.0	7.9
One Person Households	11.3	11.4	8.4
One Family Only Households	1.8	3.4	5.4
Other Households	18.4	23.4	28.9

Source: ONS (2001 & 2011) *2001 and 2011 Census*.

Ethnicity

- 3.3.8 Using ONS category descriptions, the population of Tameside is predominantly White (90.9% of the population) with the second largest ethnic group being Asian/Asian British (6.6%). The percentage split of all ethnicities is largely similar to the North West region (see **Table 3.5**),

¹¹ 'Household' is defined as one person living alone, or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address who share cooking facilities and share a living room, sitting room or dining area (ONS 2011 definition).

although the proportion of the Borough's population that is white (90.9%) is higher than Greater Manchester as a whole (83.8%) and England (85.4%).

Table 3.5 Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Tameside (%)	Greater Manchester (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
White	90.9	83.8	90.2	85.4
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups	1.4	2.3	1.6	2.3
Asian/Asian British	6.6	10.1	6.2	7.8
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	0.8	2.8	1.4	3.5
Other Ethnic Group	0.2	1.0	0.6	1.0

Source: ONS (2011) 2011 Census – Ethnic Group – March 2011.

Religious Belief

3.3.9 Christianity is the predominant religion in Tameside, similar to Greater Manchester, the North West and England (see **Table 3.6**). After Christianity, Islam is the next most predominant religion (4.4%).

Table 3.6 Religious Groups

Religion	Tameside (%)	Greater Manchester (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Christian	64.0	61.8	67.3	59.4
Buddhist	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.5
Hindu	1.5	0.9	0.5	1.5
Jewish	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.5
Muslim	4.4	8.7	5.1	5.0
Sikh	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.8
Other Religion	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
No Religion	23.6	20.8	19.8	24.7
Religion Not Stated	5.9	6.1	6.2	7.2

Source: ONS (2011) 2011 Census – Religion – March 2011.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

3.3.10 The latest population projections¹² anticipate that Tameside's population will increase to 239,100 by 2039. This represents a 9.0% increase compared to the population as at the 2011 Census, similar to the projected population growth for the North West (9.4%) but lower than for Greater Manchester as a whole (15.1%) over the same period. The number of households, meanwhile, are

¹² ONS (2016) 2014 based Subnational Population Projections for Local Authorities and Higher Administrative Areas in England. Available from <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datasets/localauthoritiesinenglandtable2> [Accessed January 2017].

forecast to rise to 110,434¹³, an increase of 15,481 households or 16.3% since 2011. This compares to a projected household growth of 22.6% across Greater Manchester.

- 3.3.11 The dependency ratio (the proportion of children and older people per 100 people of working age (16-64)) is projected to increase significantly from 55 per 100 in 2014 to 72 per 100 in 2039, largely as a result of the increase in the number of older people.
- 3.3.12 Whilst existing national policy set out in the NPPF and the GMSF (once adopted) would provide the basis to ensure that new housing is delivered in the Borough, the absence of a Local Plan would restrict the ability of the Council to set specific requirements regarding the particular type, size and tenure of housing. Further, opportunities to deliver community facilities and services to meet local needs may not be realised. The changing needs of the Borough's population (with a growing ageing population and one person households) might therefore not be adequately met by new development.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to meet future requirements for housing including for a mix of accommodation types and tenures.
- ▶ The need to meet the needs of an ageing population.
- ▶ The need to ensure that the needs of different ethnic groups are met and that community cohesion is fostered.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.3.13 Changes in population and household numbers alongside a change in age structure will relate to, and impact upon, other topic areas. A growth in population is likely to increase employment demand which could in turn increase economic growth as people move to the area to take up employment.
- 3.3.14 The change in population dynamics drives demand for housing, health services, education, social, transport and utility infrastructure, linking closely to resource consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The age structure, especially in an ageing population, can alter how these demands are met, and also the pressures put on service levels, including provision of social and other (including green) infrastructure.

3.4 Housing

- 3.4.1 The Greater Manchester Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2016)¹⁴ identifies that the sub-region as a whole shares a number of characteristics that mean it is a suitable basis to define a housing market area but the functioning of housing and labour markets within Greater Manchester means that there is no simple way of subdividing the sub-region into identifiable housing market areas.

Completions

- 3.4.1 At the time of the 2011 Census, there were 99,146 dwellings in Tameside, a 5.6% increase on 2001 when there were 93,876 dwellings. In the nine year period from 2006/07 to 2014/15, there were a total of 4,275 net new dwellings completed, equivalent to around 475 per year on average (see **Table 3.7**).

¹³ ONS (2016) *2014-based household projections: detailed data for modelling and analytical purposes*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/2014-based-household-projections-detailed-data-for-modelling-and-analytical-purposes> [Accessed January 2017].

¹⁴ Greater Manchester Combined Authority (2016) *Strategic Housing Market Assessment* Available from http://gmsf.objective.co.uk/portal/2016consultation/supp_docs?pointId=1477921277859#1477921277859 [Accessed January 2017].

Table 3.7 Housing Completions 2006/07 to 2014/15

Year	Gross Completions	Loss	Net Completions
2006/07	675	112	563
2007/08	1164	375	789
2008/09	921	269	652
2009/10	347	94	253
2010/11	321	35	286
2011/12	355	5	350
2012/13	573	51	522
2013/14	411	45	366
2014/15	563	69	494

Source: Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2014) Authority's Monitoring Report and recent Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council monitoring data.

- 3.4.2 The AMR 2013/14¹⁵ set out that the Council proposed to take forward the target identified in the suspended Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD Preferred Options document of 11,000 net additional dwellings over the 17 year Local Plan period 2012-2029. The Council formerly considered the most appropriate means to deliver this housing would be to adopt a phased approach with 5 yearly intervals over the plan period, equivalent to an annual average residual requirement between 2014 and 2029 of 650 dwellings per year when completions are taken into account.
- 3.4.3 Following on from the above approach a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) has been produced for the Greater Manchester Combined Authority in order to develop a robust understanding of housing market dynamics and an assessment for future needs over the period 2015-2035. The SHMA sets out the overall housing requirement for Greater Manchester and also for the individual ten local authorities. The SHMA has been published alongside the draft GMSF which sets out the overall housing land requirement for Tameside of 13,579 additional dwellings between 2015 and 2035, an average of 679 dwellings per annum. In the draft GMSF this has been rounded to 13,600 and 680 respectively
- 3.4.4 The Tameside Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2014) provided evidence on the availability of housing land across the Borough for the 15 year period 2014-2029. The findings of the SHLAA indicated that there were 718 sites within Tameside with the potential to deliver 8,812 net additional dwellings over the 15 year period, suggesting a shortfall of available land to meet longer term housing requirements. The SHLAA is due to be updated in 2017 by the Council as part of the preparation of the Local Plan. This will provide an up-to-date assessment of the amount of land available for housing development within the Borough.

Housing Stock – Type and Tenure

- 3.4.5 In 2011, the majority (63.8%) of the Borough's housing stock was owned either outright or with a mortgage. Just over a fifth of housing tenures (21.5%) were social rented and 13.2% privately rented. As can be seen in **Table 3.8**, the percentage of households owned outright or with a mortgage is higher in Tameside than across Greater Manchester as a whole, but both are lower than the North West average.

¹⁵ Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2014) *Authority's Monitoring Report 2013/14*.

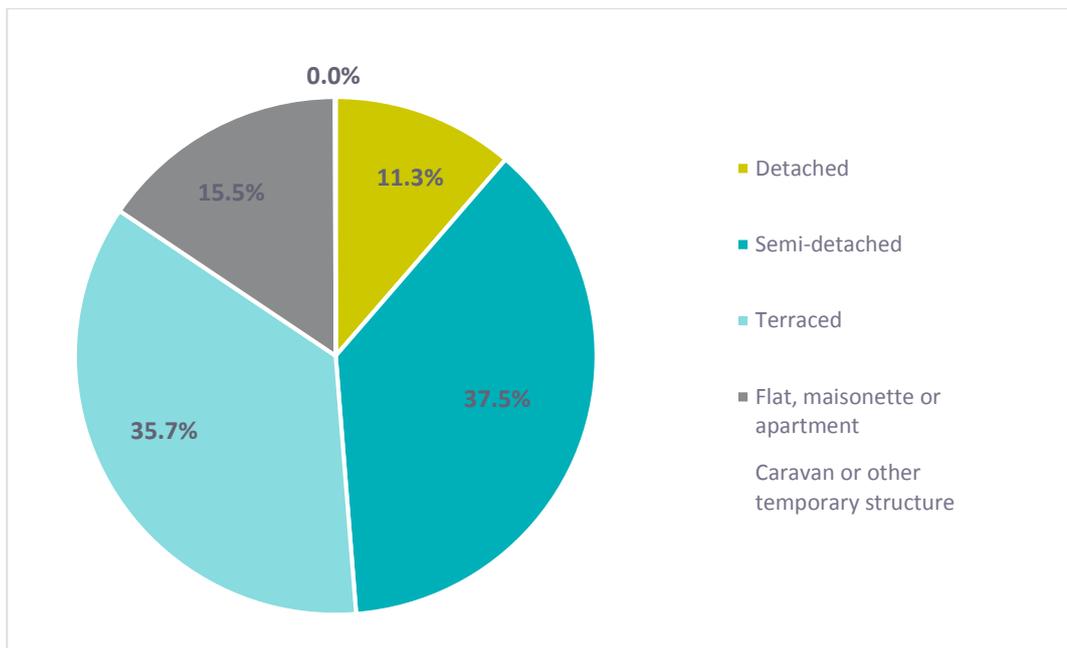
Table 3.8 Housing Tenure

Tenure	Tameside (%)	Greater Manchester (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Owned				
Owned outright or with mortgage	63.8	60.1	64.5	63.4
Shared Ownership (part owned, part rented)	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.8
Rented				
Social rented	21.5	21.9	7.7	9.4
Private rented	13.2	16.1	10.6	8.3
Living rent free	1.1	1.4	15.4	16.8

Source: ONS (2011) 2011 Census.

3.4.6 2011 Census data shows that semi-detached houses comprised the largest proportion of the Borough’s housing stock (37.5% of all stock) followed by terraced houses (35.7%) (see **Figure 3.4**). The percentage of the stock that were flats in the Borough, meanwhile, stood at 15.5% and detached houses 11.3%.

Figure 3.4 Dwelling type



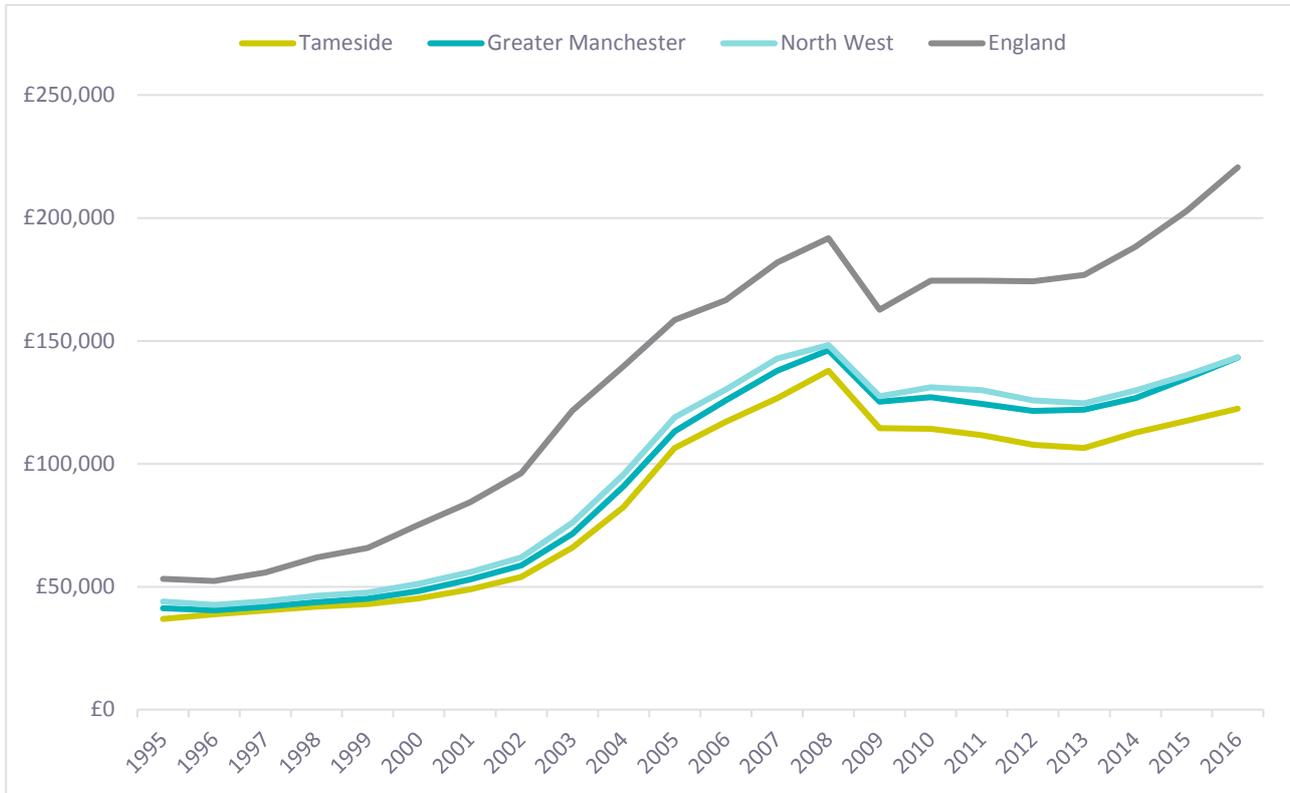
Source: ONS (2011) 2011 Census.

House Prices and Sales

3.4.7 House prices in Tameside have broadly followed the same trends seen regionally and nationally (see **Figure 3.5**) and in 2016, the average house price was £122,445. However, the recovery from the 2008 decline in prices has been slower in Tameside than across Greater Manchester, the North West and England and in 2016 average house prices in Greater Manchester was £143,135

compared to £143,297 regionally. All are significantly lower than the average house price in England of £220,581.¹⁶

Figure 3.5 Average House Price (1995-2016)



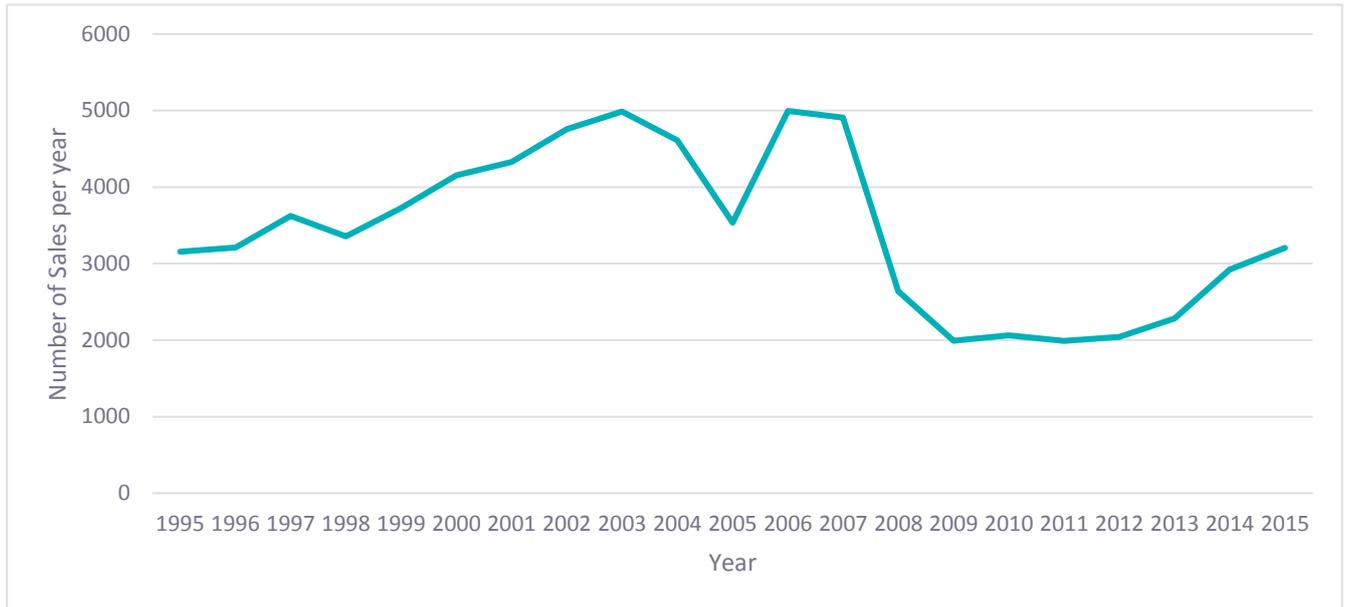
Source: Land Registry data. Available via <http://landregistry.data.gov.uk/app/ukhpi> [Accessed January 2017].

3.4.8 House sales in the Borough follow a similar trend to those of house prices. **Figure 3.6** shows that sales are increasing again since 2008 but have not yet reached pre-recession levels. The trends seen in house sales for Tameside are generally the same for Greater Manchester, the North West and England.¹⁷

¹⁶ Land Registry data. Available via <http://landregistry.data.gov.uk/app/ukhpi> [Accessed January 2017].

¹⁷ Land Registry data. Available via <http://landregistry.data.gov.uk/app/ukhpi> [Accessed January 2017].

Figure 3.6 Volume of House Sales (1995-2015)



Source: Land Registry data. Available via <http://landregistry.data.gov.uk/app/ukhpi> [Accessed January 2017].

Affordability

3.4.9 Affordability is generally measured by the ratio of the lower quartile house price with the lower quartile earnings and the ratio of median house prices to the median earnings (where the higher the ratio, the less affordable it is for households to get onto the property ladder). **Table 3.9** shows affordability using these measures for Tameside, the other Greater Manchester authorities, and England as a whole between 2013 and 2015. This demonstrates that Tameside is more affordable than Greater Manchester as a whole, and significantly more so than England.

Table 3.9 Housing Affordability Ratios

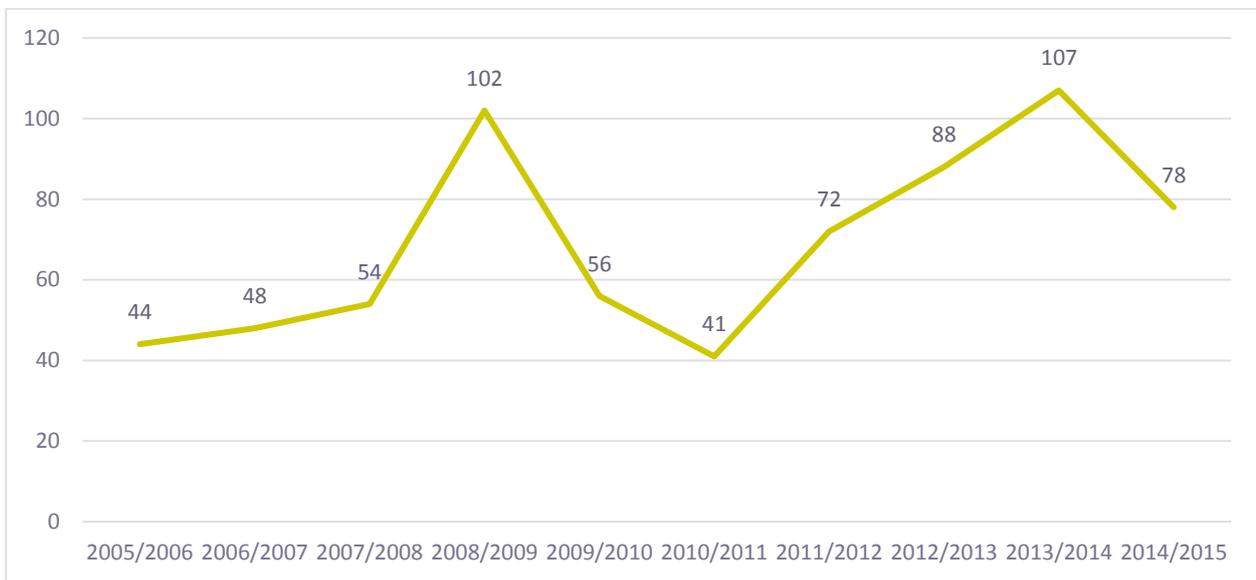
Local Authority	Lower quartile house price to lower quartile earnings			Median house prices to median earnings		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Bolton	4.19	4.70	4.56	4.65	5.01	5.02
Bury	5.07	5.54	5.88	5.21	5.43	5.80
Manchester	4.65	4.85	5.16	4.65	4.89	5.14
Oldham	4.67	4.93	5.01	5.11	5.20	5.33
Rochdale	4.52	4.85	4.94	5.11	5.43	5.49
Salford	4.44	4.44	4.64	4.22	4.66	4.80
Stockport	6.28	6.59	6.81	6.09	6.78	6.99
Tameside	5.02	5.13	5.23	5.26	5.30	5.51
Trafford	7.71	7.67	8.35	7.66	7.69	8.94
Wigan	4.60	5.04	4.83	4.91	5.41	5.15

Local Authority	Lower quartile house price to lower quartile earnings			Median house prices to median earnings		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Greater Manchester	5.11	5.37	5.54	5.29	5.58	5.82
England	6.66	6.95	7.02	6.92	7.25	7.63

Source: Greater Manchester Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2016) using CLG data¹⁸.

3.4.16 The number of new affordable dwellings completed in Tameside since 2005 has fluctuated annually¹⁹ (see **Figure 3.7**) but peaking in 2008/09 and 2013/14 when over 100 affordable units were completed.

Figure 3.7 Gross Affordable Housing Completions (2005-2015)



Source: Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2014) Authority's Monitoring Report 2013/14 and recent monitoring data for 2014/15.

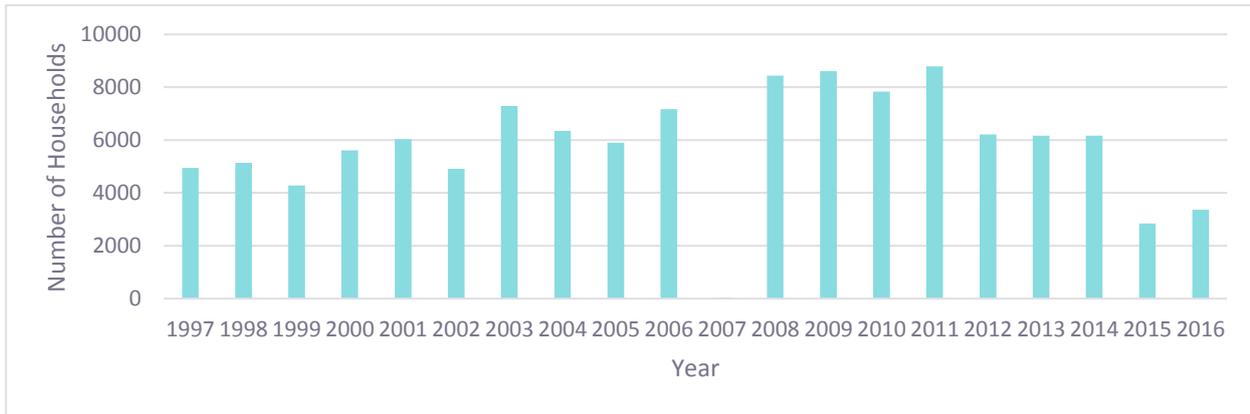
3.4.17 The number of households on the housing waiting list has also fluctuated and in 2016, there were 3,363 households in Tameside on the list²⁰ (see **Figure 3.8**).

¹⁸ GMCA (2016) *Strategic Housing Market Assessment*. Available from http://gmsf-objective.co.uk/portal/2016consultation/supp_docs?pointId=1477921277859#1477921277859 [Accessed January 2017].

¹⁹ Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2014) *Authority's Monitoring Report 2013/14*.

²⁰ DLCG (2016) *Numbers of households on local authorities housing waiting lists by district: England 1997-2016*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-rents-lettings-and-tenancies> [Accessed January 2017].

Figure 3.8 Number of Households on Housing Waiting List (1997-2016)



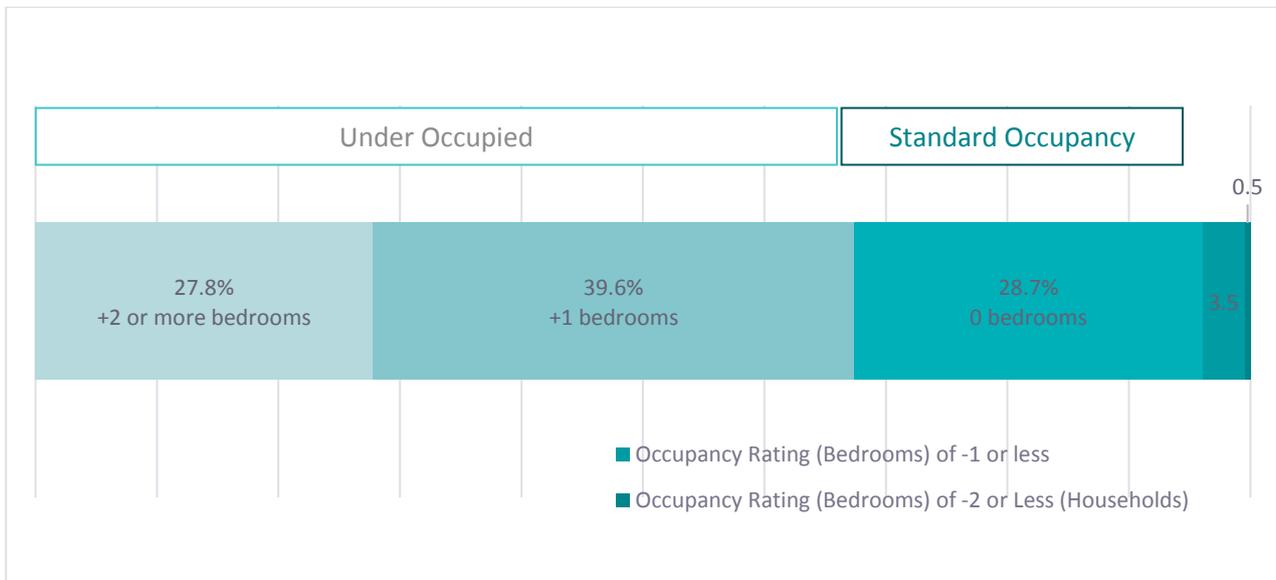
Source: CLG (2016) *Numbers of households on local authorities housing waiting lists by district: England 1997-2016*.

Overcrowding

3.4.18 Information on bedroom occupancy was collected in the 2011 Census for the first time and provides a measure of whether a household's accommodation is overcrowded or under occupied²¹. An occupancy rating of -1 implies that a household has one fewer bedroom than required, whereas +1 implies that they have one more bedroom than the standard requirements.

3.4.19 In 2011²², there were 3,737 households (4% of all households) in Tameside classified as being overcrowded (see **Figure 3.9**). This is lower than the overcrowding rate for Greater Manchester (4.7%) and England (4.6%). A total of 63,991 households (67.4% of all households), meanwhile, were classified as being under-occupied. This is very similar to the under-occupied figures for Greater Manchester (67.0%) and England (68.7%).

Figure 3.9 Bedroom Occupancy Rating



²¹ The ages of the household members and their relationships to each other are used to derive the number of bedrooms they require, based on a standard formula. The number of bedrooms required is subtracted from the number of bedrooms in the household's accommodation to calculate the occupancy rating. The occupancy rating can then indicate overcrowding or under-occupation within the household.

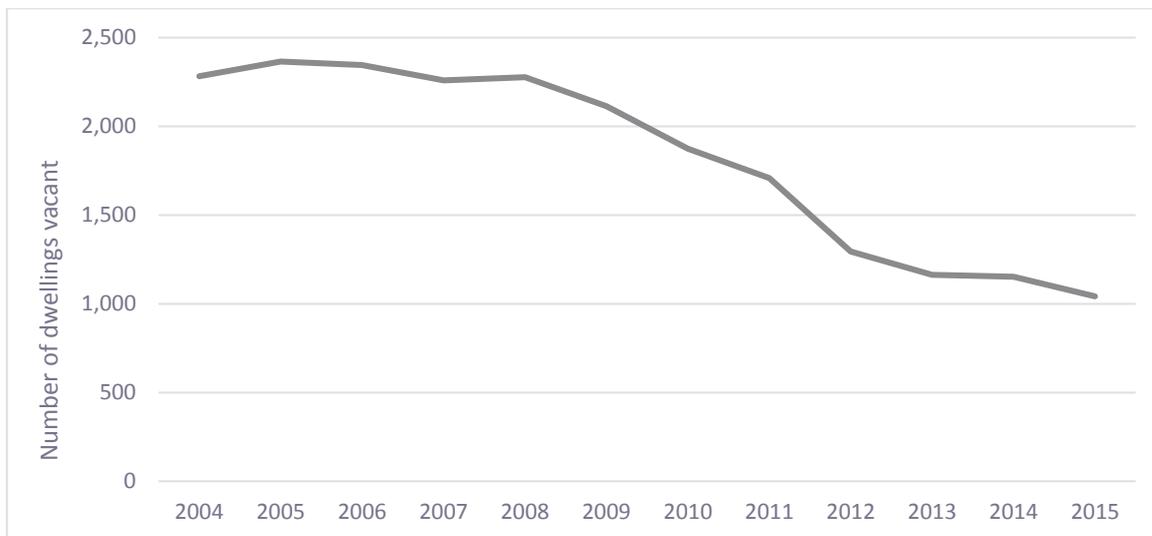
²² ONS Occupancy Rating (Bedrooms), 2011 (QS412EW). Available from <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=7&b=6275272&c=Tameside&d=13&e=7&q=6347026&i=1001x1003x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1485862592366&enc=1&dsFamilyId=2557> [Accessed January 2017].

Source: ONS (2011) *Census 2011*.

Vacant Dwellings

- 3.4.20 A proportion of vacant dwellings is part of the normal operation of the housing market; however, long term vacant dwellings represent an unused resource that can deteriorate over time and negatively impact upon the local housing market.
- 3.4.21 The annual average of vacant dwellings has decreased steadily in the Borough since 2004, as shown in **Figure 3.10**²³. In 2015, a total of 1,042 dwellings were vacant in Tameside which represents 1.0% of the total dwelling stock.

Figure 3.10 Long Term Vacant Dwellings



Homelessness

- 3.4.22 The number of homeless people in 2015/16 was significantly higher than that for previous years with 162 people accepted as being homeless and in priority need (1.65 per 1,000 households). There were 999 cases where positive action to prevent or relieve homelessness was undertaken. For comparison, in 2014/15, 64 people were accepted as being homeless and in priority need (0.7 per 1,000 households) and in 2013/14 this stood at 65 (0.67 per 1,000 households). However, in these years the number of cases where positive action to prevent or relieve homelessness was higher (1,270 in 2014/15 and 1,369 in 2013/14)²⁴.

Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

- 3.4.23 In the 2011 Census, 19 households identified themselves as being of 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' ethnicity. A total of 11 stated that they lived in a house or bungalow, two in a flat or apartment and six in a caravan or other mobile temporary structure. The Greater Manchester Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment²⁵ (GMGTAA) highlights that in 2014, there were three authorised sites within Tameside (see **Table 3.10**). Of these sites, all are in private ownership and there were nine vacant plots for Travelling Showpeople.

²³ DLCCG (2012) *Table 615: vacant dwellings by local authority district: England, from 2004*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-dwelling-stock-including-vacants> [Accessed January 2017].

²⁴ DLCCG (2016) *Live tables on homelessness*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness> [Accessed January 2017].

²⁵ GMCA (2014) *Greater Manchester Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment. Final Report. December 2014*. Available from https://gmsf-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/options_consultation/strategic_options?tab=files [Accessed January 2017].

Table 3.10 2014 Authorised Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Sites

Site	Type of site	Ownership	Total number of pitches/plots	No of households	Vacant
Watson Street, Denton	Temporary Authorised: Gypsy and Traveller	Private	5	2	0
Fairhaven, Mill Lane, Denton	Permanent: Travelling Showpeople	Private	38	29	9
Wilton Street, Denton	Permanent: Travelling Showpeople	Private	9	9	0

Source: *Greater Manchester Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (2014)*.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.4.24 As highlighted in **Section 3.3**, the number of households is projected to increase to 110,434 by 2039, equivalent to a 2.3% increase since 2011, whilst the average household size will decrease to 2.14 (from 2.27 in 2014).
- 3.4.25 The Draft GMSF sets out a housing requirement for Tameside of 13,600 new dwellings, equivalent to an annual average requirement of 680 dwellings per year. The indicative split of new development is for 80% to be houses and 20% to be apartments. The requirement represents around 6% of the overall housing requirement across Greater Manchester.
- 3.4.26 The GMGTAA projects the need for an additional 23 plots for Travelling Showpeople by 2033. The study identified the need for two additional permanent pitches for Gypsies and Travellers. The need for 6 transit pitches in the Borough was also identified.
- 3.4.27 The absence of a Local Plan for the Borough would not halt the delivery of housing as emerging policies in the Draft GMSF would help to deliver new development. However, without specific and detailed local policy relating to (in particular) the type, tenure and location of new housing, the extent to which new development meets the needs of Tameside's communities would be more uncertain. This could (inter alia) undermine the potential for new development to deliver affordable housing and provide the tenure and type of housing required. Further, the lack of more detailed local planning policy could result in the objectives of other plans and programmes, including the Tameside Housing Strategy, Tameside Empty Property Strategy and Homelessness Prevention Strategy being unfilled.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to provide an adequate supply of land for housing to meet the requirements set out in the GMSF.
- ▶ The need to ensure the delivery of an appropriate range of housing types and tenures to meet local needs.
- ▶ The need to make best use of, and where appropriate improve, the quality of the existing housing stock including bringing empty properties back into use.
- ▶ The need to address homelessness in the Borough.
- ▶ The need to make appropriate provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.4.28 Housing is fundamentally linked to many areas of the baseline. The relationship between population, the economy and employment is complex with growth in these areas driving the needs

for more and different types of housing. A range of housing types (to include sheltered and affordable) can contribute to reducing poverty, deprivation and the number of homeless. Housing delivery underpins economic growth by providing a number of jobs, directly and indirectly through construction, whilst it is vital to supporting employment development by providing accommodation for employees.

- 3.4.29 The energy efficiency of housing stock impacts on greenhouse gas emissions and can help reduce levels of fuel poverty thereby supporting the health and wellbeing of communities. The distribution of housing can also impact transport choices and availability.
- 3.4.30 Pressure to find new locations for land to meet the projected housing demand could reduce land available for other economic or social requirements. In addition, environmental impacts may be felt on landscapes and biodiversity.

3.5 Economy

Economy

- 3.5.1 Tameside is an important part of the Great Manchester economy, the strongest economic centre outside of London with an annual economic output of £50 billion. Although the area has historically been a strong manufacturing centre, in recent years Greater Manchester has experienced a large-scale expansion of the service sector, specifically the financial and professional services.
- 3.5.2 There are economic disparities across the Greater Manchester area. *Enterprising Tameside: A New Economic Strategy for Tameside 2012-26 (2012)*²⁶ highlights that the Borough suffered more than most authorities in the Greater Manchester area during the recession from 2008 to 2010 and experienced a slower recovery. Within the Borough, there has traditionally been a dependence on declining traditional industries coupled with an overreliance on the public sector. Future opportunities for economic growth in the Borough are linked to the UK Government's Northern Powerhouse designation and encapsulated in the Greater Manchester Growth and Reform Plan (2014)²⁷.
- 3.5.3 Nomis data²⁸ shows that in 2016, there were 5,960 business enterprises within Tameside. This represents a 16.4% increase since 2010 (when there were 5,120 enterprises) and reflects the general economic upturn experienced across the country. In the last year, 925 new enterprises were created and 590 ended in Borough, a net increase of 335 businesses²⁹.
- 3.5.4 As can be seen in **Table 3.11**, Tameside has a similar proportion of micro to large enterprises as Greater Manchester, the North West and Great Britain as a whole.

Table 3.11 Enterprise Size (2016)

Enterprise size (number of employees)	Tameside	Greater Manchester	North West	Great Britain
Micro (0 to 9)	88.2%	88.1%	88.3%	89.2%
Small (10 to 49)	10.0%	9.7%	9.6%	8.9%
Medium (50 to 249)	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	1.6%

²⁶ Tameside Strategic Partnership (2012) *Enterprising Tameside: A New Economic Strategy for Tameside 2012-26*.

²⁷ GMCA, Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership (GMLEP) and AGMA (2014) *Greater Manchester Growth and Reform Plan*.

²⁸ Available via:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/business/activitysizeandlocation/bulletins/ukbusinessactivitysizeandlocation/2016> [Accessed January 2017].

²⁹ ONS Business Demography Data. Available via:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/business/activitysizeandlocation/datasets/businessdemographyreferencetable> [accessed January 2017]

Enterprise size (number of employees)	Tameside	Greater Manchester	North West	Great Britain
Large (250+)	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
Total	5,960	91,590	245,170	2,485,410

Source: *UK Business Counts – Enterprises 2016*.

- 3.5.5 Monitoring for the period 2014/15 indicates that the total supply of land available for employment related development stood at 63.14 ha. This represents a significant decrease in supply of 15.65 ha on the previous year. Of the total supply available at 31st March 2015, 24.33 ha was classed as immediately available, this represented a 1.24 ha decrease on the previous monitoring year.
- 3.5.6 Gross employment floorspace completions and total employment land supply between 2006/07 and 2014/15 are shown in **Table 3.12**.

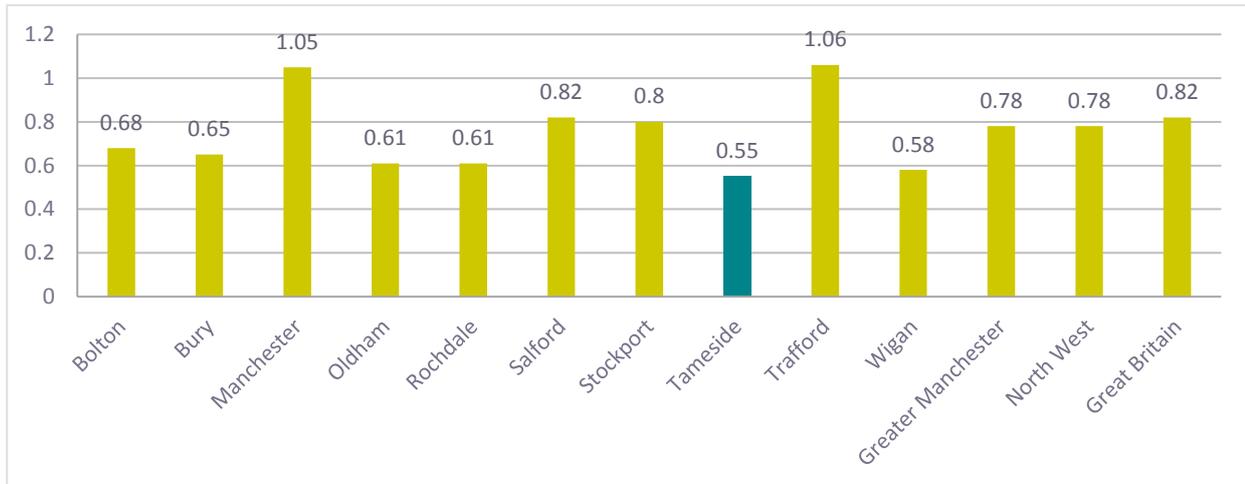
Table 3.12 Gross Employment Completions, Losses and Total Supply

Monitoring Year	Gross Floorspace completions (m ²)	Gross Floorspace Industrial & Warehousing (m ²)	Gross Floorspace Office (m ²)	Gross Floorspace Losses (m ²)	Employment Land Total Supply (Ha)
2006/07	23,668	17,918	5770	16750	75.4
2007/08	20,478	20,142	336	9680	74.19
2008/09	29,014	10,442	18572	8298	71.22
2009/10	6,657	6,632	25	130027	70.41
2010/11	9,159	9,159	0	20599	80.46
2011/12	10,371	10,371	0	8402	80.73
2012/13	2,451	2,164	320	2305	85.31
2013/14	7,183	6,765	418	4027	78.79
2014/15	9,432	7,619	1813	3092	63.14

Source: Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council monitoring data.

- 3.5.7 Job density (a measure of the number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population aged 16-64) in 2014 was 0.55. This is the lowest job density of any of the Greater Manchester boroughs (see **Figure 3.11**). It is therefore likely that Tameside working age residents commute to work in other areas, particularly those with a job density of more than 1 (which indicates that there are more jobs than working age residents), such as Manchester or Trafford.

Figure 3.11 Job Density 2014

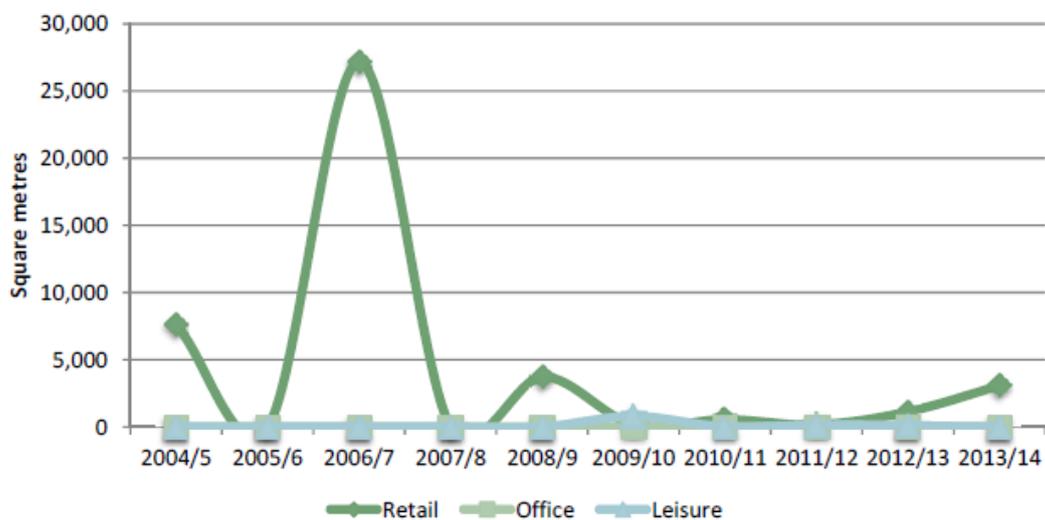


Source: Nomis.

3.5.8 The Tameside Retail Study 2010³⁰ showed that, in 2009, the resident population generated £312m in convenience goods (food and groceries) expenditure and £502m in comparison (non-food) goods expenditure. Retail markets change according to demographic shifts and technology advancements (such as online retailing). As noted in the Study, these changes have impacted upon the format of retail and leisure floorspace and indicates retail development is increasingly being directed towards town centres where supply exceeds demand. The economic recession between 2008 and 2010 impacted retail markets and their growth, with a number of high street retailers suffering. Existing high street and supermarket retailers face greater competition from out of town shopping centres and the internet. However, discount retailers have thrived.

3.5.9 The impact of the recession on the Tameside retail sector is apparent and the AMR³¹ highlights that many commercial schemes have consisted of only small extensions or alterations to existing retailing locations. As shown in **Figure 3.12**, the completed area of retail space has decreased significantly from pre-2008 levels, however there has been an increase since 2012.

Figure 3.12 Area of Retail, Leisure and Office Development in Town Centres



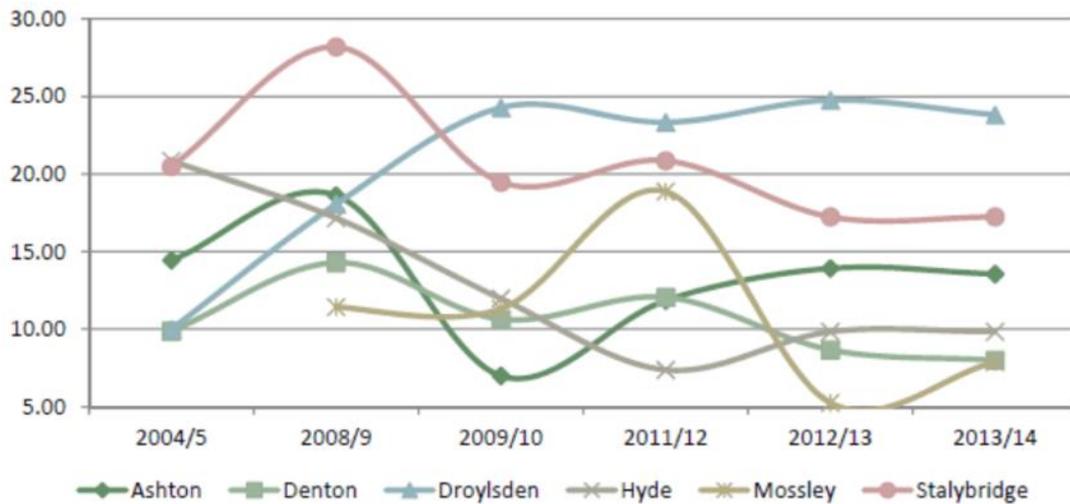
Source: Authority's Monitoring Report 2013/14.

³⁰ The Tameside Retail Study 2010. Available online: <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/planning/ldf/retailstudy2010> [Accessed January 2017]

³¹ Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2014) *Authority's Monitoring Report 2013/14*.

3.5.10 Another measure of the health of town centre economies is the number of vacant units. Whilst the number of vacant commercial premises in town centres in Tameside has generally decreased slightly, figures for Droylsden have increased with nearly a quarter of units being identified as vacant in 2013/14 (see **Figure 3.13**). Denton and Mossley, meanwhile, had the lowest percentage of vacant units.

Figure 3.13 Percentage of Town Commercial Premises Vacant



Source: Authority Monitoring Report 2013/14

Employment

3.5.11 Between April 2012 and March 2013, there were 96,500 residents in employment in Tameside, equivalent to 68.7% of the 16-64 year old population (those considered economically active).³² This employment rate was lower than that for the North West (69.2%) and England (71.1%), but higher than the rate for Greater Manchester (67.6%). During the period from July 2015 to June 2016, the level of 16-64 year olds in employment rose to 71.0%. This was mirrored across both Greater Manchester (increase to 75.5%) and the North West (increase to 75.8%).

3.5.12 During the period July 2015 to June 2016, the unemployment rate for 16-64 year olds in Tameside was 5.7%, lower than for Greater Manchester as a whole (which stood at 6.5%) and the North West (5.3%).

3.5.13 The split of people employed in the different socio-economic classification (SOC) groups is similar to both regional and national trends (see **Table 3.13**). However, the Borough has lower proportions of people employed in occupations in the SOC major groups 1-3 (35.9%) compared to Greater Manchester as a whole (42.8%), the North West (42.2%) and Great Britain (44.7%). This suggests that there is a higher level of lower-value added employment and/or lower skilled workers within Tameside.

³² Nomis Labour Market Profile Data. Available via: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports> [Accessed January 2017].

Table 3.13 Proportion of Employment Population by Occupation (June 2015 – June 2016)

	Tameside (%)	Greater Manchester (%)	North West (%)	Great Britain (%)
Soc 2010 Major Group 1-3 1. Managers and Senior Officials 2. Professional Occupations 3. Associate Professionals & Technical	35.9	42.8	42.2	44.7
Soc 2010 Major Group 4-5 4. Administrative & Secretarial 5. Skilled Trades Occupations	23.6	20.2	21.7	21.0
Soc 2010 Major Group 6-7 6. Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations 7. Sales and Customer Service Occupations	20.9	18.7	17.7	16.7
Soc 2010 Major Group 8-9 8. Process Plant & Machine Operatives 9. Elementary Occupations	18.8	17.6	17.9	17.1

Source: Labour Market Profile Data (Nomis, 2017).

- 3.5.14 In 2016, average gross weekly pay for full-time workers residing in Tameside was £460.10. This was lower than the average for Greater Manchester (£494.20), the North West (£502.10) and Great Britain (£541.00). Women living in Tameside and working full time earned, on average, £394.00 per week in 2016. This is 24.4% less than the average male weekly wage. This difference has fluctuated since 2002, with a general reduction in the difference between male and female wage levels, however the trend is not steady and the difference has increased since 2015.
- 3.5.15 In 2015, the percentage of the population in full time employment (70.8%) and part time employment (30.8%) were similar to the rates at regional and national levels (see **Table 3.14**). The majority of jobs in Tameside are within the public administration, education and health sector (32.3%), reflecting regional and national trends. The distribution, hotels and restaurant sector is the second highest employment sector (26.2%) whilst manufacturing is the third highest sector (15.4%). This percentage of employees in the manufacturing sector is significantly higher than for Greater Manchester (8.2%), the North West (9.7%) and Great Britain (8.3%) as a whole indicating that the manufacturing base is still relatively strong in the Borough, despite a decline in this sector.

Table 3.14 Employee Jobs in Tameside by Industry (excluding farm-based agriculture) (2015)

	Tameside (%)	Greater Manchester (%)	North West (%)	Great Britain (%)
Full time	70.8 ³³	69.7	68.7	69.1
Part time	30.8	30.3	31.3	30.9
Job Industry				
Energy and water	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.3
Manufacturing	15.4	8.2	9.7	8.3
Construction	4.6	4.2	4.4	4.6
Distribution, hotels and restaurants	26.2	22.9	23.9	23.0
Transport and communications	5.0	8.9	8.0	8.9
Banking, finance and insurance	10.7	23.7	20.4	22.6
Public admin. education and health	32.3	26.6	28.2	26.9
Other services	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.4

Source: ONS employee jobs 2015 (Nomis, 2017).

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.5.16 As noted in para 3.5.3, the number of enterprises in Tameside increased between 2010 and 2016 which broadly reflects the national trend of economic recovery. The number of 16-64 year olds unemployed has also decreased over this period.
- 3.5.17 The Tameside Retail Study 2010 projected that convenience goods surplus expenditure would increase to £144.38m by 2027 with a potential floorspace requirement of 11,460 to 27,855 net m². Comparison goods expenditure is predicted to increase to £289.38m by 2027.
- 3.5.18 The Draft GMSF recognises the importance of Tameside to the wider sub-regional economy and a number of strategic employment locations in the Borough are identified in the emerging plan. In total, the Draft GMSF makes provision for the delivery of 35,000 m² of office floorspace and 483,000 m² of industrial and warehousing floorspace in the Borough including in the proposed Eastern Gateway.
- 3.5.19 The absence of a Local Plan for Tameside would not halt the delivery of employment premises or prevent economic growth in the Borough. The GMSF as well as the UK Government's Northern Powerhouse Strategy would continue to apply, providing a strategic framework for economic development in the area. However, without local policy provision a sufficient supply of sites to meet growth requirements and aspirations may not be realised. Further, the lack of up-to-date local planning policy could result in the objectives of other local plans and strategies including Enterprising Tameside: A New Economic Strategy for Tameside 2012-26 being unfulfilled.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to provide sufficient employment land in locations well served by transport and other infrastructure and in locations attractive to the market, particularly in the key growth sectors.
- ▶ The need to facilitate the growth of an appropriately educated and skilled workforce.

³³ There is an error in the figures given by the ONS for Tameside full time and part time employment figures for 2015, which is why this percentage totals more than 100%. The total employee jobs is given as 65,000, full time as 46,000 and part time as 20,000.

- ▶ The need to support the development of innovative and knowledge-based businesses.
- ▶ The need to support the growth and development of existing businesses.
- ▶ The need to increase local employment opportunities.
- ▶ The need to support the expansion of the manufacturing sector.
- ▶ The need to maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.5.20 The level of employment in an area is closely linked to the wider economy, with those in employment generally spending their wages on goods and services that can drive the local economy. Employment opportunities in Tameside and the wider Greater Manchester area will facilitate the need for housing and offer the opportunity to own a home, driving the need for housing and transport links.
- 3.5.21 Businesses need access to a skilled workforce and support services, driving the need for suitable education facilities and social facilities to support the workforce and their families. Employment also enables the population to purchase goods and services that contribute to an individual's wellbeing.
- 3.5.22 Employment-related development can have adverse environmental impacts and the location of businesses, their energy efficiency and the resultant commuting activity of their workforce will impact on greenhouse gas emission levels.

3.6 Health and Wellbeing

Health and Health Services

- 3.6.1 Average life expectancy at birth in the Borough is slightly below the averages for Greater Manchester, the North West and England, for both males and females (see **Table 3.15**).

Table 3.15 Life Expectancy at Birth

		Tameside	Greater Manchester	North West	England
2010 – 2012	Male	76.3	77.3	77.7	79.2
	Female	80.6	81.2	81.7	83.0
2011 – 2013	Male	76.9	77.7	78.0	79.4
	Female	80.3	81.3	81.8	83.1
2012 – 2014	Male	77.3	77.8	78.1	79.5
	Female	80.6	81.4	81.9	83.2
2013 – 2015	Male	77.3	77.7	78.1	79.5
	Female	80.7	81.3	81.8	83.1

Source: ONS (2015) Life Expectancy at Birth and at Age 65 by Local Areas in England and Wales.

- 3.6.2 The 2015 Health Profile for Tameside produced by Public Health England³⁴ highlights that the health of Tameside's population is worse than the average across England. Deprivation is higher than average and about 10,000 (22.7%) children live in poverty.
- 3.6.3 The Health Profile highlights that the health of adults is generally worse than the average for England in relation to the prevalence of those who are overweight, smoke or are not physically active. At the 2011 Census, 15,993 people in Tameside reported being 'not in good health', equivalent to 7.29% of the Borough's population.
- 3.6.4 GP-patient ratio data³⁵ for the NHS Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group highlights that, as at 2014, there was a ratio of 1,870.26 patients per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) GP. This is above the UK average of 1,580 patients per FTE GP.
- 3.6.5 The primary care centre for Tameside is in Ashton-under-Lyne, as is the Tameside General Hospital which serves a population of approximately 250,000³⁶.

Open Space

- 3.6.6 The provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities can play a significant role in the promotion of healthy lifestyles. The Council's Open Space Study (2010)³⁷ identified a total of 1,277 open spaces in the Borough totalling 3,849 ha (see **Table 3.16**).
- 3.6.7 The level of open space provision in Tameside is significant and the majority of those surveyed for the study felt the availability of the open space provision was good. The majority of open space in the Borough is classified as natural space and accessible countryside, which reflects the Borough's location on the urban/rural fringe and the large area of Green Belt. The study also identified 29 formal parks and gardens and 599 areas of amenity space. Anti-social behaviour was identified as an issue that impacted on the quality of some sites.

Table 3.16 Open Space in Tameside (2010)

Typology	Number	Area (ha)
Parks and Formal Gardens	29	121.9
Natural space and accessible countryside	408	3,385.7
Amenity Space	599	187.6
Play Areas	140	27.6
Allotment	30	28.1
Cemeteries / graveyards	35	56.5
Civic Space	14	6.5
Green Corridors	22	35.5
Total for Tameside	1,277	3,849

Source: Tameside PPG17 Open Space Study, Final Assessment Report (2010).

³⁴ Available from http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/view.aspx?RID=50215&SEARCH=T* [Accessed January 2017].

³⁵ See <http://www.gponline.com/exclusive-huge-variation-gp-patient-ratio-across-england-revealed/article/1327390> [Accessed January 2017].

³⁶ Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust. Hospital/A&E. Available from <http://www.tamesideandglossopccg.org/local-services/accident-and-emergency> [Accessed January 2017].

³⁷ Tameside District Council PPG17 Open Space Study, Final Assessment Report, August 2010.

- 3.6.8 The Council prepared a Playing Pitch Strategy in 2015³⁸ which identified a total of 158 pitches in the Borough, of which 114 are available for community use (see **Table 3.17**). It highlights that the majority of pitches were considered to be of standard quality.

Table 3.17 Tameside Playing Pitches by Type (2015)

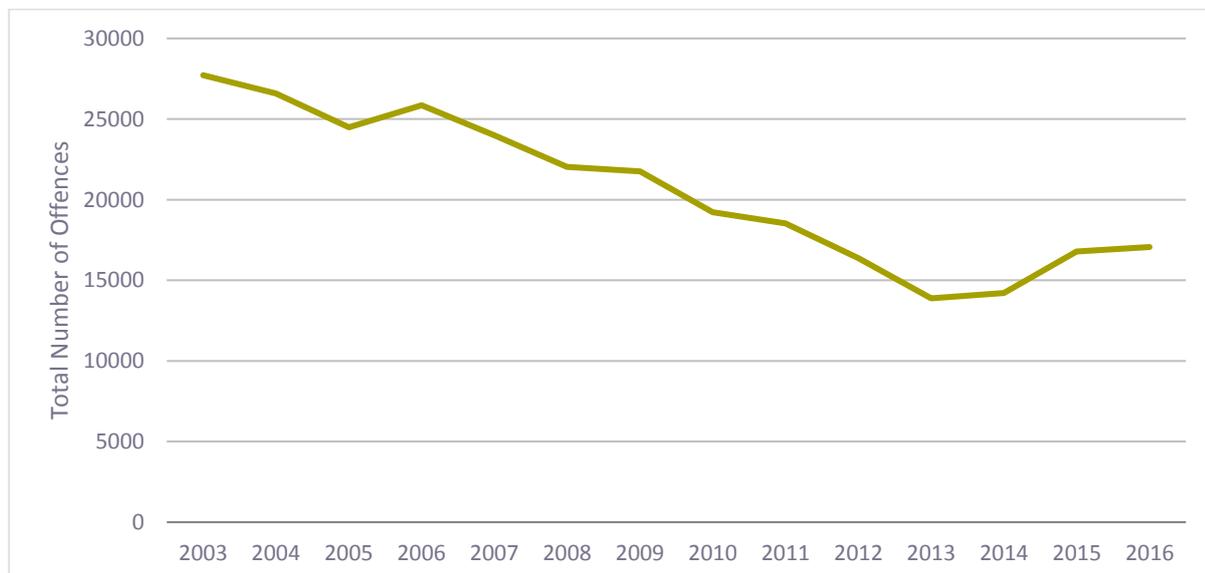
Type of pitch	Total number	Number available for community use ³⁹	Number with no community use
Grass football	111	75	36
Artificial grass	15	13	2
Rugby Union	11 (over 5 sites)	9	2
Hockey	3	2	1
Cricket	18	15	3
Total	158	114	44

Source: *Tameside Playing Pitch Strategy - Assessment Report (2015)*.

Crime

- 3.6.9 There has been an overall reduction in crime in the Borough since 2003, from 27,718 offences in the 12 months to 31 March 2003, to 16,872 offences in the 12 months to 30 June 2016. However, the number of offences has increased year-on-year since December 2013 (see **Figure 3.14**). Criminal damage and arson was the most reported crime in the 12 months up to June 2016 (2,790 offences) whilst violence without injury was the second most reported crime over the same period (2,391 offences).⁴⁰

Figure 3.14 Total Number of Offences in Tameside (2003-2016)



Source: ONS (2016) *Recorded crime data*.

³⁸ Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2015) *Playing Pitch Strategy - Assessment Report*.

³⁹ Community use - pitches in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for use/hire by teams/clubs.

⁴⁰ ONS (2016) *Recorded crime data at Community Safety Partnership / Local Authority level*. Available from <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/recordedcrimedatataatcommunitysafetypartnershiplocalauthoritylevel> [Accessed January 2017].

Likely Evolution of the Baseline without the Local Plan

- 3.6.10 The Tameside and Glossop Locality Plan (2015)⁴¹ recognises that the population of Tameside has some of the worst health outcomes in the country. The Plan sets the ambition of “*raising healthy life years to the North West average by 2020. We then will continue to drive our ambition to ensure we achieve the England average over the next five years*”. However, it identifies a significant financial barrier to achieving this.
- 3.6.11 It is expected that the health of the Borough’s population will improve without the Local Plan. However, planning policy can facilitate the promotion of healthy lifestyles including through making appropriate provision for open space, sport and recreational facilities. Local planning policy could also help to ensure the future provision of social infrastructure and that new development does not give rise to adverse impacts on human health.
- 3.6.12 National planning policy and the GMSF would be expected to support crime reduction through, for example, the promotion of high quality design that includes crime prevention measures. This would be expected to continue in the absence of the Local Plan.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to enhance the health and wellbeing of Tameside’s population.
- ▶ The need to tackle inequalities in health.
- ▶ The need to ensure appropriate open space provision across Tameside.
- ▶ The need to reduce crime levels, minimise risk and increase community safety.
- ▶ The need to ensure appropriate health care facilities and services are available and accessible to meet needs arising from new development and anticipated population growth.
- ▶ The need to plan for an ageing population.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.6.13 The factors that contribute to the health and wellbeing of a population include a number of social, economic, environmental and cultural elements. Health is closely linked to life expectancy, deprivation and health risk factors, all of which can have a negative effect on individuals and families, subsequently affecting productivity, ability to work and economic spend. Health is also affected by environmental factors, such as air quality and the effects of climate change.
- 3.6.14 A key theme both in Tameside and Greater Manchester is how to deal with an ageing population and the effects this will have on service provision, housing needs and economics.

3.7 Education and Skills

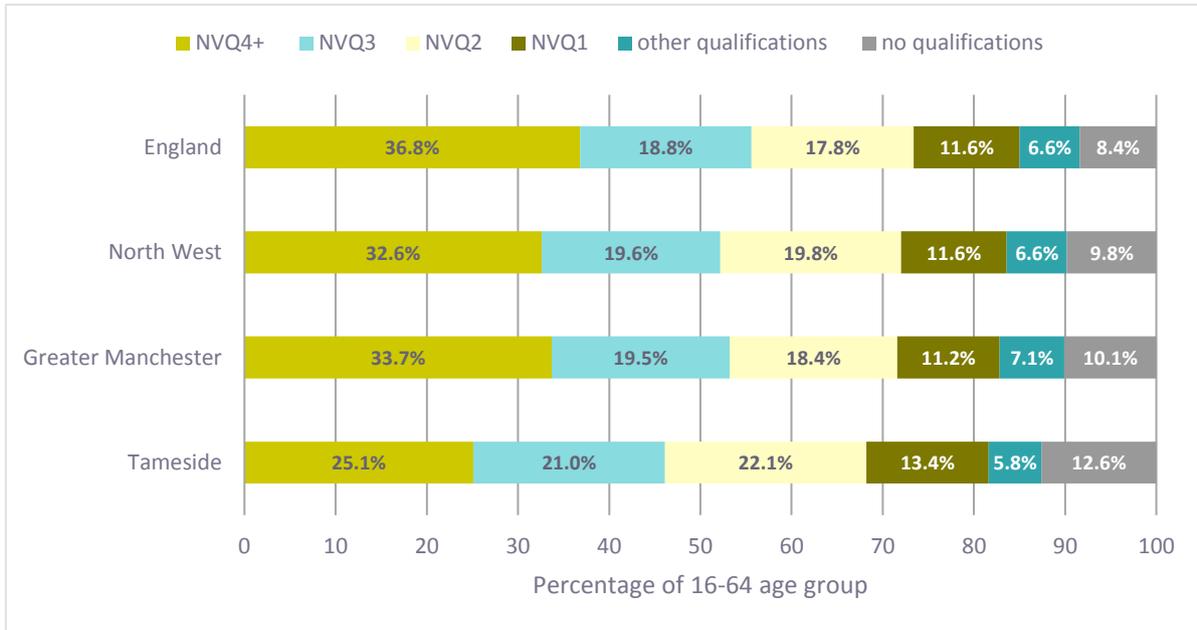
Qualifications

- 3.7.1 **Figure 3.15** shows levels of educational attainment across Tameside, Greater Manchester, the North West and England for the 16-64 age group at 2015. It serves to highlight that the Borough has a higher percentage of 16-64 year olds with no qualifications. Although the percentage of

⁴¹ Tameside and Glossop Clinical commissioning Group (2015) *A Place-Based Approach to Better Prosperity, Health and Wellbeing Tameside and Glossop Locality Plan*. Available from http://www.tamesideandglossoppccg.org/~media/files/news/tameside_and_glossop_locality_plan_november_2015.ashx?ja=en [Accessed January 2017].

residents who have gained NVQ Level 1 qualifications (equivalent to 3-4 GCSEs at grade D-E) (13.4%), NVQ Level 2 (equivalent to 4-5 GCSEs at grade A*-C) (22.1%) and NVQ Level 3 (equivalent to 2 or more A-Levels) (21.0%) is higher than for Greater Manchester, the North West and England, the proportion of the population with qualifications at NVQ Level 4 (equivalent to a first degree) and above is lower.

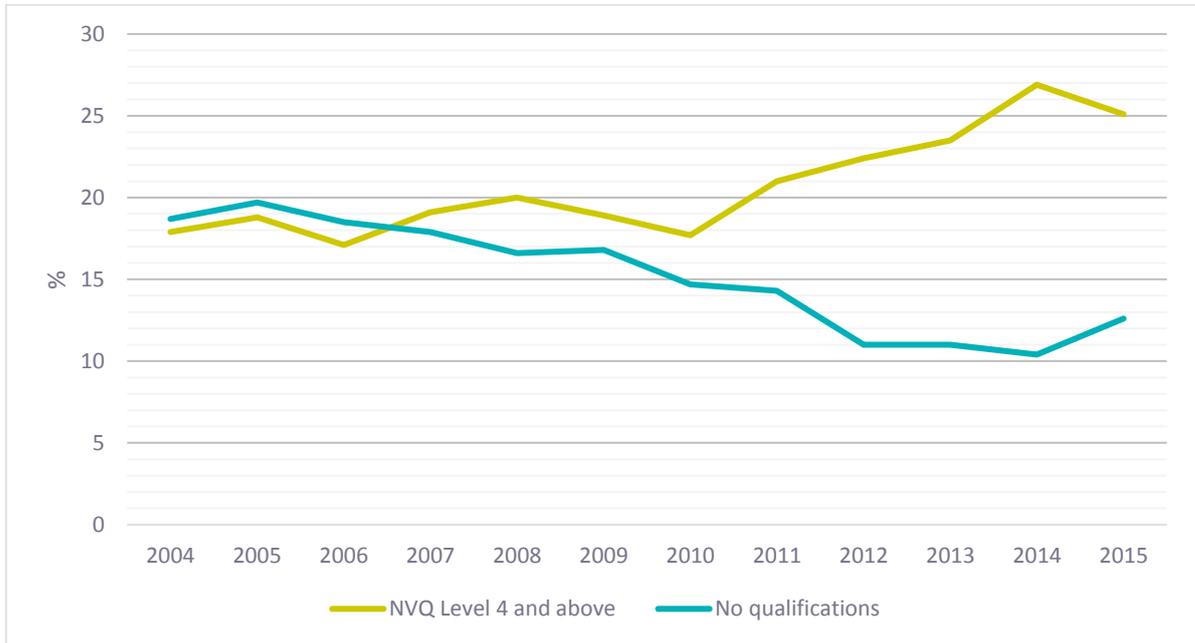
Figure 3.15 Educational Attainment (2015)



Source: ONS (2017) *Annual Population Survey*.

3.7.2 Between 2004 and 2015, there has been an overall decline in the percentage of the 16-64 year old population with no qualifications (but with a slight increase between 2014 and 2015) (see **Figure 3.16**). Over the same period, there has been an overall increase in the percentage of the 16-64 year old population achieving NVQ Level 4 and above (although this declined slightly between 2014 and 2015).

Figure 3.16 Change in the Percentage of 16-64 Year Olds with No Qualifications and NVQ Level 4 and Above (2004-2015)



Source: ONS (2017) *Annual Population Survey*.

Education Infrastructure

3.7.3 As shown in **Table 3.18** and **Table 3.19**, the Borough had 74 state funded primary schools and 15 state funded secondary schools in 2015. As at 2015, 6.7% of the available primary school places and 14.6% of the available secondary school places were unfilled, lower than for the North West and England.

Table 3.18 State Funded Primary School Capacity (2015)

	Tameside	Greater Manchester	North West	England
No. of school	74	849	2,448	16,759
No. of school places	20,941	252,768	629,732	4,633,934
No. of pupils	19,670	237,060	578,067	4,210,503
No. of schools that are full or have one+ pupils in excess of capacity	24	274	624	3,807
No. of pupils in excess of school capacity	129	2,647	5,348	30,539
Excess as a percentage of total places	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.7
No. of schools with one + unfilled places	50	575	1,824	12,952
No. of unfilled places	1,400	18,355	57,013	453,970
No. of unfilled places as % of total places	6.7	7.3	9.1	9.8

Source: Education Funding Agency and department for Education 2015 capacity and forecast tables. Information on capacity in primary and secondary schools in England, forecasts of pupil numbers and future planned places. Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-capacity-academic-year-2014-to-2015> [Accessed January 2017]

Table 3.19 State Funded Secondary School Capacity (2015)

	Tameside	Greater Manchester	North West	England
No. of school	15	164	455	3,356
No. of school places	15,127	177,516,	489,133	3,755,545
No. of pupils	12,968	152,941	410,194	3,163,191
No. of schools that are full or have one+ pupils in excess of capacity	3	27	57	500
No. of pupils in excess of school capacity	46	554	1,423	19,790
Excess as a percentage of total places	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5
No. of schools with one + unfilled places	12	137	398	2,856
No. of unfilled places	2,205	25,129	80,362	612,144
No. of unfilled places as % of total places	14.6	14.2	16.4	16.3

Source: Education Funding Agency and department for Education 2015 capacity and forecast tables. Information on capacity in primary and secondary schools in England, forecasts of pupil numbers and future planned places. Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-capacity-academic-year-2014-to-2015> [Accessed January 2017]

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

3.7.4 The Department for Education has forecast that there will be 21,803 pupils requiring a primary school place in 2017/18 and 15,885 pupils requiring a secondary school place in 2019/20. Without a Local Plan, opportunities to deliver new educational facilities on development sites and to secure planning obligations that could contribute to the delivery of school spaces may be not be realised.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to raise educational attainment and skills.
- ▶ The need to ensure that educational facilities meet the changing demands of the population and the economy.

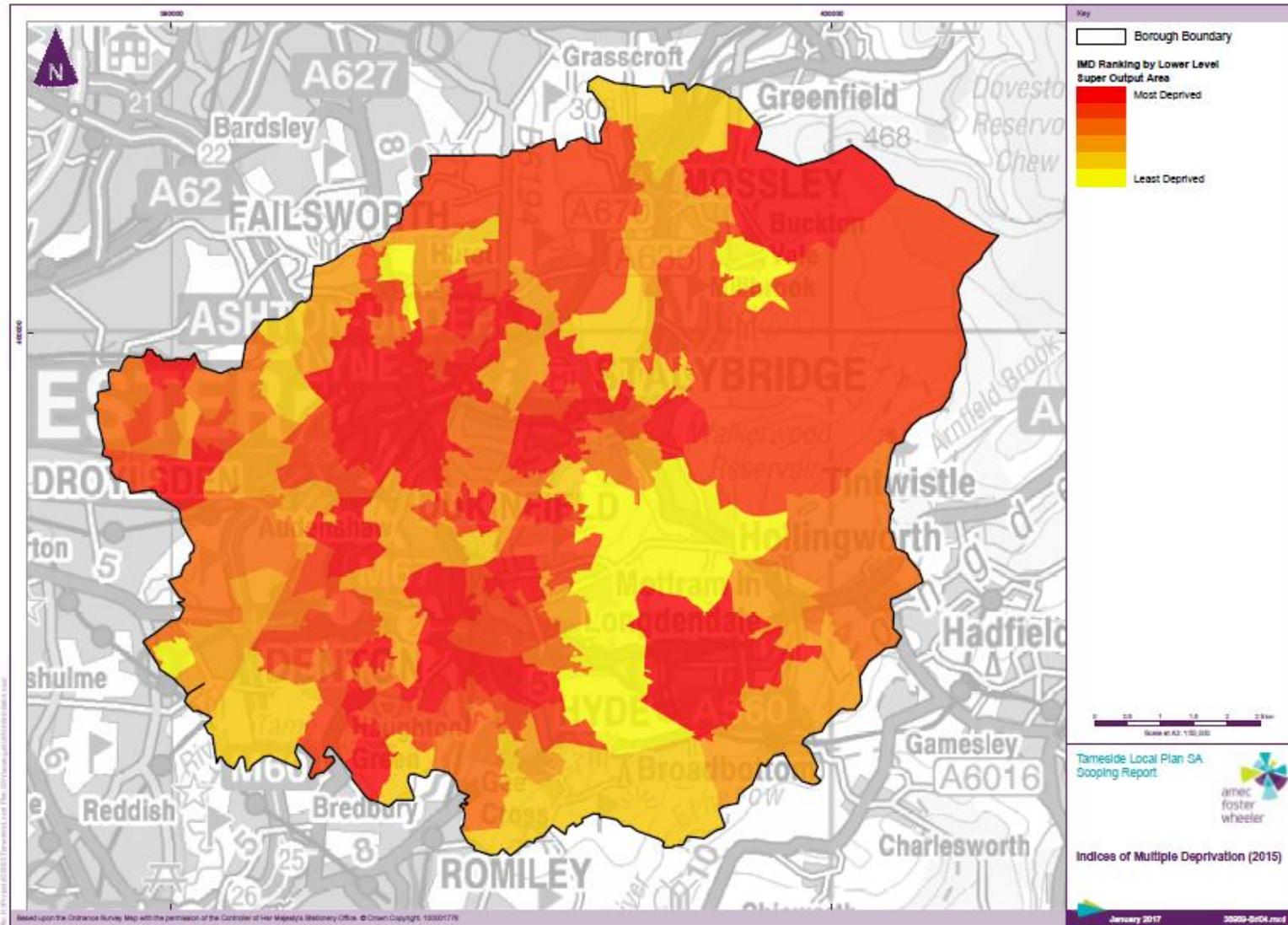
Links across the Integrated Assessment

3.7.5 Education is linked to a number of social and economic themes. Education is a vital element of a functioning society and is important for ensuring the future demands of business and the economy can be met. Increased skill levels will assist economic growth and enable better social inclusion. In addition, to be sustainable, housing must be supported by the provision of facilities and services including education.

3.8 Deprivation

- 3.8.1 The English Index of Deprivation (IMD) measures relative levels of deprivation in small areas of England called Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA). Deprivation refers to an unmet need, which is caused by a lack of resources including for areas such as income, employment, health, education, skills, training, crime, access to housing and services and living environment.
- 3.8.2 The 2015 IMD ranked Tameside 34th out of 326 local authorities (where a rank of 1 is the most deprived in the country and a rank of 326 is the least deprived), as measured by the average rank of LSOAs in the Borough. This places the Borough in the top 15% most deprived local authorities nationally. Of the ten authorities in the Greater Manchester area, only Manchester (1st), Salford (27th) and Rochdale (25th) councils are considered to be more deprived than Tameside when using this measure. The Tameside IMD ranking by this measure is the same as at the previous 2010 IMD.
- 3.8.3 Another measure of deprivation is the rank of average scores across the LSOAs in an area. By this measure, the Borough was the 41st most deprived authority nationally. In 2010, Tameside was ranked 42nd and in 2007 56th, suggesting worsening deprivation across the Borough.
- 3.8.4 Of the 141 LSOAs in the Borough, 24 are in the 10% most deprived nationally. These LSOAs are primarily concentrated in the urban wards with St Peter's and Ashton St Michael's (Ashton-under-Lyne), Stalybridge North, Hyde Godley and Longdendale each containing three LSOAs in the 10% most deprived nationally (see **Figure 3.17**).
- 3.8.5 A range of issues which particularly affect the Borough have been identified through the IMD including crime, education, skills and training and employment.

Figure 3.17 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2015)



Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.8.6 By some IMD measures, the Borough has experienced worsening deprivation in recent years. A number of strategies are in place to help address the causes of deprivation including, for example, the Council's Poverty Strategy 2014-2017 (2014), Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2016 (2013) and the Greater Manchester Mayor and Police & Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan (2016). The Draft GMSF also supports regeneration in the Borough through the proposed Eastern Gateway. The implementation of these plans and strategies would take place irrespective of any new Local Plan for the Borough.
- 3.8.7 However, without specific and detailed local policy, the extent to which new development meets the needs of Tameside's communities and supports regeneration would be uncertain. Further, the potential opportunities for new development to complement other strategies and tackle deprivation by, for example, providing affordable housing, ensuring adequate open space provision and meeting the specific need for community facilities and services may not be realised.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to address the many causes of deprivation within the Borough.
- ▶ The need to specifically tackle deprivation and promote regeneration in the Borough's most deprived communities.
- ▶ The need to promote social inclusion and reduce inequality.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.8.8 Levels of deprivation are influenced by a number of social, economic and environmental factors. Deprivation is therefore a cross cutting issue which is influenced by, and influences, many themes considered in this Scoping Report. These themes include promoting health and wellbeing and social inclusion, ensuring suitable housing provision of the right type and tenure, attracting and retaining a range of employers, improving education and skills, addressing crime and the fear of crime, appropriate open space provision and ensuring access to services and facilities.

3.9 Transport and Accessibility

Transportation Infrastructure

- 3.9.1 Tameside benefits from excellent connectivity to a wider strategic road network, elements of which are known as the Key Route Network are managed by Transport for Greater Manchester (TFGM). The M60 motorway (Manchester Outer Ring Road) runs from north to south in the west of the Borough whilst the M67 spurs off from the M60 in an easterly direction in the south of the Borough. The orbital M60 provides access to Manchester Airport and the M62 Trans-Pennine route to Huddersfield and Leeds in Yorkshire to the east and Liverpool to the west. The A-road network provides major transport links to the towns surrounding Tameside, Manchester city centre as well as links between centres within the Borough. The A-roads include the:
- ▶ A57/A628 Trunk Road which provides a continuation of the strategic transport route between Manchester and Sheffield from Junction 4 of the M67 in the south of the Borough;
 - ▶ A635 which links Stalybridge and Ashton-under-Lyne to the M60;
 - ▶ A6018 which links Stalybridge to Longdendale; and
 - ▶ A627 which links Ashton-under-Lyne to Oldham in the north.
- 3.9.2 Tameside is also well served by both local and inter-regional rail services. This includes the TransPennine Express services with twice hourly trains from Stalybridge providing connections to Manchester Airport, Manchester Piccadilly and Liverpool in the west and Leeds, Hull, York and

Scarborough to the north east. Northern Rail provides a local train service which links Tameside to Manchester, Glossop, Huddersfield and Rose Hill, Marple. From Manchester, services are available to all major cities in the UK including London, Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds and Edinburgh. The Borough has 13 train stations in total: Ashton; Stalybridge; Mossley; Fairfield; Guide Bridge; Flowery Field; Newton for Hyde; Godley; Hattersley; Hyde North; Hyde Central; Denton; and Broadbottom

- 3.9.3 Local public transport in Tameside is coordinated by TFGM. Tameside has an extensive network of bus services which provide links to Manchester and neighbouring town centres, as well as between the town centres of Tameside and the outlying residential areas. This includes a Stagecoach service between Manchester city centre and Ashton-under-Lyne (every 10 minutes in the day and 15 minutes in the evening).
- 3.9.4 The Borough also benefits from a Metrolink connection to Manchester city centre (following an extension of the East Manchester line from Droyslden to Ashton-under-Lyne which opened in October 2013). Trams run every 12 minutes from Ashton-under-Lyne town centre into the city centre, with an approximate journey time of 30 minutes and then on to Eccles beyond. The town centre stop is adjacent to the bus station and is in close proximity to Ashton-under-Lyne rail station. TFGM are redeveloping the Ashton-under-Lyne bus station to form a new transport interchange with the Metrolink and Ashton-under-Lyne train station using funding from the Greater Manchester Local Growth Deal Programme. This is due to open in 2018.
- 3.9.5 The Borough is well served for air travel. Much of Tameside is within a 15 to 20 minute drive time of Manchester Airport following the extension of the M60 between Denton and Middleton in 2000. The international airport provides flights to numerous destinations throughout the world.
- 3.9.6 With regards to cycling, the Tameside Cycle Facilities Review (2008)⁴² identified that the Borough's strengths include the incorporation of cycling schemes into recent road and highways projects and the provision of cycle friendly areas with implementation of 20 mph zones. Weaknesses identified in the Review included a lack of connectivity between existing cycle facilities, poor signage and poor access to many of the cycle routes.
- 3.9.7 The Borough does benefit from National Cycle Network (NCN) routes including the Trans Pennine Trail (NCN Route 62), which starts at Reddish Vale at the Stockport/Denton boundary and follows the River Tame through Denton and disused railway line in Hyde Godley. This route continues on to the Tameside boundary with Derbyshire. In addition, there are 264 km of Public Rights of Way (PRoW) providing public access to attractions and the countryside with 875 Rights of Way recorded on the Definitive Map. This includes 810 footpaths measuring 233 km, 41 Bridleways at 22 km and 18 Restricted Byways equating to 9 km. There are currently no Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT) in Tameside.⁴³

Movement

- 3.9.8 According to the 2011 Census, the average distance travelled to work by Tameside residents was 11.4 km, which represents a slight increase from 10.17 km at the 2001 Census. **Table 3.20** compares the distance travelled to work by the Borough's residents in 2001 and 2011 and highlights that the proportion of people travelling less than 10 km has decreased whilst the proportion travelling over 10 km has increased. The 2011 Census also illustrates that the primary mode of travelling to work is by car or van as either a driver or passenger (68.9%) but that a significant proportion of households in the Borough (29.62%) do not own a car, higher than the regional average of 27.97%.

⁴² Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2008) *Tameside Cycle Facilities Review*. Available from <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/cycling/facilitiesreport.pdf> [Accessed January 2017].

⁴³ Tameside Public Rights of Way information. Available via: <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/rightsofway> [Accessed January 2017].

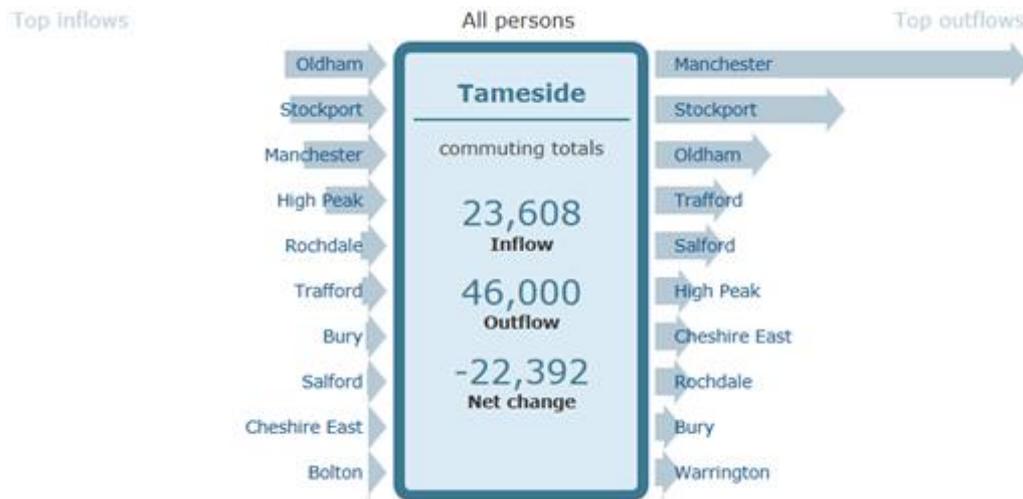
Table 3.20 Distance Travelled to Work

Distance Travelled to Work	Number of People (2001)	% of People in Employment (2001)	Number of People (2011)	% of People in Employment (2011)
Less than 2 km	20,132	20.92	18,180	17.84
2 km to less than 5 km	23,491	24.41	23,046	22.62
5 km to less than 10 km	21,335	22.17	22,200	21.79
10 km to less than 20 km	15,184	15.77	16,585	16.28
20 km to less than 30 km	1,839	1.91	2,249	2.21
30 km to less than 40 km	752	0.08	1,197	1.74
40 km to less than 60 km	1,056	0.11	1,494	1.47
60 km and over	1,525	1.58	1,920	1.88
Working from home	7,444	7.73	7,651	7.51
Other	3,495	3.63	7,370	7.23
Total	96,253		101,892	

Source: ONS (2001/2011) *Census 2001 and 2011*.

- 3.9.9 Commuting flows indicate that in 2011, a total of 46,000 workers commuted out of Tameside to other local authority areas whilst far fewer workers (23,608) commuted into the Borough. This represents a significant net outflow of 22,392 workers, showing that there is poor self-containment in the local economy with the overwhelming majority of workers commuting outside the Borough. **Figure 3.18** shows the workplace origins and destinations of workers and residents travelling to and from Tameside for 2011. It indicates that the majority of the Borough's residents commuted to Manchester (17,483 people), reflecting its city status, and Stockport (8,518 people). Of those commuting into the Borough, Oldham (4,606 people), Stockport (4,392 people), Manchester (3,729 people) and High Peak (2,735 people) provided the majority of commuters.

Figure 3.18 Workplace Destinations



Source: NOMIS (2014) Location of usual residence and place of work by method of travel to work. Available from <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/WU01UK/chart/1132462277> [Accessed January 2017]

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.9.10 An increase in population and households in the Borough will in-turn generate additional transport movements. Based on existing trends, the majority of these movements are likely to be by car with a continuation of significant (net) out-commuting but also more limited in-commuting. This could result in increased pressure on the local road network and public transport infrastructure.
- 3.9.11 The Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040⁴⁴ identifies the policies and priority transport interventions for the conurbation supported by a 5-year Delivery Plan, which sets out TFGMS' s short-term delivery priorities. Schemes identified in the Strategy of particular relevance to Tameside include measures to tackle congestion in the Longdendale area including the Mottram Moor and A57 Link Roads, a new transport interchange at Ashton-under-Lyne, rail line electrification and improvements to the M60 (smart motorway schemes). As highlighted in **Section 1.3**, the Draft GMSF also includes proposals for a new Droylsden railway station and highways improvements in the Borough whilst the HS2 Phase Two line into Manchester is also likely to increase the connectivity between the Borough and London.
- 3.9.12 In this context, it would be expected that some transport improvements would be delivered independently of local planning policy. However, without an up-to-date Local Plan there would be a policy gap with regard to the location of future growth in the Borough. This gap could result in development being located in areas that are not well served by community facilities, services and jobs thereby leading to an increase in transport movements. Allied to this, without Local Plan policy coverage, opportunities may be missed to respond appropriately to the Borough's wider objectives in respect of economic growth and environmental protection and enhancement.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services to accommodate anticipated growth.
- ▶ The need to support proposals contained in the TFGM Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 and those identified by Highways England to address highways capacity issues in the Borough.

⁴⁴ Transport for Greater Manchester (2016) *Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040*. Available from <http://www.tfgm.com/2040/Pages/strategy/assets/2017/2-17-0078-GM-2040-Full-Strategy-Document.pdf> [Accessed February 2017].

- ▶ The need to capitalise on the Borough's good transport accessibility links to Manchester Airport and the proposed transport interchange and potential new Droylsden railway station.
- ▶ The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the private car.
- ▶ The need to ensure that new development is accessible to community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.
- ▶ The need to encourage walking and cycling.
- ▶ The need to protect and enhance the PRow network in the Borough.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

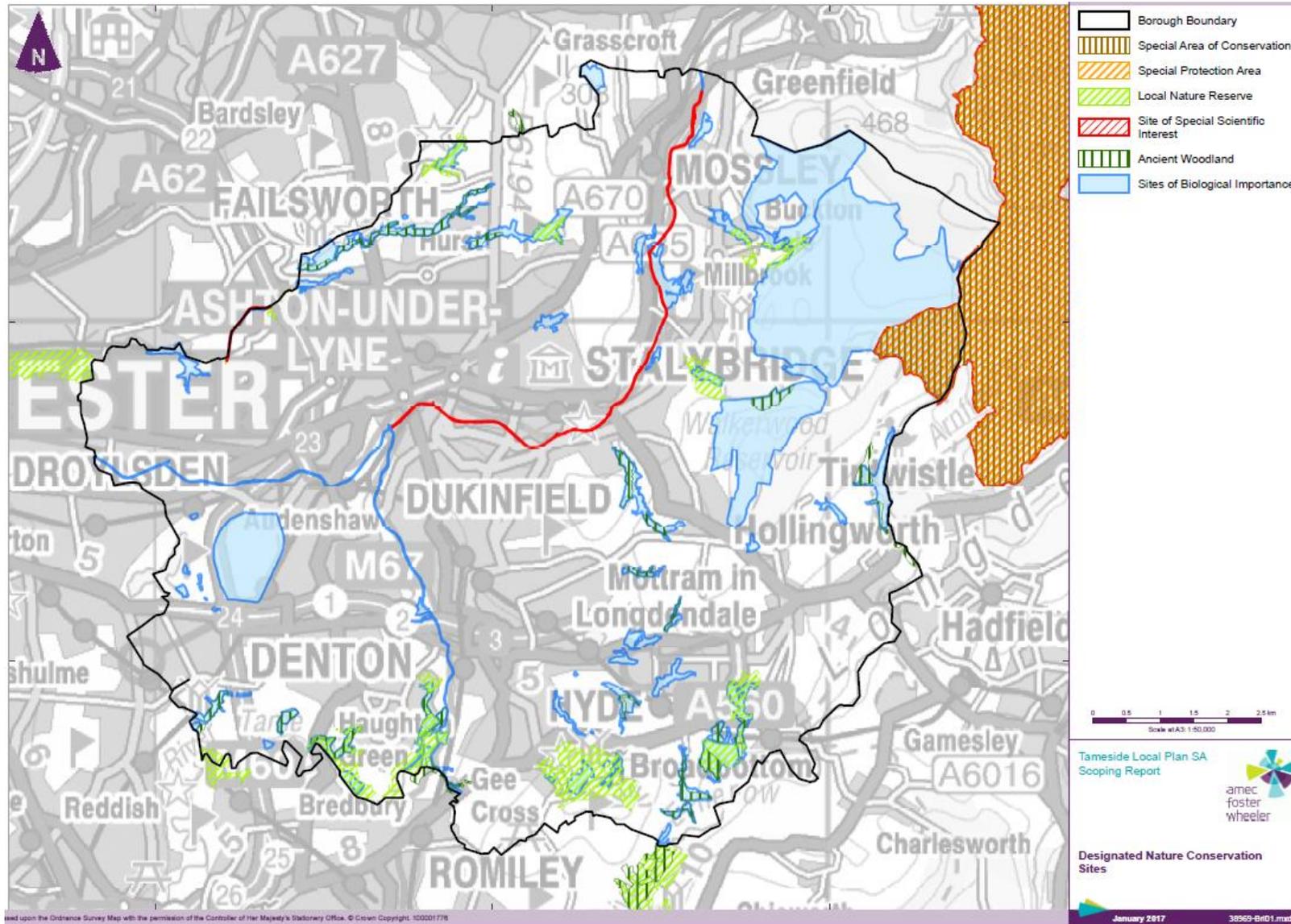
- 3.9.13 There are clear links across a number of social, economic and environment themes identified in this Scoping Report. Delivering transport improvements is central to promoting economic growth by providing the connections required to support new housing and employment development, reduce travel times and address congestion.
- 3.9.14 The provision of reliable public transport infrastructure helps to provide more affordable journeys to work for many and maintain and improve the accessibility of services and facilities, thereby helping to promote sustainable communities and reduce inequalities.
- 3.9.15 Sustainable transport measures which support walking and cycling can also provide health benefits by helping to combat obesity and heart disease. In addition, addressing congestion and reducing the use of the private car can also help to provide improvements in air quality and lower carbon emissions and air pollution.

3.10 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

Biodiversity

- 3.10.1 Biodiversity is defined as the variety of plants (flora) and animals (fauna) in an area, and their associated habitats. The importance of preserving biodiversity is recognised from an international to a local level. Biodiversity is important in its own right and has value in terms of quality of life and amenity.
- 3.10.2 Tameside has a rich and varied natural environment including a range of sites designated for their habitat and conservation value. **Figure 3.19** shows designated nature conservation sites within and in close proximity to the local authority area.

Figure 3.19 Designated Nature Conservation Sites



- 3.10.3 Sites of European importance (Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)) are designated to conserve natural habitats and species of wildlife which are rare, endangered or vulnerable in the European Community. In the UK, these form part of the 'Natura 2000' network of sites protected under the EC Habitats Directive (1992). The South Pennine Moors SAC and the Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA both overlap with the Tameside local authority area in the east, and share the same boundary in this area (see **Figure 3.19**). **Table 3.21** outlines the qualifying features and conservation objectives for both these sites.
- 3.10.4 The Rochdale Canal SAC, whilst not within Tameside, is at its closet point 1.5 km from the boundary of the Borough. The conservation objective for this SAC is to maintain, in favourable condition, the habitats for the population of floating water plantain (*Luronium natans*), the primary reason for designation.

Table 3.21 South Pennine Moors SAC and the Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase I) SPA Features and Conservation Objectives.

Site Name	Size (ha)		Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives
	(Total)	(Within Tameside)		
South Pennine Moors SAC	65,024	5,485	Northern Atlantic wet heaths European dry heaths Blanket bogs Transition mires and quaking bogs Old sessile oak woods	<p><i>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats</i> • <i>The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats, and,</i> • <i>The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely</i>
Peak District Moors SPA	45,300	5,485	Merlin; <i>Falco columbarius</i> (breeding) European golden plover; <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (breeding) Short-eared owl; <i>Asio flammeus</i> (Breeding)	<p><i>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features</i> • <i>The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features</i> • <i>The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely</i> • <i>The population of each of the qualifying features, and,</i> • <i>The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.</i>

Source: Natural England (2014) *European Site Conservation Objectives for South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation Site code: UK0030280*. Available online at <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6145889668169728?category=4582026845880320> [Accessed January 2017] and Natural England (2014) *European Site Conservation Objectives for Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) Special Protection Area Site Code: UK9007021*. Available online at <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6145889668169728?category=4582026845880320> [Accessed January 2017]

- 3.10.5 There are three Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) located within Tameside. The SSSI are:
- ▶ Hollinwood Branch Canal SSSI;
 - ▶ Huddersfield Narrow Canal SSSI; and

▶ Dark Peak SSSI.

- 3.10.6 The Dark Peak SSSI overlaps with the South Pennine Moors SAC and the Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA, and only a small part (5,498 ha) of the SSSI is within the Tameside area. Hollinwood Branch Canal and Huddersfield Narrow Canal SSSIs are wholly within Tameside. **Table 3.22** shows the condition of each SSSI within the Borough.

Table 3.22 Condition of SSSIs within Tameside

SSSI Name	Area (ha)	No. of Units	Condition
Hollinwood Branch Canal	2.43	2	100% unfavourable declining
Huddersfield Narrow Canal	11.65	2	100% unfavourable no change
Dark Peak	31,824	246	4.3% Favourable 93.4% Unfavourable recovering 2.1% unfavourable no change 0.1% unfavourable declining

Source: Natural England (various) *Designated Sites Condition Summaries*. Available online <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/> [Accessed January 2017].

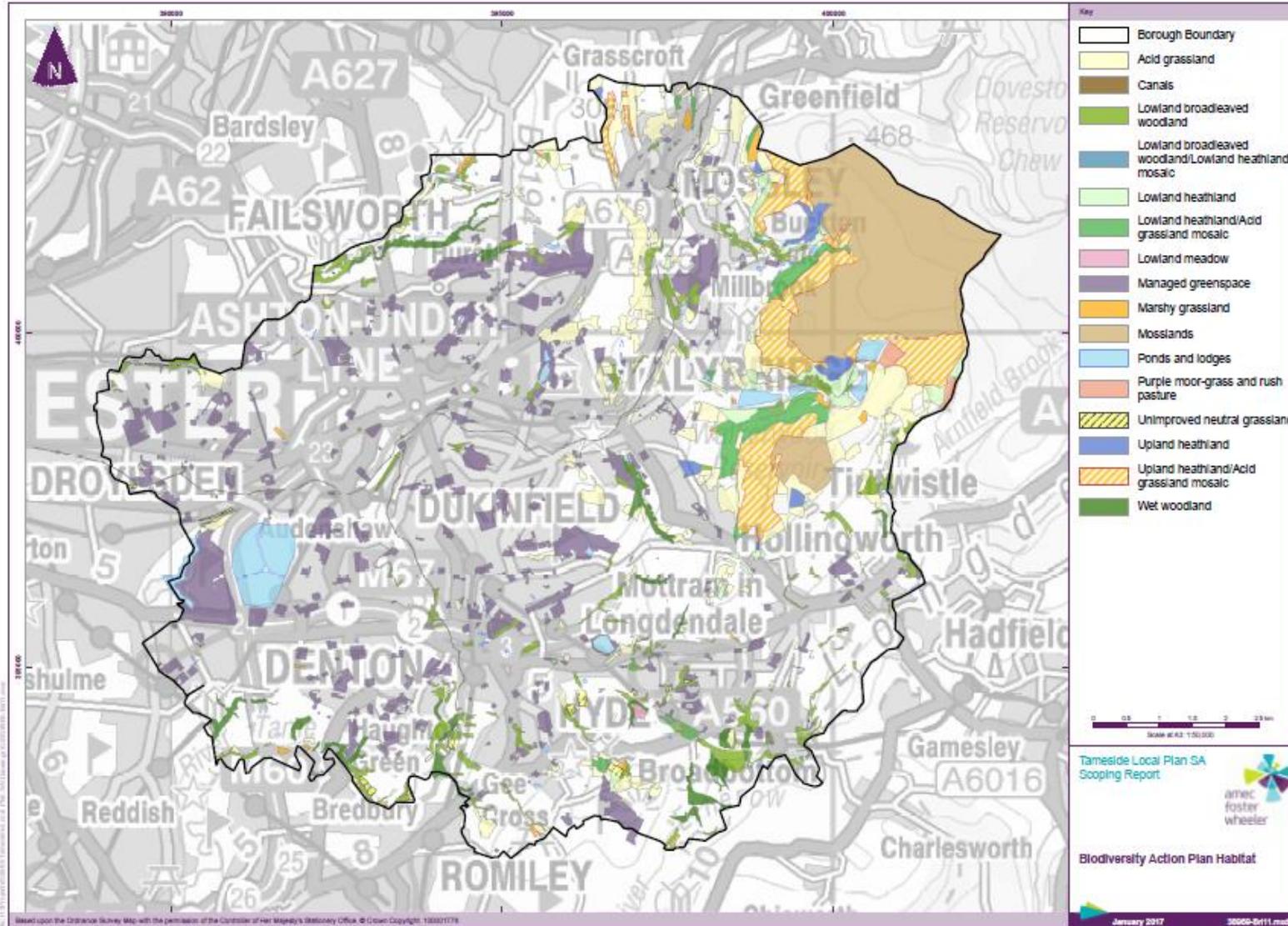
- 3.10.7 In addition to the international and national level designations, there are ten Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) within Tameside and 55 Sites of Biological Important (SBI). The LNRs in the Borough are:

- ▶ Brushes Valley;
- ▶ Castle Clough and Cowbury Dale;
- ▶ Great Wood;
- ▶ Haughton Dale;
- ▶ Hollinwood Branch Canal;
- ▶ Hulmes and Hardy Wood and Lower Haughton Meadows;
- ▶ Hurst Clough;
- ▶ Knott Hill;
- ▶ Rocher Vale; and
- ▶ Werneth Low.

- 3.10.8 The Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) (2009)⁴⁵ identifies the most important species and habitats in the Greater Manchester area. The distribution of BAP habitats across the Borough is shown in **Figure 3.20**. The BAP notes that Tameside has areas of species rich (unimproved) neutral grassland and a greater extent of lowland broadleaved woodland with Gower Hey cited as a particularly good example. Traditionally, much of the open space within the eastern belt of Tameside has been subject to farming, although areas of heathland and bog still remain. These areas of heathland and bog make an important contribution to the overall amount of habitats in Greater Manchester. Other semi-natural habitats that remain within Tameside are mire and heathland, woodland, acid grassland and open water. Identified UK Priority Habitats in Tameside include Blanket Bog, Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture, Upland Heathland and Wet Woodland.

⁴⁵ Greater Manchester Biodiversity Project (2009) *Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan*.

Figure 3.20 Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats



Green Infrastructure

- 3.10.9 Green infrastructure encompasses all “green” assets in an authority area, including parks, river corridors, street trees, managed and unmanaged sites and designed and planted open spaces, which provide a range of benefits including making a contribution to an area’s image and sense of place.
- 3.10.10 The Green Infrastructure Framework for Greater Manchester (2008) report⁴⁶ sets out an approach to investment in green infrastructure recognising the multifunctional value of green infrastructure.
- 3.10.11 The Green Infrastructure to Combat Climate Change report prepared by Community Forests Northwest (2011) provides a framework for action and to influence and provide evidence for policy for the region, including Greater Manchester. The report recognises that green infrastructure provides a range of services that make a substantial contribution towards climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- 3.10.12 There are a number of green infrastructure assets in Tameside (many of which are discussed elsewhere in this Scoping Report). Key assets include the canals of the Greater Manchester waterways, the significant PRow network, LNRs, the 29 parks and formal gardens and the 35.5 ha of green corridors⁴⁷. This list is not exhaustive as green infrastructure is found at varying scales, from neighbourhood (such as green roofs) through to regional scale (such as reservoirs or national trails).

Likely Evolution of the Baseline without the Local Plan

- 3.10.13 Whilst protected, many of the designated sites within Tameside are in unfavourable condition and this poses a threat to the maintenance of biodiversity within the Borough. Policy GM8 of the Draft GMSF seeks to ensure a high quality ecological network across Greater Manchester, providing significant improvement in biodiversity and enhancing the ability of wildlife to cope with climate change. Policy GM7, meanwhile, seeks to ensure an integrated network of high quality green infrastructure. The network will be anchored in five strategic elements, each with their own supporting emerging policy: trees and woodlands (Policy GM9); the uplands (Policy GM10); lowland wetlands (Policy GM11); river valleys and canals (Policy GM12); and recreation areas including major parks and green spaces (Policy GM14).
- 3.10.14 In this context, it is reasonable to assume that without the Local Plan, existing trends would continue. However, whilst national planning policy contained in the NPPF and the GMSF would help to ensure that new development protects and enhances biodiversity, a lack of specific local policy support may result in the inappropriate location and design of development which could have a negative effect on overall biodiversity in the Borough. Further, opportunities may be lost to plan green infrastructure provision which could, for example, provide biodiversity enhancements through habitat creation schemes, as well as providing various wider social and health benefits to local communities.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity including sites with international, national and local designations for their nature conservation value.
- ▶ The need to maintain, restore and expand, where appropriate, the Borough’s priority habitats.
- ▶ The need to recognise the key role that green infrastructure plays in supporting wellbeing and climate change resilience.

⁴⁶ Towards a Green infrastructure Framework for Greater Manchester: Full Report. 2008. Available online: http://www.greeninfrastructurenw.co.uk/resources/1547.058_Final_Report_September_2008.pdf [Accessed January 2017].

⁴⁷ Tameside District Council PPG17 Open Space Study, Final Assessment Report, August 2010.

- ▶ The need to enhance the green infrastructure network, ensuring adequate provision, improving accessibility and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.10.15 Biodiversity and green infrastructure links to wellbeing, economics and resilience of the environment to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.
- 3.10.16 Biodiversity is protected through various national and international legislation as recognition of its specific intrinsic value, highlighting the role it plays within ecosystems and the benefits it offers populations and society. A variety of habitats and fauna will help support climate change adaptation and managing flood risk. Biodiversity and its protection enhances the interest of the local area, providing health benefits for the local population.
- 3.10.17 Importantly, the protection of biodiversity ensures that new development is sustainable, and that economic progression is not at the detriment of biodiversity and green infrastructure. Protecting these assets also contributes towards making Tameside an attractive place to live, work and invest.

3.11 Land Use, Geology and Soil

Land Use

- 3.11.1 **Table 3.23** illustrates the key land uses in Tameside (as at 2005) and highlights that the majority (63.5%) of the Borough is classified as green space. This reflects the largely rural nature of the eastern half of the Borough. However, this is significantly lower than across England as a whole (87.4%) and the North West region (82.9%).⁴⁸ The main urbanised areas of the Borough are concentrated in the main settlements of Ashton-under-Lyne, Hyde, Audenshaw, Droylsden, Dukinfield, Denton, Stalybridge, Mossley and Longdendale.

Table 3.23 Land Use in Tameside

Land Use	Area - Square metres (m ²)(thousands)
Domestic Buildings	5,025.77
Non Domestic Buildings	3,051.17
Road	8,784.13
Domestic Gardens	14,168.79
Greenspace	70,278.39
Total	110,615.30

Source: *Neighbourhood Statistics Key Figures for the Physical Environment (2005)*

- 3.11.2 Government policy set out in the NPPF encourages the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed. The majority (79%) of all new dwellings completed in the Borough in the latest monitoring period (2013/14) were on previously developed land (PDL) (often referred to as brownfield land)⁴⁹. However, according to recent national land use change statistics published by CLG⁵⁰, only 49% of new residential dwellings were delivered on PDL in the Borough in 2016, lower than for England as a whole (61%).

⁴⁸ Neighbourhood Statistics Key Figures for the Physical Environment (2007). Available via: <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/> [Accessed January 2017].

⁴⁹ Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2014) *Authority's Monitoring Report*.

⁵⁰ Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-land-use-change-statistics> [Accessed January 2017].

Geology

- 3.11.3 The geology in Greater Manchester is dominated by rock formations, with those in the north and east being of Upper Carboniferous sandstones and shales of Millstone Grit. These are overlain by shales, mudstones, and coals, providing many outcrops in the upland boroughs. These features are evident in Tameside.
- 3.11.4 Flat low-lying plains, largely developed for industrial and residential usage, form the central and western part of the Borough. The geological structure of the area is dominated by the Rossendale and Pennine anticlines which lie beyond the limits of the Tameside boundary, to the north and east respectively. The rural east of the Borough is dominated by the Pennines, which rise steeply forming the western extent of the Peak District.
- 3.11.5 Some of the most prominent features of the landscape are the incised river valleys of the Medlock, Tame and Etherow which run through or along the borders of the Borough from north east to south west, and the steep Pennine foothills to the east. Faulting is heavy and complex in detail in the Borough and dominantly trends in a north westerly direction. The westerly dip in the solid geology means that, generally speaking, the oldest rocks are found in the eastern areas with gradually younger rocks encountered westwards through the Borough.
- 3.11.6 Rocher Vale, which is on the Borough boundary with Oldham toward Park Bridge Heritage Centre, is designated as a LNR and SBI. It has a mix of habitats including woodland, heath and riverbanks and displays many rocky outcrops and geological features. There are ambitions to designate the site as a Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS).⁵¹

Soil

- 3.11.7 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system developed by Defra provides a method for assessing the quality of farmland. The system divides the quality of land into five categories, as well as non-agricultural and urban. The 'best and most versatile land' is defined by the NPPF as that which falls into Grades 1, 2 and sub-grade 3a.
- 3.11.8 The provisional ALC that covers the whole of England was undertaken between 1967 and 1974, from 1988 selected areas were resurveyed in greater detail and to revised guidelines.⁵²
- 3.11.9 The majority of land outside the urban areas of Tameside is classified as either Grade 4 ('Poor') or Grade 5 ('Very Poor') quality agricultural land, reflecting the predominance of moorland in the east of the Borough. However, there are areas of 'Good to Moderate' (Grade 3) quality agricultural land around Longdendale. It is important to note that ALC mapping does not distinguish between sub-grades 3a and 3b and in consequence, it is not possible to determine the extent to which this land constitutes that which is 'best and most versatile' without more detailed survey work being undertaken .

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.11.10 As set out above, national planning policy encourages the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed. It also seeks to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land. Alongside a range of existing brownfield sites identified within the Council's SHLAA, the Draft GMSF also includes six proposed primarily greenfield allocations that may come forward without the Local Plan.
- 3.11.11 Without the Local Plan, national planning policy set out in the NPPF would apply and may help to ensure that new development is focused on brownfield land. However, without clear and specific local planning policy relating to the location of future development and the provision of sites to meet local needs, the Council would have less control over where development takes place. This could increase the likelihood of development of greenfield sites and loss of high quality agricultural land.

⁵¹ Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2012) *Core Strategy Topic Paper 9*. Available from <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/corestrategy/topics/paper9.pdf> [Accessed January 2017].

⁵² MAFF (1988) *ALC of England and Wales, Revised Guidelines and Criteria for Grading the Quality of Agricultural Land*

- 3.11.12 With regard to geodiversity, new development could increase pressure on the Borough's geological assets; the risk of which could be increased without clear policy seeking to protect and enhance the Borough's geodiversity.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to encourage development on previously developed (brownfield) land.
- ▶ The need to make best use of existing buildings and infrastructure.
- ▶ The need to protect the limited areas of best and most versatile agricultural land in the Borough from inappropriate development.
- ▶ The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their geological interest.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.11.13 The Local Plan will allocate land for various uses. Balancing the need to provide a suitable quantity of land for development whilst ensuring the Borough's natural assets are protected is a fundamental part of the plan making process. There are clear links with the economy and housing. Re-using previously developed land can increase the resources available for new housing development and can positively impact on construction jobs in the local economy.
- 3.11.14 In addition, re-using land can positively impact on the natural environment aiding the conservation of ecological and landscape resources. Additionally, retaining greenfield land can aid water management and storage thereby contributing to mitigating the impacts of climate change.
- 3.11.15 There are important links between the provision of agricultural land and human health in terms of the provision of food.

3.12 Water

Water Resources

- 3.12.1 The main watercourse in the Borough is the River Tame. As well as the Tame, the River Medlock and River Etherow skirt the north-west and south-east of the Borough respectively. Together, these rivers cover approximately 50 km in the Borough. The Peak Forrest Canal, Huddersfield Canal and reservoirs such as Audenshaw, Godley, Higher/Lower Swineshaw, Brushes, Buckton Vale and Walkerwood also form important water resources in the Borough.
- 3.12.2 The Northern Manchester Abstraction Licensing Strategy (2013)⁵³, which includes the north-west of the Borough, identifies that surface water is available across the Northern Manchester catchment area (although no water is available for abstraction in the Borough). Groundwater is available in those parts of the Borough within this catchment. The Upper Mersey Abstraction Licensing Strategy (2013)⁵⁴, which covers the east of the Borough, identifies that there is surface water and groundwater available for licensing in this catchment including within the Borough.
- 3.12.3 United Utilities provides public water supply to the Borough which lies within the Integrated Water Resource Zone (WRZ). Within the Integrated WRZ, more than 90% of the water supplied comes from rivers and reservoirs, with the remainder from groundwater.⁵⁵ Sewerage and wastewater treatment services are also provided by United Utilities. North Tameside is supplied by Buckton Castle water treatment works (WwTW) in Mossley, while south Tameside is supplied by Godley WwTW near Hyde, with support from the Manchester Ring Main.

⁵³ Environment Agency (2013) *Northern Manchester Abstraction Licensing Strategy*.

⁵⁴ Environment Agency (2013) *Northern Manchester Abstraction Licensing Strategy*.

⁵⁵ United Utilities (2015) *Water Resources Management Plan*.

- 3.12.4 The Environment Agency (2013) report 'Water Stress Areas - Final Classifications'⁵⁶ identifies that the United Utilities area (having considered current and future water usage and climate change scenarios) is only under 'moderate water stress'. This is not considered to be a serious level of stress on water resources and is much lower than many other water company areas.

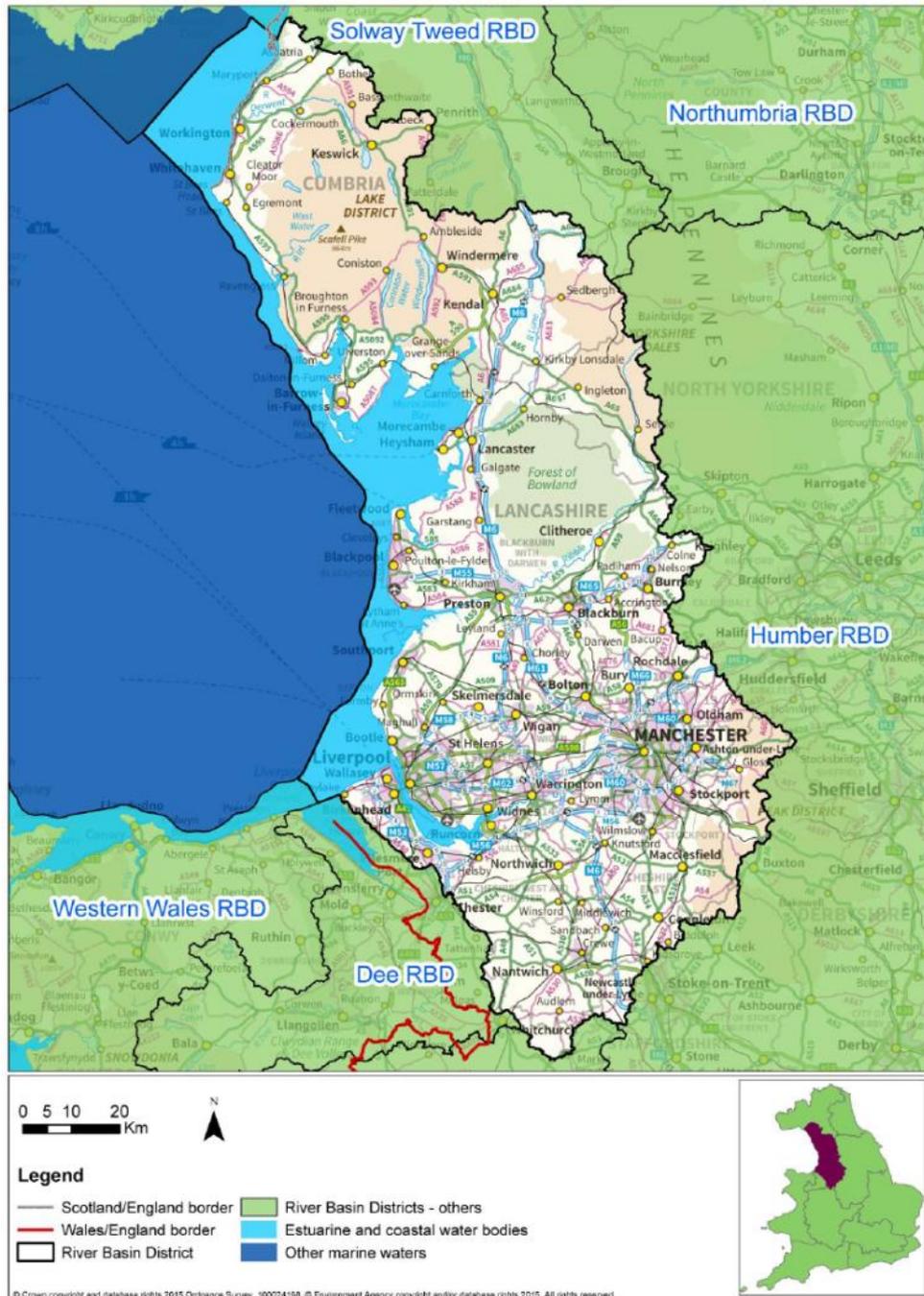
Water Quality

- 3.12.5 The Borough falls within two catchments; the Irwell in the north-west and Upper Mersey in the south-east. These catchments are covered by the North West District River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) (2015) (see **Figure 3.21**). The North West RBMP (2015)⁵⁷ reports that in 2009, 30% of surface waters in the river basin district had 'Good' or 'Better' ecological status/potential whilst in 2015 this only stood at 22%. As at 2015, 89% of groundwaters were at a 'Good' or 'Better' quantitative status, an increase from 61% in 2009. However, only 33% were classified as having a 'Good' or 'Better' chemical status, a decrease from 44% in 2009. The RBMP does note that 584 individual water body elements improved by one or more class over the same period.
- 3.12.6 The North West RBMP identifies the following issues as affecting water quality in the river basin district:
- ▶ physical modifications - affecting 50% of water bodies in this river basin district;
 - ▶ pollution from waste water – affecting 24% of water bodies in this river basin district;
 - ▶ pollution from towns, cities and transport - affecting 13% of water bodies in this river basin district;
 - ▶ changes to the natural flow and level of water - affecting 2% of water bodies in this river basin district;
 - ▶ negative effects of invasive non-native species - affecting <1% of water bodies in this river basin district;
 - ▶ pollution from rural areas - affecting 18% of water bodies in this river basin district; and
 - ▶ pollution from abandoned mines - affecting 3% of water bodies in this river basin district.

⁵⁶ Environment Agency (2013) *Water Stress Areas - Final Classifications*. Available from https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/244333/water-stressed-classification-2013.pdf [Accessed January 2017].

⁵⁷ Defra and Environment Agency (2015) *North West District River Basin Management Plan*.

Figure 3.21 The North West River Basin District



Source: Defra and Environment Agency (2015) *North West District River Basin District Management Plan*.

3.12.7 The Environment Agency has recently completed an exercise to refresh the data related to smaller operational catchments⁵⁸. The Borough falls within the Roch Irk Medlock Operational Catchment in the north-west and Goyt Etherow Tame Catchment to the south-east. In the Medlock Operational Catchment, ecological status was 'moderate' in 23 out of 24 waterbodies with only 1 achieving 'poor' status. Chemical status was 'good' in 23 of the waterbodies with 1 failing. In the Goyt Etherow Tame Catchment, ecological status was 'moderate', 'good' or 'very good' in 45 out of 48 waterbodies with only 3 achieving poor status. Chemical status was classified as 'good' in every waterbody.

⁵⁸ See <http://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning> [Accessed January 2017].

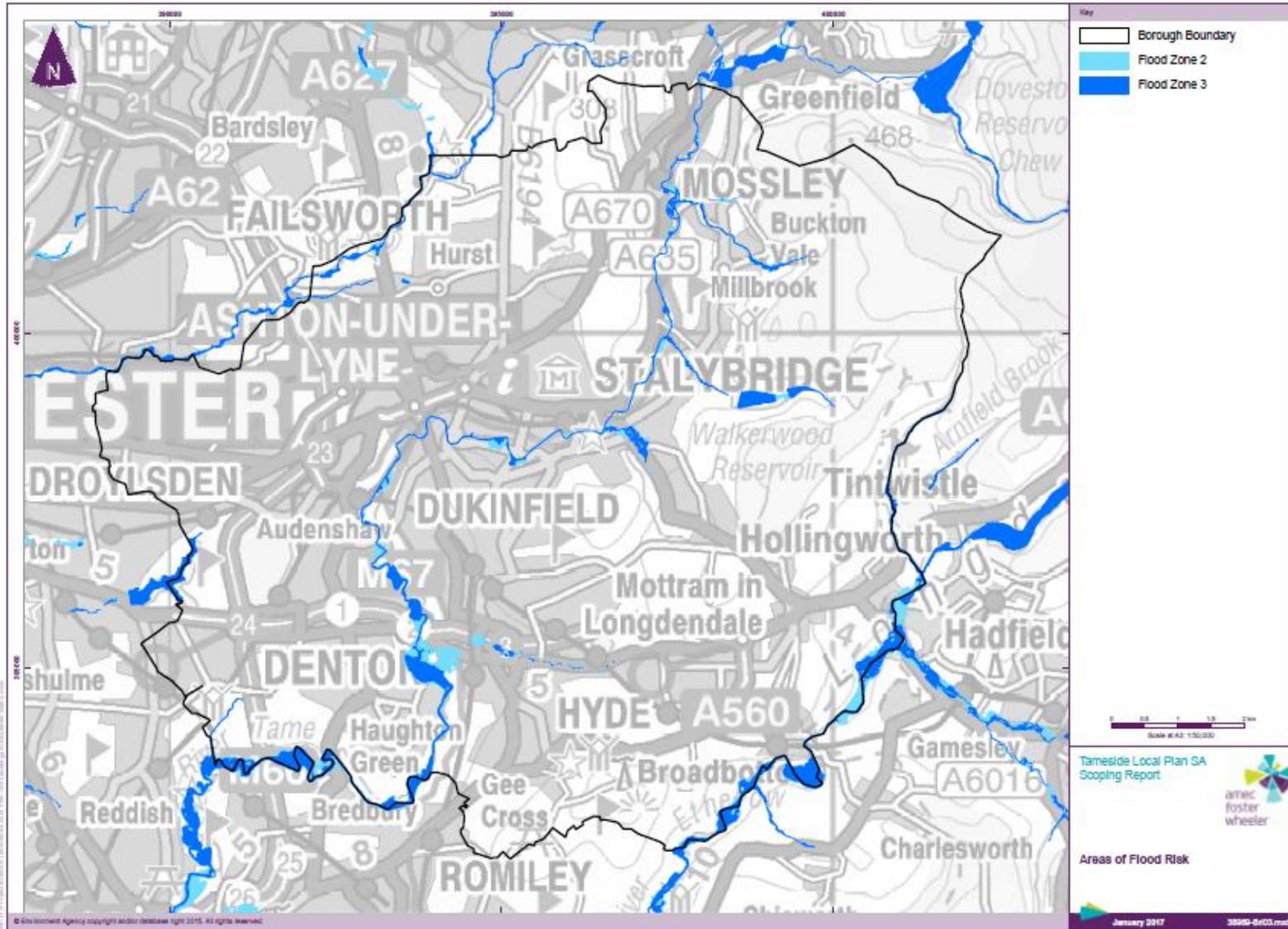
- 3.12.8 The main sectors affecting the status of waterbodies (for the Irwell and Upper Mersey Management Catchments as a whole) have been cited as agriculture and land management (due to changes in natural flows/levels of water and pollution from rural areas), urban development and transport, local and regional government, and water industry operations (principally pollution from wastewater).

Flood Risk

- 3.12.9 The NPPF seeks to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at the plan making stage in order to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding and to direct development away from areas at highest risk. The Environment Agency categorises flood risk from rivers by identifying Flood Zones, as follows:
- ▶ Flood Zone 1 – land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding (<0.1%);
 - ▶ Flood Zone 2 – land assessed as having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding (1% – 0.1%) in any year; and
 - ▶ Flood Zone 3 - land assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1%) in any year.
- 3.12.10 **Figure 3.22** shows the prevalence of Flood Zones 2 and 3 across the Borough.
- 3.12.11 The Tameside Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) (2011)⁵⁹ highlights that the risk of fluvial flooding in the Borough is generally low although land close to the River Tame is designated as Flood Zone 3. The Assessment indicates that in many cases, the extent of flooding is contained within the river banks; where areas of flooding do extend beyond river banks, the land is predominantly allocated as Green Belt.
- 3.12.12 According to land use change statistics published by CLG, no new residential dwellings were built within Flood Zone 3 in the period 2015 to 2016, compared to a national average of 9% of new dwellings.
- 3.12.13 There is a wide distribution of areas at risk of surface water flooding in the Borough. The Tameside SFRA advises that flooding from surface water is generally a localised issue typified by lower lying ground conditions and areas below hills and moors.

⁵⁹ Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council and Stockport Borough Council (2011) *Strategic Flood Risk Assessment*.

Figure 3.22 Areas of Flood Risk



Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.12.14 The growth in local, as well as sub-regional and regional, populations will result in increased pressure on water resources which could affect water availability and quality. However, United Utilities' current Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) (2015) does not show a forecast deficit in supply in the Integrated WRZ over the plan period. Water quality in the North West river basin district, meanwhile, is expected to improve with 25% of surface waters predicted to be at good ecological status/potential or better by 2021 and 94% of groundwaters predicted to be at good quantitative status (based on the North West RBMP).
- 3.12.15 In the absence of the Local Plan, measures contained in the WRMP together with national planning policy and the GMSF would be expected to help ensure that future demands for water are met and that water conservation measures in new development are promoted. Further, other plans and programmes including the North West RBMP would be expected to help conserve and enhance waterbodies in the Borough.
- 3.12.16 Topic Paper 10 prepared in support of the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD identified that, at the time of publication, there were no known capacity issues with respect to WwTWs in the Borough⁶⁰. However, it did note that there were known issues within the sewer network. A failure to plan for new development and ensure the timely investment in infrastructure could place pressure on existing treatment facilities and networks resulting in adverse water quality and wider environmental effects.
- 3.12.17 Taking into account national planning policy set out in the NPPF, the GMSF, and the relatively low level of flood risk within the Borough, it is not expected that the baseline with regard to flood risk would change significantly without the Local Plan (although flood risk may increase as a result of climate change). However, any new local policies and site allocations would help to ensure that new development is located away from flood risk areas, applying the sequential test and exception test if relevant.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to protect and enhance the quality of the Borough's water resources.
- ▶ The need to promote the efficient use of water resources.
- ▶ The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development.
- ▶ The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk, taking into account the effects of climate change.
- ▶ The need to encourage the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems.
- ▶ The need to appropriately manage surface water.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.12.18 There are clear links between water and a number of the other themes considered in this Scoping Report. Ensuring there are sufficient water resources in the Borough, protecting water quality and minimising the impacts of flood risk is central to achieving a number economic, social and environmental objectives.
- 3.12.19 Housing and employment development must be supported by sufficient water resources and be located in areas where flood risk is minimised or can be suitably mitigated to ensure that development is sustainable. Flooding can have significant effects on the economy and communities ranging from temporary road and business closures through to the permanent loss of homes and businesses in extreme cases. In turn, minimising flood risk and ensuring appropriate

⁶⁰ Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2012) Core Strategy Topic Paper 10. Available from <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/corestrategy/topics/paper10.pdf> [Accessed January 2017].

water infrastructure is in place supports healthy communities and helps to address the effects of climate change.

- 3.12.20 Rivers and canal lines also provide green links, which are important for recreation and often provide routes for walking and cycling. Green infrastructure can also act as important water storage areas whilst urban parks and gardens can reduce surface run off.

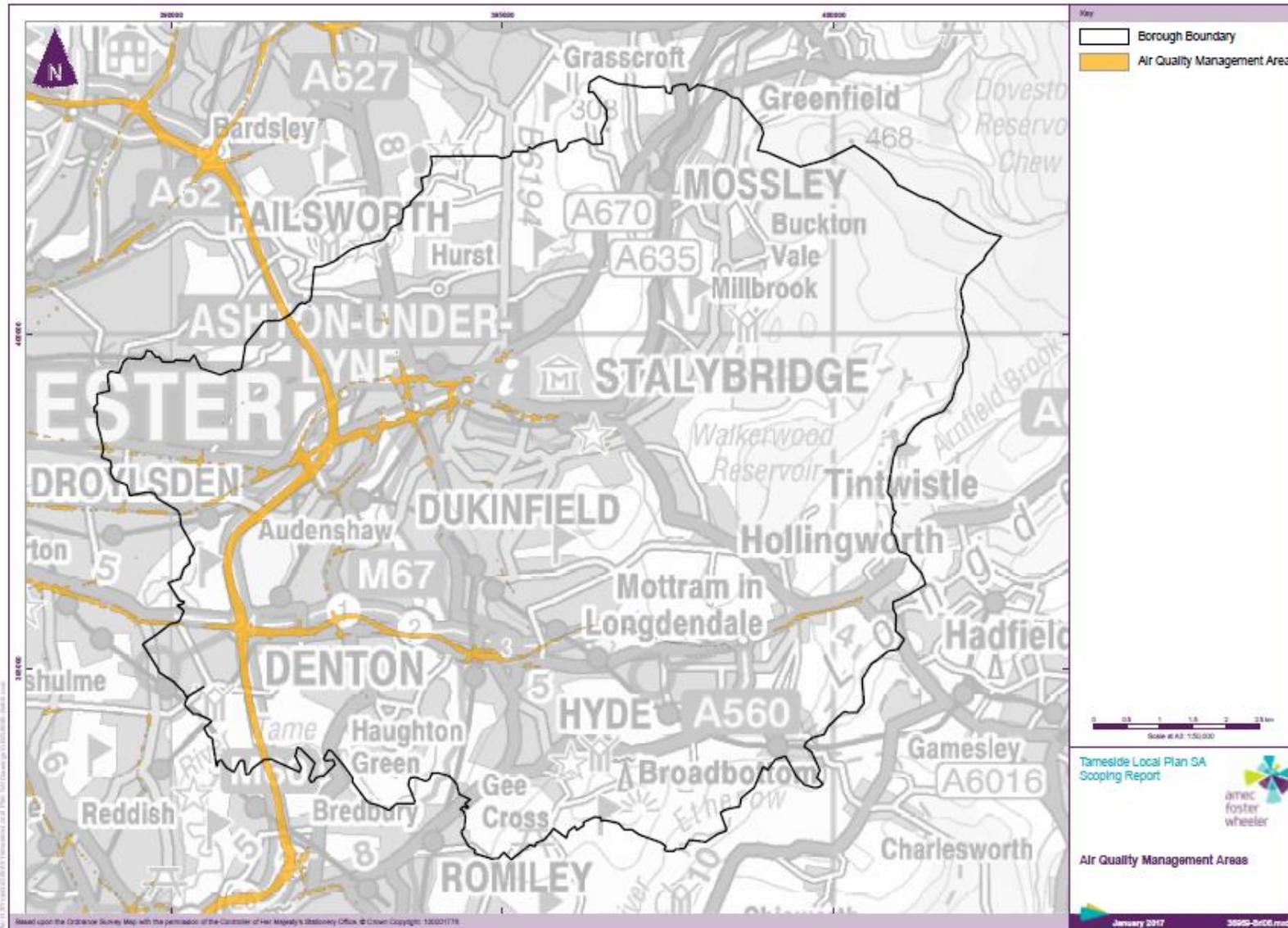
3.13 Air Quality

- 3.13.1 Legislative frameworks and guidance in relation to air quality have been established at both the European and UK level. Policies aim to reduce exposure to specific pollutants by reducing emissions and setting targets for air quality. Policies are driven by the aims of the EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)⁶¹. The key objective is to help minimise the negative impacts on human health and the environment. The Directive sets guidance for member states for the effective implementation of air quality targets.
- 3.13.2 The UK's National Air Quality Strategy⁶² sets health based standards for eight key pollutants and objectives for achieving them. This is to ensure a level of ambient air quality in public places that is safe for human health and quality of life. It also recognises that specific action at the local level may be needed depending on the scale and nature of the air quality problem.
- 3.13.3 Local authorities have a duty to undertake a full review and assessment of air quality in accordance with the National Air Quality Strategy. Where there is a likelihood of a national air quality objective being exceeded, the relevant council must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of the objectives.
- 3.13.4 Tameside declared an AQMA in June 2001 and amended it in 2004. The areas covered by the AQMA included the A57, A635 and A662 as well as the M60 and M67 and comprised some 1158.2 ha of the Borough. The GMCA AQMA came into effect on 1st May 2016 and superseded the previous AQMA Order in the Borough; the extent of this AQMA in the Borough is shown in **Figure 3.23**.

⁶¹ Available via: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32008L0050> [Accessed December 2016].

⁶² *The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland*, Volume 1. Available via: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69336/pb12654-air-quality-strategy-vol1-070712.pdf [Accessed December 2016].

Figure 3.23 Greater Manchester Air Quality Management Area (with Tameside area inset)



- 3.13.5 The areas around the major highways are designated due to the likely breach of nitrogen dioxide of 35 micrograms per cubic metre ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$), which is a more stringent objective than the $40\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ specified in the Air Quality Regulations (2000). In Greater Manchester, road transport contributes 75% of emissions of nitrogen oxides and 81% of particulates⁶³. The major roads are the largest source of transport emissions although motorways are also very significant, particularly for nitrogen oxides.
- 3.13.6 The GMCA published the Greater Manchester Air Quality Action Plan 2016-2021 in 2016 which includes a broad range of actions to address air quality ranging from reducing emissions from freight and cars to supporting walking, cycling and the use of public transport. Monitoring includes utilising data across a number of monitoring stations in the area, two of which are in Tameside, Mottram Moor and at the former Two Trees School (Denton). The latest annual monitoring data⁶⁴ indicates that at the Mottram Moor location, the annual mean objective of $35\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ was exceeded in 2014 and 2015 ($49\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and $50\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ respectively) whilst at the former Two Trees School, it has not been exceeded in the last five years of monitoring.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.13.7 Improvements to air quality do not solely rely on planning policy as other changes can be made including undertaking actions set out in the Greater Manchester Air Quality Action Plan 2016-2021 produced on behalf of the Greater Manchester authorities. However, an increase in population and households in the Borough will in-turn generate additional transport movements and associated emissions into the air.
- 3.13.8 Even with development of the GMSF, there would be a policy gap without the Local Plan with regard to the location of future growth in the Borough and which could result in development being located in areas that are not well served by community facilities, services and jobs, thereby increasing traffic movements and associated emissions to air.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to minimise the emission of pollutants to air.
- ▶ The need to improve air quality, particularly in the Greater Manchester AQMA.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.13.9 There are clearly close links between air quality and transport. Increasing transport use will worsen air pollution without significant technological and infrastructure improvements. This is likely to impact upon the health of Tameside's communities, particularly vulnerable groups such as those with pre-existing medical conditions, and therefore also impact upon the delivery of health services such as GP surgeries and hospitals. Green infrastructure can help mitigate some of these impacts by diluting the effects of pollution and providing opportunities for walking and cycling.

3.14 Climate Change

- 3.14.1 Rising global temperatures will bring changes in weather patterns, rising sea levels and increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather. The effects of climate change will be experienced internationally, nationally and locally with certain regions being particularly vulnerable.
- 3.14.2 Carbon dioxide (CO_2) is identified as being the most important of the greenhouse gases which are being produced by human activity and contributing to climate change. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), stabilising CO_2 concentrations at 450 parts per million (ppm) (that is 85 ppm above 2007 levels and 170 ppm above pre-industrial levels) in the

⁶³ GMCA (2016) *Low-Emission Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan Public Consultation*. Available from <http://www.tfgm.com/gmles/Documents/GM%20LES%20AQAP%20public%20consultation%20document.pdf> [Accessed January 2017].

⁶⁴ GMCA (2016) *Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) for Greater Manchester*. Available from http://www.manchester.gov.uk/downloads/download/4166/air_quality_reports [Accessed January 2017].

long term would require the reduction of emissions worldwide to below 1990 levels within a few decades.

- 3.14.3 The policy and legislative context in relation to climate change has been established at the international level (Kyoto Agreement) and has been transposed into European, national and local legislation, strategies and policies. Recently, the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 21) negotiated the Paris Agreement⁶⁵, a global agreement to (inter-alia) hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels.
- 3.14.4 Reducing CO₂ emissions in the atmosphere is a national target to reduce climatic impact. This is driven by the Climate Change Act (2008), which sets a legally binding target of at least a 34% reduction in UK emissions by 2020 and at least an 80% reduction by 2050, against a 1990 baseline. **Table 3.24** shows Tameside's per capita CO₂ emissions for the period 2005 to 2013. The Borough's emissions have steadily decreased over this period (noting the slight increase in 2010 and 2012) and have consistently been lower than those for the North West and England as a whole. In 2013 (the latest reporting period), per capita emissions stood at 4.9 tonnes CO₂ per person compared to 6.9 tonnes regionally and 6.7 tonnes nationally.

Table 3.24 CO₂ Emissions Per Capita 2005-2013 (tonnes CO₂ per person)

	Tameside	North West	England
2005	6.3	8.7	8.5
2006	6.2	8.5	8.4
2007	6.0	8.3	8.2
2008	5.8	8.1	7.9
2009	5.0	7.3	7.1
2010	5.3	7.6	7.3
2011	4.8	6.9	6.6
2012	5.1	7.2	6.9
2013	4.9	6.9	6.7

Source: 2005 to 2013 UK local and regional CO₂ emissions full dataset. Available online <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2013> [Accessed January 2017].

- 3.14.5 As **Table 3.25** highlights, the largest source of CO₂ emissions in Tameside is from the domestic energy sector (electricity and gas) which produced 2.0 tonnes per person in 2013. In 2005, industry and domestic source levels were similar; however, over the 2005 to 2013 period there has been a decrease in industrial CO₂ levels, whereas domestic levels have not reduced as significantly. At a regional level, industry emissions were 2.9 tonnes per person in 2013, considerably higher than for Tameside. Regional domestic levels, meanwhile, were similar to Tameside at 2.1 tonnes per person, and transport emissions higher at 1.9 tonnes per person.

Table 3.25 Per Capita CO₂ Emissions by Source for Tameside 2005-2013 (tonnes CO₂ per person)

	Industry	Domestic	Transport	Total
2005	2.4	2.5	1.4	6.3
2006	2.4	2.5	1.4	6.2
2007	2.2	2.4	1.4	6.0

⁶⁵ See <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/l09.pdf> [Accessed January 2017].

	Industry	Domestic	Transport	Total
2008	2.1	2.4	1.3	5.8
2009	1.6	2.1	1.3	5.0
2010	1.8	2.2	1.3	5.3
2011	1.6	1.9	1.2	4.8
2012	1.8	2.1	1.2	5.1
2013	1.7	2.0	1.2	4.9

Source: 2005 to 2013 UK local and regional CO₂ emissions full dataset. Available online <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2013> [Accessed January 2017].

- 3.14.6 The Council has committed to the Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy (launched in 2011) which aims to reduce CO₂ emissions by 48% across Greater Manchester (based on 1990 levels) by 2020. Figures quoted in the Tameside 2015 Progress Report⁶⁶ state that in 2012, a 23.5% reduction had been achieved.
- 3.14.7 The GMCA published The Climate Change and Low Emissions Strategies' Whole Place Implementation Plan for Greater Manchester (2016-2020) in 2016⁶⁷. This Plan has five headline goals:
- ▶ Cutting carbon emissions by 48% between 1990 and 2020;
 - ▶ Growing a Low Carbon Economy;
 - ▶ Rapidly adapting to changing climate;
 - ▶ Embedding low carbon behaviours; and
 - ▶ Achieving air quality thresholds.
- 3.14.8 The prudent use of fossil fuels and reducing levels of energy consumption will help to achieve lower CO₂ emissions. Between 2005 and 2015, Tameside's total energy consumption reduced from 27,591 kWh per consumer to 19,507 kWh per consumer⁶⁸. This represents a reduction in energy consumption per consumer of 41.4%, which is higher than the reduction seen at the national (UK) level (34.0%) over the same period.
- 3.14.9 Measures to prevent or minimise the adverse effects of climate change include: efficient use of scarce water resources; adapting building codes to future climate conditions and extreme weather events; building flood defences and raising the levels of dykes; more climate resilient crop selection (e.g. drought-tolerant species); the provision of green infrastructure (which can support flood alleviation and urban cooling); and renewable and low carbon energy generation.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.14.10 In June 2009, the findings of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK were released by the UK Climate Change Projections team under Defra⁶⁹. This team provides climate information for the UK up to the end of this century and projections of future changes to the climate are given, based on simulations from climate models. Projections are broken down to a regional

⁶⁶ Home Energy Conservation Act. Tameside MBC 2015 – Progress Report. Available online: <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/energyefficiency/heca.pdf> [Accessed January 2017].

⁶⁷ The Climate Change and Low Emissions Strategies' Whole Place Implementation Plan for Greater Manchester (2016-2020). Published by the Greater Manchester Low Carbon Hub. Available online https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/downloads/file/221/change_and_low_emissions_implementation_plan_2016-2020 [Accessed January 2017].

⁶⁸ Gas and Electricity Consumption 2005-2015. Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. http://tools.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/local_auth/interactive/domestic_ge/index.html [Accessed January 2017].

⁶⁹ See <http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/21708?projections=23827> [Accessed January 2017].

level across the UK and illustrate the potential range of changes and the level of confidence in each prediction.

- 3.14.11 The predicted effects of climate change for the North West region by 2050 (under a medium emissions scenario) are set out in **Table 3.26**.

Table 3.26 North West England Climate Predictions (medium emissions scenario)

Climate Record	Estimate of Increase/Decrease	Most Likely Range	Range of Uncertainty
Winter mean temperature	1.9 °C	1°C to 3°C	0.8°C to 3.3°C
Summer mean temperature	2.6°C	1.2°C to 4.1°C	1.1°C to 4.7°C
Summer mean daily maximum temperature	3.3°C	1°C to 5.8°C	1°C to 6.5°C
Summer mean daily minimum temperature	2.5°C	1°C to 4.4°C	0.9°C to 4.9°C
Annual mean precipitation	0%	-6% to 6%	-8% to 8%
Winter mean precipitation	13%	3% to 26%	-1% to 27%
Summer mean precipitation	-18%	-36% to 1%	-37% to 8%

Source: Defra (2009) *The UK Climate Predictions (UKCO09)*.

- 3.14.12 Climate change is occurring and will continue regardless of local policy intervention. However, national policy on climate change and other plans and programmes such as the Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy, alongside the progressive tightening up of Building Regulations, will help to ensure that new development is located and designed to adapt to the effects of climate change and that measures are in place to mitigate climate change. Notwithstanding this, without the Local Plan, the Council is likely to have less control over, in particular, the location of new development which could exacerbate climate change impacts and mean that opportunities to mitigate effects (for example, through reducing transport movements, tree planting and district-scale renewable energy solutions) may be missed.
- 3.14.13 In 2011, the Council published the Tameside Decentralised and Zero Carbon Energy Planning Study⁷⁰ to provide an evidence base for emerging energy policies. The Study identified energy generating opportunities within the Borough for wind power, hydropower, solar power, heating and cooling systems, biogas and mine water heating as well as for potential biomass production. This serves to demonstrate that the Borough has a number of options for renewable energy production.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to ensure that new development is able to adapt to the effects of climate change.
- ▶ The need to mitigate climate change including through increased renewable energy provision.
- ▶ The need to contribute to the Greater Manchester target of reducing CO₂ emissions by 48% by 2020.

⁷⁰ Urbed and Aecom for Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2011) *Tameside Decentralised and Zero Carbon Energy Planning Study*. Available from <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/planning/energystudy.pdf> [Accessed January 2017].

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.14.14 Climate change impacts are linked to a number of different social, economic and environmental themes considered in this Scoping Report, particularly: air quality; the economy; health and wellbeing; water; and biodiversity and green infrastructure.
- 3.14.15 In particular, air pollution and greenhouse gases often share common sources. Further to this, changes in temperature can affect the way air pollutants behave. For example, increases in temperature may affect the formation of ozone, increasing the frequency and severity of summer smogs. During the UK heat-wave of August 2003, between 420 and 770 (depending on the method of calculation) deaths brought forward were attributable to air pollution in a 15-day period⁷¹. Extreme weather, and in particular heat waves, can affect vulnerable people (children, older people, those with existing health issues) in society, and often increase the incidence of deaths.
- 3.14.16 Climate change impacts from the increased likelihood of flash flooding can have extensive economic, health and environmental impacts. Green infrastructure, including gardens, trees and parks can help manage rainwater flows, and reduce the likelihood of conventional drainage infrastructure surcharging after a storm. Planting in the upper reaches of catchments can help to manage river flows through similar processes.
- 3.14.17 Increased temperatures and incidences of heat waves can affect human health and biodiversity as well as the availability of water resources.

3.15 Material Assets

Waste

- 3.15.1 The Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document (Joint Waste Plan) (2012)⁷² sets out the waste planning strategy for the conurbation to 2027. The aim of the Plan is to enable the adequate provision of waste management facilities in appropriate locations for the range of municipal, commercial and industrial, construction and demolition and hazardous wastes.
- 3.15.2 While the Council is the waste collection authority for the area, the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority is responsible for waste management. Local authority collected waste statistics for Great Manchester⁷³ indicate that a total of 1,136,395 tonnes of waste was collected in 2015/16 of which 478,416 tonnes (42%) was recycled/composted/reused. Within Tameside Borough, a total of 72,414 tonnes of municipal waste was generated in 2015/16 of which 33,326 tonnes (46%) was sent for recycling/composting/reuse. This is similar to the position in 2013/14 in terms of waste collected (71,477 tonnes) although the percentage sent for recycling and reuse has increased (28,248 tonnes was recycled in 2013/14, equivalent to 40%).⁷⁴
- 3.15.3 There are a number of waste management facilities in the Borough and these are shown in **Figure 3.24**. Within the Joint Waste Plan, a site at Shepley Industrial Estate in Audenshaw is also allocated as being potentially suitable for one of the following waste treatment uses; Material Recovery Facility, Mechanical Heat Treatment, Mechanical Biological Treatment, Anaerobic Digestion or In-Vessel Composting.

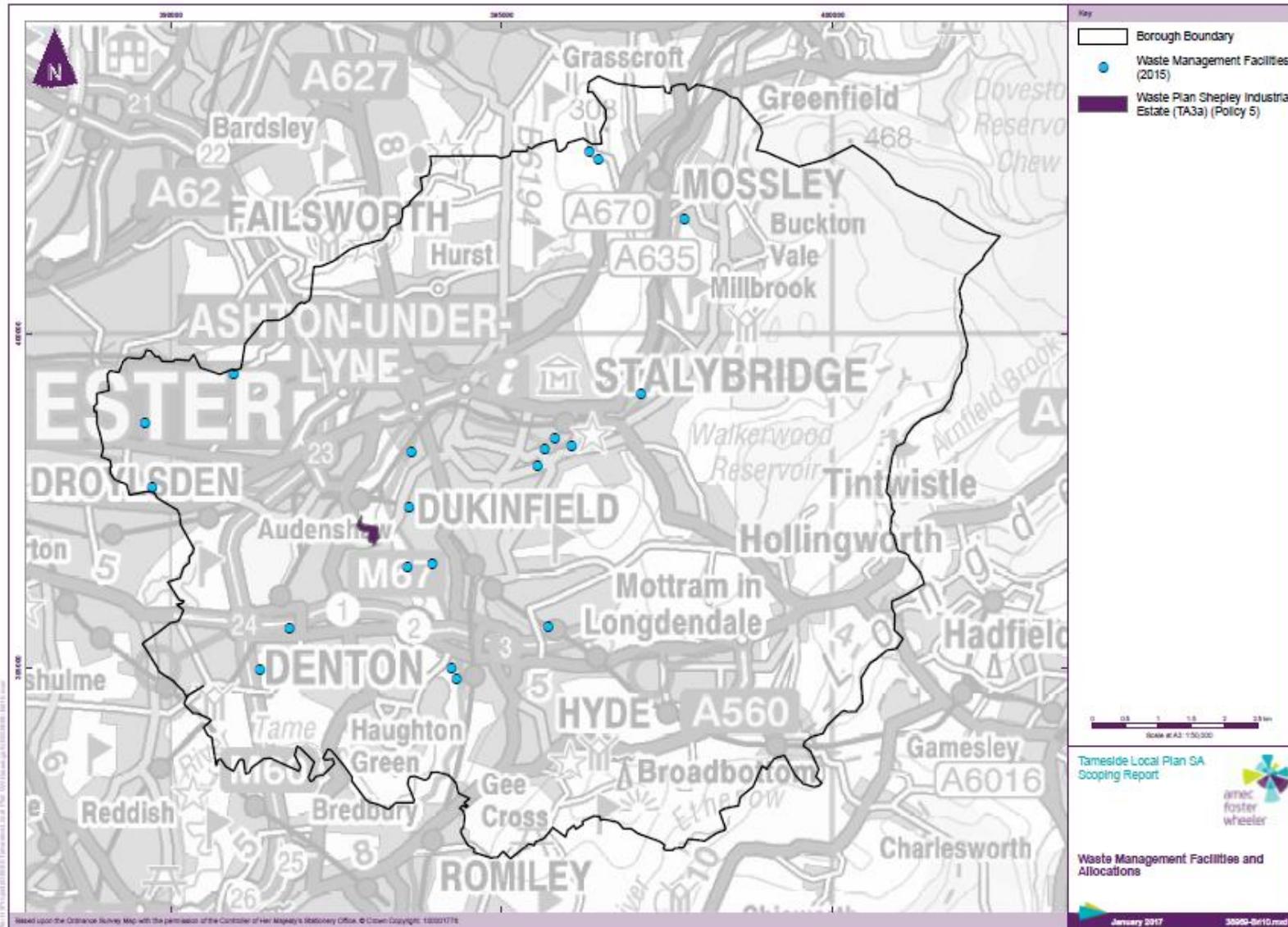
⁷¹ Defra (2010). Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate

⁷² Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (2012) *Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document*.

⁷³ Defra (2014) *Local Authority Collected Waste Statistics*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables> [Accessed January 2017].

⁷⁴ Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (2014) *Authority's Monitoring Report*.

Figure 3.24 Waste Management Facilities and Joint Waste Plan Allocations



Minerals

- 3.15.4 Government policy promotes the general conservation of minerals whilst at the same time ensuring an adequate supply is available to meet needs. Mineral resources are not distributed evenly across the country and some areas are able to provide greater amounts of certain minerals than they actually use.
- 3.15.5 The Joint Authorities' Monitoring Report (JAMR)⁷⁵ identifies that within Greater Manchester, there is a supply of low quality aggregate but a limited resource of high quality aggregates (needed to ensure continued economic expansion of Greater Manchester) available. The area therefore relies heavily on imports from Mineral Planning Authorities (MPAs) outside of the plan area to meet high-quality aggregate needs. Furthermore, the use of recycled aggregates and secondary mineral products is encouraged wherever possible to reduce the need for imports and promote sustainable use of raw materials.
- 3.15.6 The JAMR highlights that production of sand and gravel has averaged 5.89 million tonnes (mt) between 2005 and 2015, although the amount won in 2014 (3.86 mt) and 2015 (3.70mt) was significantly lower than earlier in the period (8.91mt in 2005 and 9.89mt in 2006) reflecting a predominantly downward trend. Total sales between 2006 and 2015 averaged 0.61mt and in line with production, the general trend has been a decrease in sales over the period. Crushed rock sales have followed a similar pattern to sand and gravel with the annual amount of sales and reserves generally declining over the period from 2005 to 2015 (with sales averaging 0.8mt per year and reserves 16.82mt). The JAMR states that the general fall in sales and reserves may indicate an increased use of secondary and recycled aggregate.

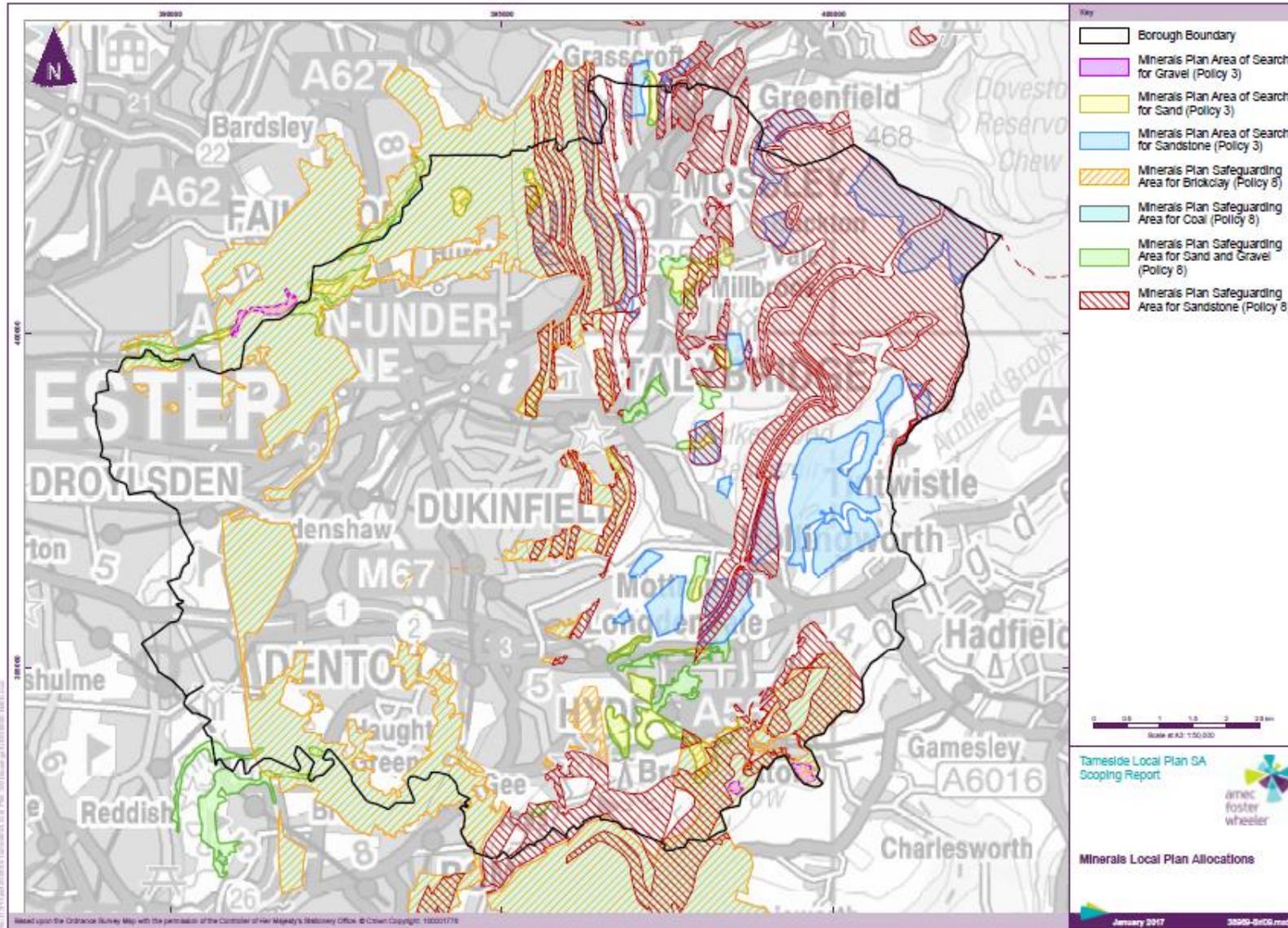
Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.15.7 Waste generation in the Borough is expected to increase, commensurate with population growth. For example, the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan (2012) forecasts local authority collected waste arisings to increase from 1,111,271 tonnes per annum in 2009 to 1,114,077 tonnes per annum in 2027 (across the conurbation). This could place pressure on existing waste management facilities, although it is envisaged that recycling/reuse rates would also continue to increase (the Greater Manchester Municipal Waste Management Strategy, for example, includes a target to increase recycling rates to a minimum of 50% by 2020). The Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan (2012) identifies a number of sites across the sub-region to help address forecast shortfalls in waste management capacity and it is expected that these sites would be delivered without the Local Plan.
- 3.15.8 New development (both within the Borough and nationally) may place pressure on local mineral assets to support construction. The Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan (2013)⁷⁶ sets out the planning strategy to deliver a steady and sustainable supply of minerals and safeguard mineral resources up to 2027. It identifies a sub-regional annual requirement of 1.32 million tonnes of crushed rock and 0.43 million tonnes of sand and gravel between 2005 and 2020. To help meet this requirement, the Plan includes areas of search for aggregates as well as safeguarding areas; those which affect the Borough are shown in **Figure 3.25**.

⁷⁵ Greater Manchester Combined Authorities (2016) *Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Authority Monitoring Report 2015-2016*. The AMR reports on mineral production in the ten Great Manchester authorities, the five authorities in the Merseyside region and Halton Borough Council, and Warrington Borough Council.

⁷⁶ Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (2013) *Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan*.

Figure 3.25 Joint Minerals Plan Allocations



- 3.15.9 Planning for waste and minerals is undertaken at the GMCA level and in consequence, the baseline would not be expected to change significantly without the Local Plan. Additionally, the Draft GMSF provides emerging strategic level policies that (inter alia) promote resource efficiency. However, detailed policies in the Local Plan could support the objectives of the Joint Waste and Minerals Plans including by, for example, promoting the provision of on-site recycling facilities and the sustainable use of materials in new development.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to minimise waste arisings and encourage reuse and recycling.
- ▶ The need to promote the efficient use of mineral resources, recognising that the Greater Manchester area is reliant on minerals won in other MPAs.
- ▶ The need to ensure the protection of the Borough's mineral resources in accordance with the Great Manchester Joint Minerals Plan (2013).
- ▶ The need to promote resource efficiency through sustainable design and construction techniques to minimise resource depletion and waste creation.

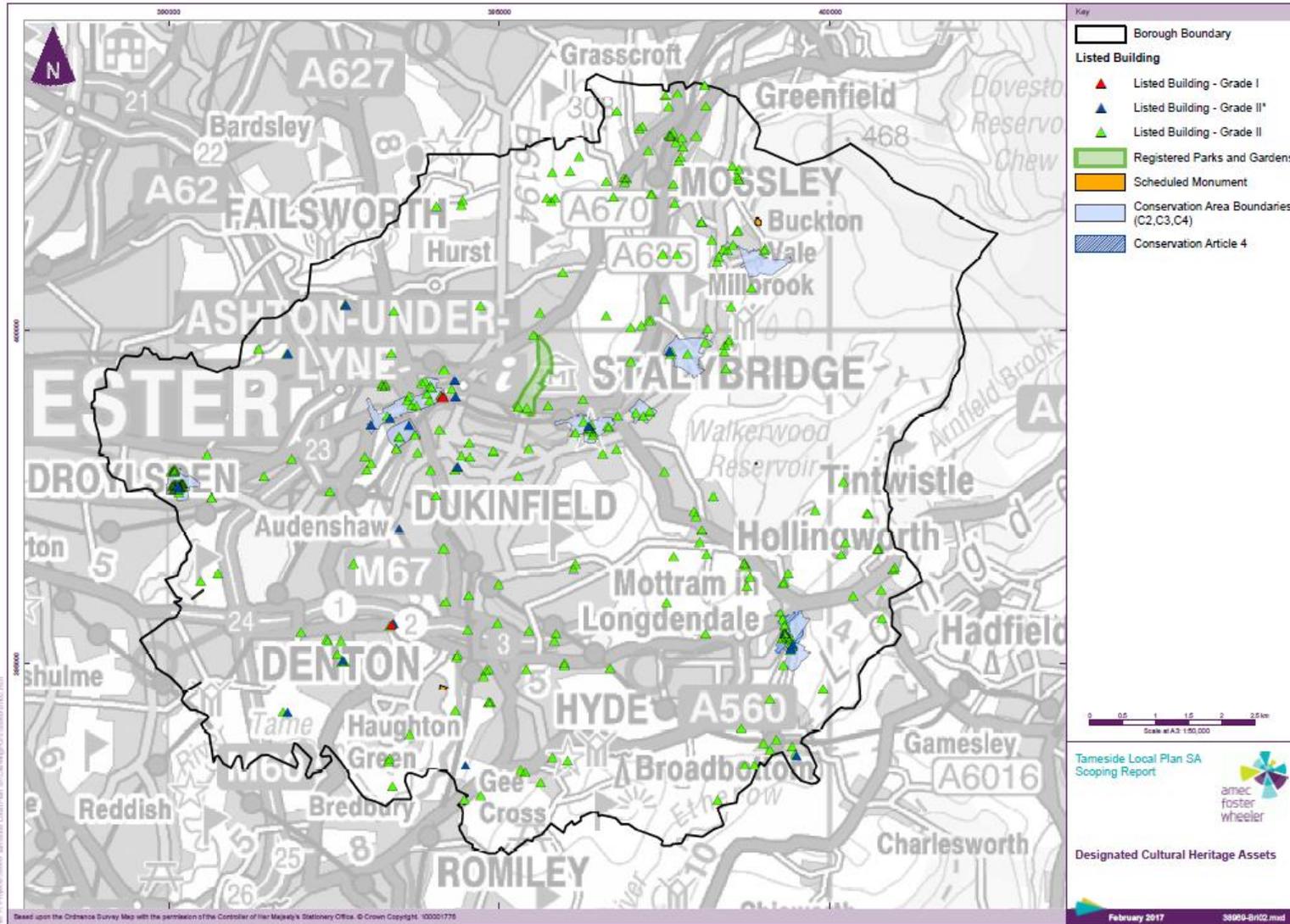
Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.15.10 Waste generation, disposal and re-use cuts across a number of social, economic and environmental themes. Re-using materials reduces waste and the need for primary materials, which has significant positive environmental impacts. Recycling can also bring economic opportunities for business development whereas landfill is expensive and requires a significant amount of land.
- 3.15.11 Environmentally, there can be landscape impacts from waste developments. The location of waste facilities can also impact on health and wellbeing depending on the nature of the processes employed (noise, odour, air quality impacts) whilst perceived impacts also have a social dimension.
- 3.15.12 Mineral and aggregates extraction has clear links to the economy and environment. The use of minerals is central to the construction industry and it also supports employment opportunities in this sector. Environmentally, there are clear links to the landscape when sites are in active use and ecology, especially when mineral sites are reclaimed.

3.16 Cultural Heritage

- 3.16.1 The character of Tameside remains strongly influenced by the Industrial Revolution and the development of the mill towns including Ashton-under-Lyne, Dukinfield, Hyde, Mossley and Stalybridge. The growth and evolution of the Borough was driven through the development of the textile and, later, the coal industries with the Borough's towns and villages developing different characters due to, amongst other things, topography, street pattern, materials and their role in local industry. The Borough's strong built heritage is reflected by the number of statutory designations, the distribution of which is shown in **Figure 3.26**.

Figure 3.26 Designated Cultural Heritage Assets



- 3.16.2 The National Heritage List for England⁷⁷ includes 326 listed building entries for Tameside (comprising 2 Grade I, 21 Grade II* and 303 Grade II listings).
- 3.16.3 Tameside has a long history of human activity with some 22 Mesolithic sites identified within the Borough, the oldest dating to around 8,000 BC. There are four designated scheduled monuments:
- ▶ Round cairn - west of Hollingworthhall Moor;
 - ▶ Buckton Castle - a ringwork and site of a 17th century beacon 350 m north east of Castle Farm;
 - ▶ A section of an early medieval boundary ditch known as the Nico Ditch on Denton golf course -320 m south west of Lodge Farm; and
 - ▶ Post-medieval glassworks – 250 m south east of Clarke's Bridge.
- 3.16.4 Stamford Park is Tameside's only registered park and garden and has been a public park since its official opening in 1873. Official recognition of its significance as a park and garden was given by its inclusion on the 'Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England' in 1986.
- 3.16.5 Historic groups of buildings and areas of towns and villages within Tameside are recognised for their special architectural, historic or other rare or distinctive setting or character. Nine such areas have been designated as Conservation Areas (Ashton Town Centre, Carrbrook, Copley, Fairfield, Millbrook, Mottram-in-Longdendale, Portland Basin and Stalybridge Town Centre). There are also many buildings within the Borough which are not listed, but which contribute to the character of the area. These are identified in the Historic Environment Record maintained by the AGMA (currently via the University of Salford).
- 3.16.6 Within Tameside, there are currently 10 listed buildings and two conservation areas on the Historic England Heritage At Risk Register⁷⁸. These are listed in **Table 3.27**.

Table 3.27 Historic Assets 'At Risk'

Listed Buildings	Conservation Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Street • Dukinfield Old Chapel, Old Road • Church of St John the Baptist, High Street • Holy Trinity Church, Dean Street • Church of St John the Evangelist, King's Road • Church of St John the Baptist, Carrhill Road • Former Municipal Baths, , Henry Square • Old Hall Chapel, Old Hall Street • Apethorn Farmhouse, Apethorn Lane • Hyde Hall, Town Lane 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashton Town Centre • Stalybridge Town Centre

Source: Historic England (2017) *Heritage At Risk Register*.

- 3.16.7 The Greater Manchester area has a number of historic waterways, with strong links to the history of the region (see **Figure 3.27**). A report by British Waterways⁷⁹ states that: "*Waterways are a key driver in the fortunes and success of regional, sub-regional and local economies supporting the visitor and tourism economy and in many places they continue to contribute to the regeneration of deprived areas*". It is estimated that around:
- ▶ 13.7 million tourism, recreation and functional visits were made to the canals in Greater Manchester in 2009;

⁷⁷ See <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/> [Accessed January 2017].

⁷⁸ Available via: <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/search-register/> [Accessed January 2017].

⁷⁹ British Waterways (2011) *Waterways: Contributing to the vision for a Greater Manchester*. Available from <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/media/library/995.pdf> [Accessed January 2017].

- ▶ The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets where appropriate.
- ▶ The need to tackle heritage at risk.
- ▶ The need to recognise the positive contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.16.9 Balancing the demand and subsequent pressure from housing, employment sites and associated infrastructure with the protection and enhancement of the historic environment is important for sustainable development.
- 3.16.10 Heritage assets and landscapes are important factors in the tourism economy and contribute to the social and cultural identity of the area. They also contribute towards making Tameside an attractive place to live, work and invest. Some heritage sites provide a recreational resource, important for the health and wellbeing of the local population.

3.17 Landscape and Townscape

- 3.17.1 England has been divided into areas with similar landscape character, which are called National Character Areas (NCAs). Tameside comprises the following three NCAs and which are shown in **Figure 3.28**:
- ▶ Manchester Conurbation;
 - ▶ Manchester Pennine Fringe; and
 - ▶ Dark Peak.
- 3.17.2 In the west of the Borough, the Manchester Conurbation NCA is characterised by dense urban and industrial development, commercial, financial, retail and administrative centres, commuter suburbs and housing, interspersed with a network of green infrastructure. The conurbation is centred on low hills, crossed by several river valleys that thread through the urban fabric. The geology is dominated by sandstones, overlain by thick deposits of glacial till. River valleys form important corridors of semi-natural habitats and natural greenspace, with open grassland, woodland and wetland linking urban centres with open countryside. Woodland cover is generally low, but variable and significant for such a heavily urban location. The Natural England National Character Area Profile (2014)⁸⁰ identifies that although there is not a large area of agricultural land within the NCA, what there is has decreased significantly between 2000 and 2009. There is also ongoing pressure for development and regeneration.
- 3.17.3 The Manchester Pennine Fringe NCA covers the central area of the Borough. The NCA is characterised as a transitional zone between open moorlands and densely populated urban areas with an abrupt boundary where towns stop and countryside begins. This transitional area runs along the edge of the Millstone Grit of the Pennine uplands, and is underlain by Carboniferous Millstone Grit and the Pennine Coal Measures, which broadly dip to the south-west. The area owes much of its character to its proximity to the adjacent Pennine moors, and the deeply incised, steep valleys that characterise the transition from moorland to urban area. Agricultural activities are characterised by stock rearing and rough grazing on improved grassland between urban areas. The landscape character is identified as suffering from overspill housing estates forming unsympathetic elements in the landscape. The Natural England National Character Area Profile (2013)⁸¹ identifies that in recent years new community woodland has been created in the urban areas. However, there has also been boundary loss and fragmentation around urban fringes, and

⁸⁰ Natural England (2014) *National Character Area Profiles - Manchester Conurbation*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles#ncas-in-north-west-england> [Accessed January 2017].

⁸¹ Natural England (2013) *National Character Area Profiles - Manchester Pennine Fringe*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles#ncas-in-north-west-england> [Accessed January 2017].

loss of more traditional land management to horsiculture. Much of the area has high recreational use from the adjacent urban areas and there is evidence of the diversification of farming into a range of urban related uses.

- 3.17.4 The Dark Peak NCA covers the area in the east of the Borough. This NCA is characterised by large-scale sweeping moorlands, in-bye pastures enclosed by drystone walls, and gritstone settlements, within the Pennine chain. It forms a large part of the Peak District National Park although no part of the Borough itself falls within the National Park boundary. A characteristic feature of the NCA are the views towards (and from) the surrounding urban conurbations of Manchester, Sheffield and West Yorkshire. The views into and out from the NCA provide a clear illustration of the way in which this NCA ‘fits into’ the surrounding countryside and directly links to nearby centres of population. The Natural England National Character Area Profile (2015)⁸² shows that between 2000 and 2009, there was very little change in the total number of farms in the NCA (a decrease of 2%). Historic farm buildings remain a cause for concern (due to the large number that may be under threat of inappropriate development or neglect) but overall the character has been maintained. The Countryside Quality Counts data indicates that there has been a significant increase in the amount of eligible woodland covered by Woodland Grant Schemes (WGS) and there have been small amounts of planting of new woodland or replanting of woodland within the NCA.

Landscape and Other Designations

- 3.17.5 There are no national landscape designations affecting the Borough although the eastern boundary of the local authority area neighbours the Peak District National Park. A significant proportion of land is designated as Green Belt (see **Figure 3.29**), principally around settlements in the north, east and south of the Borough. The Greater Manchester Green Belt was originally designated in 1984 and the Tameside UDP (2004) defines its extent within the Borough. Green Belt monitoring returns to CLG show that the Green Belt covered 5,072 ha of the Borough (approximately 49% of the land area) as at March 2016⁸³. There has been no change in the extent of Green Belt over the course of the publication of monitoring information by CLG (the earliest information available is from 2007).

⁸² Natural England (2015) *National Character Area Profiles – Dark Peak*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles#ncas-in-north-west-england> [Accessed January 2017].

⁸³ CLG Green Belt statistics. Available via: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/green-belt-statistics> [Accessed January 2017].

Figure 3.28 National Character Areas

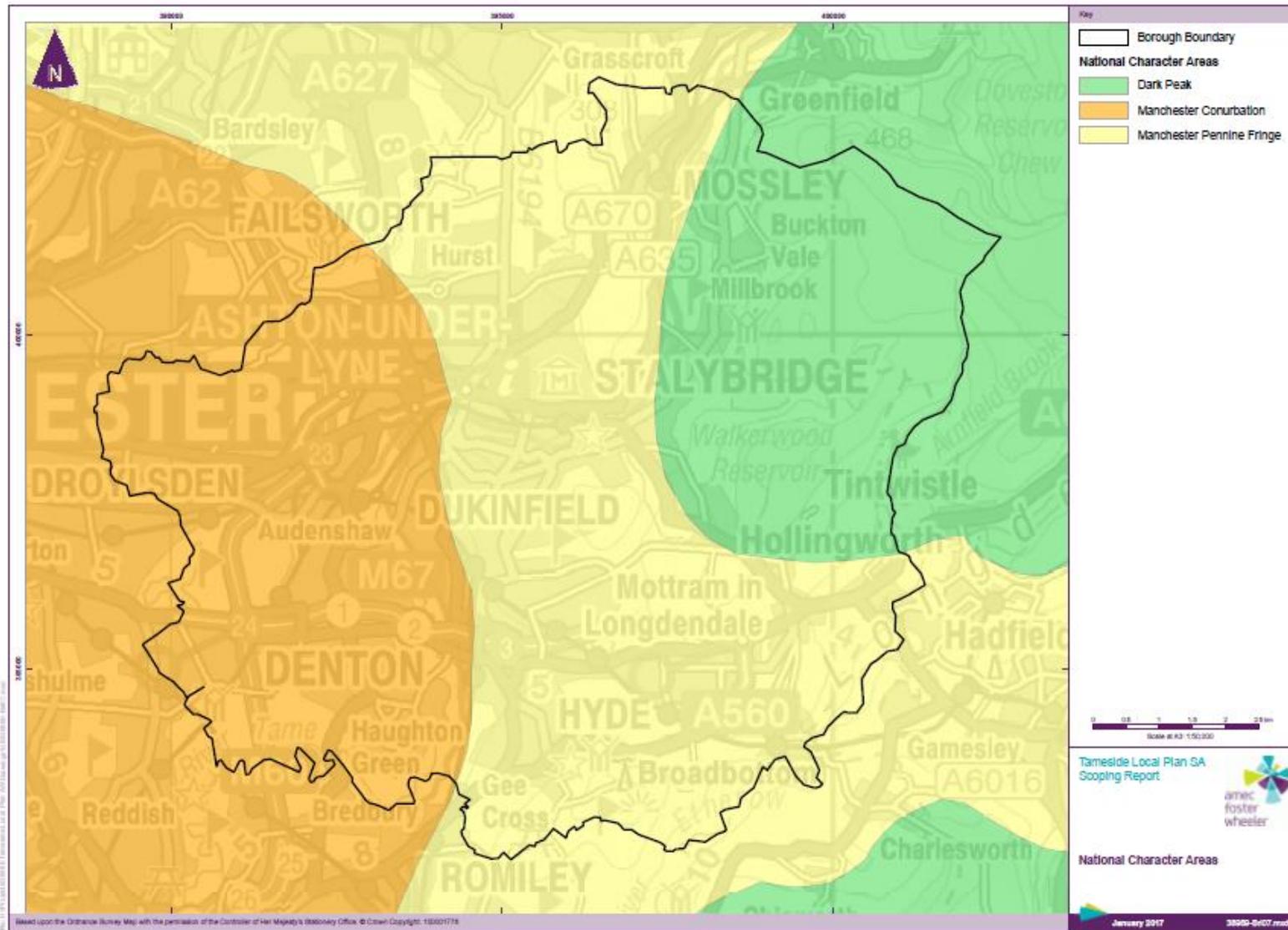
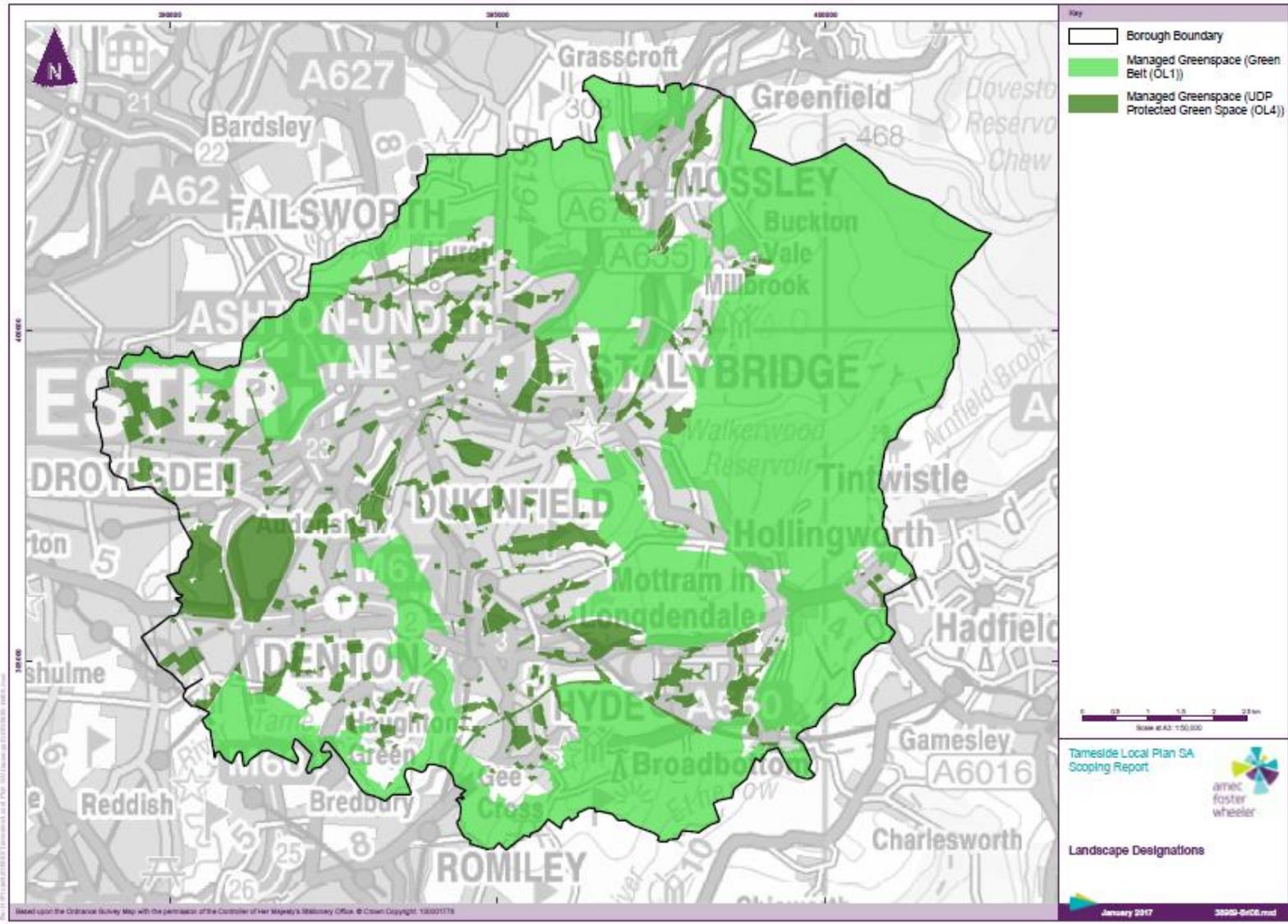


Figure 3.29 Green Belt and Managed Greenspace



- 3.17.6 There are a number of locally designated green spaces in the Borough. These spaces are protected under saved Policy OL4 of the UDP.

Urban Landscapes

- 3.17.7 The Greater Manchester Urban Historic Landscape Characterisation Tameside District Report (2011)⁸⁴ notes that urbanisation is especially marked towards the west of the Borough and impressive 19th Century urban landscapes remain well preserved in many of Tameside's towns. The Report notes that the 20th Century saw a distinct move away from dense terraced streets with the construction of larger properties set back from the highway along curving streets and large areas of planned post-war housing. The terraced housing and suburban domestic architecture of the 19th and 20th centuries survives well, creating the distinctive urban grain across the Borough.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.17.8 Whilst national planning policy set out in the NPPF, the Draft GMSF and guidance in SPDs would continue to offer some protection and guidance, there is the potential that development could be inappropriately sited and designed without an up-to-date policy framework. This could adversely affect the landscape and townscape character of the area and, further, opportunities may not be realised to enhance landscape and townscape character through, for example, the provision of green infrastructure or the adoption of high quality design standards which reflect local character.
- 3.17.9 The Draft GMSF includes proposals to amend Green Belt boundaries in the Borough through a number of emerging strategic allocations for residential and employment development in current Green Belt locations. Changes to the current Green Belt are therefore expected to take place to some degree irrespective of the Local Plan.

Key Issues

- ▶ The need to conserve and enhance Tameside's distinctive landscape and townscape character.
- ▶ The need to promote high quality design that respects local character.
- ▶ The need to maximise opportunities associated with new development to enhance townscape character and the quality of urban environments.

Links across the Integrated Assessment

- 3.17.10 Landscape and townscape cuts across a number of social, economic and environmental themes. The landscapes and townscapes of the Borough contribute towards making Tameside an attractive place for people to live, work and invest thereby supporting housing and employment delivery.
- 3.17.11 Well designed and usable public spaces and landscapes can provide health benefits and contribute towards social inclusion for the Borough's communities. Landscapes and green spaces can also contribute towards water management by providing areas for water storage whilst also helping to mitigate the effects of climate change.

⁸⁴ The Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit *et al* (2011) *Greater Manchester Urban Historic Landscape Characterisation Tameside District Report*. Available from <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archiveDS/archiveDownload?t=arch-1145-1/dissemination/pdf/Tameside.pdf> [Accessed January 2017].

3.18 Summary of Key Sustainability, Health and Equality Issues

3.18.1 From the analysis of the baseline presented in the preceding sections, a number of key sustainability, health and equality issues affecting the Borough have been identified. These issues are summarised in **Table 3.28**.

Table 3.28 Summary of Key Sustainability, Health and Equality Issues

Topic	Key Sustainability, Health and Equality Issues
Population and Demographics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to meet future requirements for housing including for a mix of accommodation types and tenures. The need to meet the needs of an ageing population. The need to ensure that the needs of different ethnic groups are met and that community cohesion is fostered.
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to provide an adequate supply of land for housing to meet the requirements set out in the GMSF. The need to ensure the delivery of an appropriate range of housing types and tenures to meet local needs. The need to make best use of, and where appropriate improve, the quality of the existing housing stock including bringing empty properties back into use. The need to address homelessness in the Borough. The need to make appropriate provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to provide sufficient employment land in locations well served by transport and other infrastructure and in locations attractive to the market, particularly in the key growth sectors. The need to facilitate the growth of an appropriately educated and skilled workforce. The need to support the development of innovative and knowledge-based businesses. The need to support the growth and development of existing businesses. The need to increase local employment opportunities. The need to support the expansion of the manufacturing sector. The need to maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres.
Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to enhance the health and wellbeing of Tameside's population. The need to tackle inequalities in health. The need to ensure appropriate open space provision across Tameside. The need to reduce crime levels, minimise risk and increase community safety. The need to ensure appropriate health care facilities and services are available and accessible to meet needs arising from new development and anticipated population growth. The need to plan for an ageing population.
Education and Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to raise educational attainment and skills. The need to ensure that educational facilities meet the changing demands of the population and the economy.
Deprivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to address the many causes of deprivation within the Borough. The need to specifically tackle deprivation and promote regeneration in the Borough's most deprived communities. The need to promote social inclusion and reduce inequality.
Transport and Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services to accommodate anticipated growth. The need to support proposals contained in the TFGM Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 and those identified by Highways England to address highways capacity issues in the Borough. The need to capitalise on the Borough's good transport accessibility links to Manchester Airport and the proposed transport interchange and potential new Droylsden railway station. The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the private car. The need to ensure that new development is accessible to community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel. The need to encourage walking and cycling. The need to protect and enhance the PRow network in the Borough.

Topic	Key Sustainability, Health and Equality Issues
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity including sites with international, national and local designations for their nature conservation value. • The need to maintain, restore and expand, where appropriate, the Borough's priority habitats. • The need to recognise the key role that green infrastructure plays in supporting wellbeing and climate change resilience. • The need to enhance the green infrastructure network, ensuring adequate provision, improving accessibility and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.
Land Use, Geology and Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to encourage development on previously developed (brownfield) land. • The need to make best use of existing buildings and infrastructure. • The need to protect the limited areas of best and most versatile agricultural land in the Borough from inappropriate development. • The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their geological interest.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to protect and enhance the quality of the Borough's water resources. • The need to promote the efficient use of water resources. • The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development. • The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk, taking into account the effects of climate change. • The need to encourage the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems. • The need to appropriately manage surface water.
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to minimise the emission of pollutants to air. • The need to improve air quality, particularly in the Greater Manchester AQMA.
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to ensure that new development is able to adapt to the effects of climate change. • The need to mitigate climate change including through increased renewable energy provision. • The need to contribute to the Greater Manchester target of reducing CO₂ emissions by 48% by 2020.
Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to minimise waste arisings and encourage reuse and recycling. • The need to promote the efficient use of mineral resources, recognising that the Greater Manchester area is reliant on minerals won in other MPAs. • The need to ensure the protection of the Borough's mineral resources in accordance with the Great Manchester Joint Minerals Plan (2013). • The need to promote resource efficiency through sustainable design and construction techniques to minimise resource depletion and waste creation.
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to protect and enhance Tameside's cultural heritage assets, including industrial heritage assets, and their settings. • The need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets and their settings. • The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets where appropriate. • The need to tackle heritage at risk. • The need to recognise the positive contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes.
Landscape and Townscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to conserve and enhance Tameside's distinctive landscape and townscape character. • The need to promote high quality design that respects local character. • The need to maximise opportunities associated with new development to enhance townscape character and the quality of urban environments.

4. Integrated Assessment Approach

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section describes the proposed approach to the IA of the Local Plan. In particular, it draws on the information contained in Sections 2 and 3 to develop the assessment framework (the IA Framework) and sets out how this framework will be used to support the assessment of the key components of the Local Plan (including reasonable alternatives).

4.2 Integrated Assessment Framework

4.2.1 Establishing appropriate IA objectives and guide questions is central to assessing the sustainability, health and equality effects of the Local Plan. Broadly, the IA objectives define the long term aspirations for the Borough with regard to social (including health and equality), economic and environmental considerations and it is against these objectives that the performance of Local Plan proposals will be assessed.

4.2.2 **Table 4.1** presents the proposed IA Framework including IA objectives and associated guide questions to be used in the assessment of the Local Plan. The IA objectives and guide questions have been informed by:

- ▶ the topics contained in Annex I of the SEA Directive (shown in the third column in **Table 4.1**);
- ▶ the determinants of health (see **Section 1.4**);
- ▶ the equality considerations set out in the Equality Act 2010 (see **Section 1.4**);
- ▶ the review of plans and programmes and the associated key policy objectives and messages (see **Section 2**); and
- ▶ the baseline information and key sustainability, health and equality issues (see **Section 3**).

4.2.3 Consideration has also been given to the framework developed as part of the GMSF Integrated Assessment and to the objectives and criteria that comprised the SA Framework developed in support of the SA of the Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD.

Table 4.1 Proposed IA Framework

IA Objective	Guide Questions <i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	SEA Directive Topic(s)
1. Housing: To provide a sustainable supply of housing land and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet housing need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the Borough's objectively assessed housing need (consistent with the requirements of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework), providing a range of housing types, tenures and sizes to meet current and emerging need for market and affordable housing? • Reduce homelessness? • Reduce the number of unfit homes? • Make best use of the Borough's existing housing stock? • Help to ensure the provision of good quality, well designed homes? • Ensure housing land is well-connected with employment land, centres and green space or co-located where appropriate? • Deliver pitches/plots required for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople? 	Population
2. Economy and Employment: To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a balanced supply of flexible, good quality employment land to meet the needs of the Borough's existing businesses and to attract inward investment, consistent with 	Population

IA Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive
	<i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	Topic(s)
<p>3. Transport and Communications: To reduce the need to travel, promote sustainable modes of transport and ensure that there is sufficient coverage and capacity of transport and utilities to support growth and development.</p>	<p>the requirements of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to diversify the local economy and support the delivery of the Greater Manchester Growth and Reform Plan and Manufacturing Strategy and the New Economic Strategy for Tameside? • Provide good quality, well paid employment opportunities that meet the needs of local people? • Increase average income levels? • Improve the physical accessibility of jobs? • Promote a low carbon economy? • Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's towns? • Create jobs in high knowledge sectors? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce travel demand and the distance people travel for jobs, employment, leisure and services and facilities? • Encourage a shift to more sustainable modes of transport? • Encourage walking and cycling? • Help to manage traffic congestion? • Deliver investment in the Borough's transportation infrastructure and support proposals identified in the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040? • Help to develop a safe transport network that minimises the impact on the environment and public health? • Reduce the level of freight movement by road? • Improve transport connectivity? • Ensure that utilities / digital infrastructure can support growth? 	<p>Population Human Health Air</p>
<p>4. Regeneration: To promote regeneration and tackle levels of deprivation and disparity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate provision of community facilities and services? • Enhance accessibility to key community facilities and services? • Tackle deprivation in the Borough's most deprived areas and reduce inequalities? • Support reductions in poverty (including child and fuel poverty), deprivation and disparity across the domains of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation? • Contribute to regeneration initiatives including in the proposed Eastern Gateway? • Promote participation in cultural activities? • Enhance the public realm? • Support rural regeneration? 	<p>Population Human Health</p>
<p>5. Equality and Social Inclusion: To promote equality of opportunity and the elimination of discrimination.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster good relations between different people? • Improve people's perception of their local area as being a place where people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together? • Create a sense of belonging and wellbeing for all members of the community? • Ensure equality of opportunity and equal access to facilities and infrastructure for all? • Appropriately consider 'protected characteristics' groups, as defined in the Equality Act 2010? • Ensure that the needs of different areas (namely urban, suburban, urban fringe and rural) are equally addressed? 	<p>Population Human Health</p>
<p>6. Health and Wellbeing: To improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid locating development in locations that could adversely affect people's health? • Reduce death rates and negative health impacts in key vulnerable groups? • Ensure adequate provision of, and access to, green infrastructure, open space, leisure and recreational facilities? • Enhance the opportunities for physical activity? • Improve access to healthcare facilities and services? • Reduce health inequalities? • Meet the needs of the elderly? 	<p>Population Human Health</p>

IA Objective	Guide Questions <i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support those with disabilities? • Promote community safety? • Reduce actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour? • Reduce the fear of crime? • Promote design that discourages crime? • Align healthcare facilities and services with growth? • Help to improve mental health and wellbeing? • Improve living conditions? • Support the aims and objectives of the Greater Manchester Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Tameside and Glossop Mental Wellbeing Strategy and Our Life in Tameside? 	
<p>7. Education and Skills: To improve educational attainment and skills for all.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to training to raise employment potential? • Promote investment in the Borough's educational establishments? • Improve education levels of children, regardless of their background? • Improve educational and skill levels of the population of working age? • Provide access to work experience, apprenticeships and training? • Support the priorities of the Greater Manchester Work and Skills Strategy? 	<p>Population Human Health</p>
<p>8. Air Quality: To improve air quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and improve air quality, particularly within the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Air Quality Management Area? • Avoid locating development in areas of existing poor air quality? • Minimise emissions to air from new development? 	<p>Air Human Health</p>
<p>9. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance European designated nature conservation sites? • Conserve and enhance nationally designated nature conservation sites such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest? • Conserve and enhance Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Biological Importance? • Conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to indigenous species of principal importance, or priority species and habitats? • Enhance ecological connectivity, providing green spaces that are well connected and biodiversity rich? • Maintain and enhance woodland cover? • Avoid damage to, and protect, Regionally Important Geological Sites (as they are designated)? • Provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment including green and blue infrastructure? • Enhance the resilience of the natural environment to the impacts of climate change? 	<p>Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora Human Health</p>
<p>10. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and ensure communities, developments and infrastructure are resilient to the effects of expected climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise energy use and reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions? • Plan for adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change? • Support the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy in the Borough and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources? • Ensure that communities, existing and new developments and infrastructure systems are resilient to the predicted effects of climate change? 	<p>Climatic Factors</p>
<p>11. Flood Risk: To minimise flood risk and reduce the impact of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to minimise the risk of flooding to existing and new developments/infrastructure? • Ensure that development does not unacceptably increase flood risk? 	<p>Climatic Factors Water</p>

IA Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive
	<i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure adequate measures are in place to manage existing flood risk? • Restrict inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding? • Deliver sustainable urban drainage systems and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding? • Ensure development is appropriately future proof to accommodate future levels of flood risk including from climate change? 	
12. Water: To protect and improve the quality and availability of water resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to achieve the objective of good status under the Water Framework Directive? • Promote management practices that will protect surface and ground water from pollution? • Reduce water consumption and encourage water efficiency? • Ensure that new water/wastewater management infrastructure is delivered to support new development? 	Water
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the Borough's historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic built environment and their settings, including archaeological assets? • Reduce the instances and circumstances where heritage assets are identified as being 'at risk'? • Promote sustainable repair and reuse of heritage assets? • Protect or enhance the significance of designated heritage assets? • Protect or enhance the significance of non-designated heritage assets? • Help to conserve historic buildings, places and spaces that enhance local distinctiveness, character and appearance through sensitive adaptation and re-use? • Provide opportunities for people to value and enjoy the Borough's cultural heritage? • Improve and promote access to buildings of historic/cultural value? • Encourage heritage-led regeneration? 	Cultural Heritage
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance the Borough's landscape character and townscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance the Borough's landscape character and townscapes? • Promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape? • Protect and enhance visual amenity? • Improve the character of open spaces and the public realm? 	Landscape
15. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the use of previously developed (brownfield) land and minimise the loss of greenfield land? • Avoid the loss of agricultural land including best and most versatile land? • Make best use, and reduce the amount, of derelict, degraded and underused land in the Borough? • Encourage the reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure? • Prevent land contamination and facilitate remediation of contaminated sites? • Maintain and enhance soil quality? 	Soil Material Assets
16. Resource Use and Waste: To encourage sustainable resource use and promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the objectives and proposals of the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan? • Minimise the demand for raw materials and assist in maximising the use of recycled and secondary materials (including aggregates)? • Promote the use of local resources? • Reduce minerals extracted and imported? • Increase efficiency in the use of raw materials and promote recycling? • Avoid sterilisation of mineral reserves? 	Material Assets

IA Objective	Guide Questions <i>Will the Local Plan...</i>	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the objectives and proposals of the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document? Assist or facilitate compliance with the waste hierarchy (i.e. reduce first, then reuse, recycle and recover)? 	

4.2.4 **Table 4.2** shows the extent to which the IA objectives encompass the range of issues identified in the SEA Directive.

Table 4.2 Coverage of the SEA Directive Topics by the IA Objectives

SEA Directive Topic	IA Objective(s)
Biodiversity	9, 12
Population *	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
Human Health	4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12,
Fauna	9, 12
Flora	9, 12
Soil	9, 15
Water	11, 12
Air	3, 8
Climatic Factors	8, 10, 11
Material Assets *	15, 16
Cultural Heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage	13
Landscape	14

* These terms are not clearly defined in the SEA Directive.

4.3 Methodology

4.3.1 Based on the scope of the Local Plan detailed in **Section 1.3**, it is envisaged that the IA Framework set out in **Table 4.1** will be used to assess the following key components of the Plan (and reasonable alternatives where these exist):

- ▶ Vision and Objectives;
- ▶ Spatial Strategy (in respect of the distribution of development);
- ▶ Plan Policies; and

► Site Allocations.

4.3.2 The proposed approach to the assessment of each of the Plan components listed above is set out in the sub-sections that follow.

Vision and Objectives

4.3.3 It is important that the vision and objectives of the Local Plan are aligned with the IA objectives. The Local Plan vision and objectives will therefore be assessed for their compatibility with the objectives that comprise the IA Framework to help establish whether the general approach to the Plan is in accordance with the principles of sustainability. A compatibility matrix will be used to record the assessment similar to that presented in **Table 4.3**.

Table 4.3 Compatibility Matrix

IA Objective	Local Plan Vision/Objective			
	Vision	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3...etc.
1. Housing: To provide a sustainable supply of housing land and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet housing need.	+	0	+	?
2. Economy and Employment: To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	+	-	+	+
3. Etc...	+	0	+	?

Key

+	Compatible	?	Uncertain
0	Neutral	-	Incompatible

Spatial Strategy

4.3.4 The Local Plan will set out the spatial strategy for the Borough in terms of the broad distribution of future development. The spatial strategy, including reasonable alternatives, will be assessed against each of the IA objectives that comprise the IA Framework using an assessment matrix. The matrix will include:

- the IA objectives;
- a score indicating the nature of the effect for each spatial strategy option;
- a commentary on significant effects (including consideration of the cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects as well as the geography, duration, temporary/permanence and likelihood of any effects) and on any assumptions or uncertainties; and
- recommendations, including any mitigation or enhancements measures.

4.3.5 The format of the matrix that will be used to assess the effects of the spatial strategy and reasonable alternatives is shown in **Table 4.4**. A qualitative scoring system will be used which is

set out in **Table 4.5** and to guide the assessment, specific definitions have been developed for what constitutes a significant effect, a minor effect or a neutral effect for each of the 16 IA objectives; these can be found in **Appendix D**.

Table 4.4 Proposed Assessment Matrix – Spatial Strategy

IA Objective	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
<p>1. Housing: To provide a sustainable supply of housing land and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet housing need.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>A description of the likely effects of each option on the IA Objective will be provided here.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation and enhancement measures will be outlined here. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any assumptions made in undertaking the assessment will be listed here. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any uncertainties encountered during the assessment will be listed here. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Etc..</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Etc..</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc..

Table 4.5 Proposed Scoring System

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The proposed option/policy contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The proposed option/policy contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The proposed option/policy does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The proposed option/policy detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The proposed option/policy detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the proposed option/policy and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The proposed option/policy has an uncertain relationship with the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.	?

Policies

- 4.3.6 The policies of the Local Plan will also be assessed using the IA Framework. The assessment will be undertaken by plan chapter/section with a score awarded for each constituent policy and for the cumulative effects of all policies contained in each respective chapter/section. Commentary will be provided including any mitigation or enhancements measures to enhance the performance of the policies (for example, amendments to policy wording). As with the assessment of the spatial strategy, the definitions of significance outlined in **Appendix D** will be used to guide the assessment.
- 4.3.7 The findings of the assessment will be presented in a matrix similar to that shown in **Table 4.6** and will use the same scoring mechanism as that presented in **Table 4.5**.

Table 4.6 Proposed Appraisal Matrix – Policies

IA Objective	Policy				Cumulative effect of the draft policies	Commentary on effects of each policy
	Policy H1	Policy H2	Policy H3	Etc.		
1. Housing: To provide a sustainable supply of housing land and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet housing need.	++	++	++	0	++	<p>Likely Significant Effects A description of the likely effects of the policies on the IA Objective will be provided here, drawing on baseline information as appropriate.</p> <p>Mitigation Mitigation and enhancement measures will be outlined here.</p> <p>Assumptions Any assumptions made in undertaking the assessment will be listed here.</p> <p>Uncertainties Any uncertainties encountered during the assessment will be listed here.</p>

Site Allocations

- 4.3.8 Potential site allocation options will be assessed against the IA objectives that comprise the IA Framework using tailored assessment criteria with associated thresholds of significance to determine the type and magnitude of effect against each IA objective. In the interests of transparency, the proposed assessment criteria is set out in **Table 4.7** to enable interested parties to provide early comment.

Table 4.7 Proposed Site Assessment Criteria

IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	Threshold	Score
1. Housing: To provide a sustainable supply of housing land and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet housing need.	Number of (net) new dwellings proposed/loss of dwellings.	100+ dwellings (3ha or more).	++
		1 to 99 dwellings (up to 2.9ha).	+
		0 dwellings.	0
		-1 to -99 dwellings (-2.9ha or more).	-

IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	Threshold	Score	
		-100+ dwellings (-3ha or more).	--	
2. Economy and Employment: To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	Net employment land provision/loss.	1ha+ of land.	++	
		0.1ha to 0.99ha of land.	+	
		0ha	0	
		-01ha to -0.99ha of land.	-	
		-1ha+ of land.	--	
	Proximity to key employment sites.	Within 2,000m walking distance of a major employment site.	+	
		In excess of 2,000m walking distance of a major employment site.	0	
	3. Transport and Communications: To reduce the need to travel, promote sustainable modes of transport and ensure that there is sufficient coverage and capacity of transport and utilities to support growth and development.	Access to: -bus stops -railway stations -Metrolink stations	Within 400m walking distance of all services.	++
Within 400m or more of one or more services.			+	
In excess of 400m from all services.			-	
Impact on highway network.		Potential significant positive impact on the highway network.	++	
		Potential positive impact on the highway network.	+	
		No impact on highway network.	0	
		Potential adverse impact on highway network.	-	
		Potential significant adverse impact on highway network.	--	
4. Regeneration: To promote regeneration and tackle levels of deprivation and disparity.		Walking distance to key services including: -GP surgeries -Primary schools -Secondary schools -Post Offices -Supermarkets Proximity to town centres.	Within 800m walking distance of all services and/or a town centre.	++
			Within 800m of one or more key services and/or within 2,000m of all services/a town centre.	+
	Within 2,000m of a key service.		0	
	In excess of 2,000m from all services/a town centre.		-	
	Provision of community facilities and services.	Development would provide key services and facilities on site.	++	
		Development would contribute to the provision of additional services and facilities.	+	
		Development would not provide or result in the loss of key services and facilities.	0	

IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	Threshold	Score
		Development would not contribute to the provision of additional services and facilities and would increase pressure on existing services and facilities.	-
		Development would result in the loss of key services and facilities without appropriate mitigation.	--
5. Equality and Social Inclusion: To promote equality of opportunity and the elimination of discrimination.	Proximity to deprived areas.	Within 10% most deprived Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA) nationally.	++
		Within 20% most deprived LSOAs nationally.	+
		Not located within 10% or 20% most deprived LSOAs nationally.	0
6. Health and Wellbeing: To improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities.	Access to: -GP surgeries -open space (including sports and recreational facilities)	Within 800m walking distance of a GP surgery and open space.	++
		Within 800m of a GP surgery or open space.	+
		Within 2,000m of a GP surgery or open space.	0
		In excess of 2,000m from a GP surgery and/or open space.	-
	Provision of open space or health facilities.	Would provide open space and/or health facilities on site.	++
		Development would contribute to the provision of additional open space and/or health facilities.	+
		Would not affect current provision of open space or health facilities.	0
		Development would not contribute to the provision of additional open space and/or health facilities and would increase pressure on existing open space and/or health facilities.	-
		Would result in the loss of open space and/or health facilities without appropriate mitigation.	--
	Neighbouring uses.	Not located in close proximity to unsuitable neighbouring uses.	0
		Located in close proximity to unsuitable neighbouring uses and which could have an adverse effect on human health.	-
		Located in close proximity to unsuitable neighbouring uses and which could have a	--

IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	Threshold	Score
		significant adverse effect on human health.	
7. Education and Skills: To improve educational attainment and skills for all.	Access to: -primary schools -secondary schools/further education/training establishments	Within 800m walking distance of all educational facilities.	++
		Within 800m of a primary school and/or 2,000m from a secondary school.	+
		Within 2,000m of a primary school.	0
		In excess of 2,000m from all educational facilities.	-
	Provision of educational facilities.	Development would provide additional educational facilities on site.	++
		Development would contribute to the provision of educational facilities.	+
		Development would not provide or result in the loss of educational facilities.	0
		Development would not contribute to the provision of additional educational facilities and would increase pressure on existing educational facilities.	-
		Development would result in the loss of educational facilities, without appropriate mitigation.	--
8. Air Quality: To improve air quality.	Proximity to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	In excess of 500m of the AQMA.	0
		Within 500m of the AQMA.	-
		Within the AQMA.	--
9. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.	Enhancement of habitats, species and green infrastructure.	Development would have a positive effect on European or national designated sites, habitats or species / create new habitat or significantly improve existing habitats / significantly enhance the Borough's green infrastructure network.	++
		Development would have a positive effect on regional or local designated sites, habitats or species / improve existing habitats / enhance the Borough's green infrastructure network.	+
	Proximity to: -statutory international/national nature conservation designations (SAC, SPA, SSSI, Ancient Woodland);	No designations affecting site.	0
		Within 100m of a locally designated site (including RIGS)/Within 500m from an international/national site.	-

IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	Threshold	Score
	-local nature conservation designations (Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Biological Importance); -Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS).	Within 100m of a statutory designated site.	--
	Presence of Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitat.	Does not contain BAP habitat.	0
		Contains BAP habitat.	--
10. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and ensure communities, developments and infrastructure are resilient to the effects of expected climate change.	It has not been possible to identify specific site level criteria for this IA objective.	N/A.	N/A
11. Flood Risk: To minimise flood risk and reduce the impact of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	Presence of Environment Agency Flood Zones.	Within Flood Zone 1.	0
		Within Flood Zone 2.	-
		Within Flood Zone 3a/b.	--
12. Water: To protect and improve the quality and availability of water resources.	Proximity to waterbodies	In excess of 50m of a waterbody.	0
		Within 10-50m of a waterbody.	-
		Within 10m of a waterbody.	--
	Requirement for new or upgraded water management infrastructure.	No requirement to upgrade water management infrastructure.	0
		Requirement to upgrade water management infrastructure.	--
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the Borough's historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	Effects on designated heritage assets.	Development offers the potential to significantly enhance designated heritage assets or their settings.	++
		Development offers the potential to enhance designated heritage assets or their settings.	+
		Development is unlikely to affect heritage assets or their settings.	0
		Development may have an adverse effect on designated heritage assets and/or their settings.	-
		Development may have a significant adverse effect on a designated heritage assets or their settings.	--
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance the Borough's landscape character and townscapes.	Effects on landscape character.	Development offers potential to significantly enhance landscape/townscape character	++
		Development offers potential to enhance landscape/townscape character	+

IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	Threshold	Score
		Development is unlikely to have an effect on landscape character.	0
		Development may have an adverse effect on landscape character.	-
		Development may have a significant adverse effect on landscape character.	--
15. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	Development of brownfield / greenfield/ mixed land Development of agricultural land including best and most versatile agricultural land (Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) grades 1, 2 and 3)).	Previously developed (brownfield) land.	++
		Mixed greenfield/brownfield land.	+/-
		Greenfield (not in ALC Grades 1, 2 or 3).	-
		Greenfield (in ALC Grade 1, 2 or 3).	--
16. Resource Use and Waste: To encourage sustainable resource use and promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover).	Development in Joint Minerals Plan Minerals Safeguarding Areas/Areas of Search.	Outside a Minerals Safeguarding Area/Area of Search.	0
		Within a Minerals Safeguarding Area/Area of Search.	--
	Development within/including waste management facilities/Joint Waste Local Plan allocations.	Site does not include a waste management facility/allocation.	0
		Sites includes a waste management facility/allocation.	--

Secondary, Cumulative and Synergistic Effects

- 4.3.9 The policies and proposals of the Local Plan will not sit in isolation from each other. They will work together to achieve the objectives of the Plan. For this reason, it is important to understand what the combined sustainability, health and equality effects of the policies and proposals will be.
- 4.3.10 As noted above, the assessment of the plan policies will be undertaken by plan chapter in order to determine the cumulative effects of each policy area. Throughout the assessment matrices, reference will also be made to where cumulative effects could occur. In addition to the inclusion of cross reference between the policy themes, an assessment of cumulative effects will be undertaken in order to clearly identify areas where policies and proposals work together. Additional commentary will be provided where the Local Plan may have effects in-combination with other plans and programmes such as the GMSF, neighbouring authority development plans and United Utilities' WRMP.

4.4 EqlA and HIA Screening

- 4.4.1 EqlA screening will be undertaken using the Council's Equality Impact Assessment template which is contained at **Appendix E** to this report. Additionally, the DOH HIA screening framework will be completed (see **Appendix F**). The completion of both screening frameworks will help to identify where the Local Plan policies and proposals may have impacts in terms of health and equality, helping to guide and inform the more detailed consideration of these effects through the assessment of the Local Plan against the objectives that comprise the IA Framework. These frameworks will be completed for the Local Plan as a whole, rather than separate commentary on each policy / proposal.



4.5 Difficulties Encountered in Compiling this Scoping Report

4.5.1 No significant difficulties have been encountered in compiling this Scoping Report.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1.1 The approach set out in **Section 4** of this Scoping Report, amended on the basis of consultation responses where appropriate, will be used to assess the potential effects of the Local Plan. The assessment will be an iterative process and will involve the development and refinement of the Local Plan by testing the sustainability, health and equality strengths and weaknesses of the emerging Plan options.
- 5.1.2 As set out in **Section 1.3**, the Council is currently working towards consultation on a Draft Local Plan which is due to take place between August and September 2017. An interim IA Report will be published for consultation alongside the Draft Local Plan and will consider the sustainability, health and equality performance of key plan options and proposals.
- 5.1.3 Reflecting the requirements of Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations (which reproduce the SEA Directive Annex I issues), the IA Reports will consist of:
- ▶ A Non-Technical Summary;
 - ▶ A chapter setting out the scope and purpose of the assessment and including an overview of the emerging Local Plan;
 - ▶ A chapter summarising the key objectives of other plans and programmes and socio-economic (including health and equality) and environmental issues relevant to the Local Plan;
 - ▶ A chapter setting out the approach to the assessment and any difficulties encountered;
 - ▶ A chapter outlining the likely effects of the implementation of the Local Plan and reasonable alternatives, including cumulative effects, mitigating measures, uncertainties and risks. This will include dedicated sections for EqlA and HIA. The reasons for selecting the preferred Local Plan options and for the rejection of alternatives will be explained;
 - ▶ A chapter presenting views on implementation and monitoring.