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| Strategic Environmental Assessment - Scoping Report |
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**Glossary of Acronyms and terms**

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| **Item** | **Definition** |
| CCRA | UK Government’s Climate Change Risk Assessment |
| CFMP | Catchment Flood Management Plan |
| Cumulative effects | Where several developments each have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect; |
| GM | Greater Manchester |
| GMCCS | Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy |
| GMSWMP | Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan |
| HRA | Habitats Regulation Assessment |
| Land Management | Activities on land that have a consequential action on flood risk eg planting of a forest, blocking of ditches, installation of land drains etc. |
| LDF | Local Development Framework |
| LFRMS | Local Flood Risk management Strategy |
| LTP | Local Transport Plan |
| Master Plans | Planning documents that set out a long term vision of development in a specific area. |
| NPPF | National Planning Policy Framework |
| PFRA | Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment |
| Risk Management Authorities | Bodies that have a legal duty to manage flood risk. Eg United Utilities (sewers), Environment Agency (Rivers), Tameside Council (watercourses) |
| SAB | Sustainable Drainage Approval Board |
| SAC | Special Area of Conservation |
| SCI | Sites of Community Importance |
| SEA | Strategic Environmental Assessment |
| Secondary or indirect effects | Effects that are not a direct result of the plan, but occur away from the original effect or as a result of a complex pathway |
| SFRA | Strategic Flood Risk Assessment |
| SuDS | Sustainable Drainage Systems |
| SPA | Special Protection Area |
| Synergistic effects | Where effects interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects. |
| WFD | EU Water Framework Directive |
| UK CCRA | UK Climate Change Risk Assessment |

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**Revision History**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Revision Ref | Amendments | Issued to: |
| Version 1, July 2013 | Draft Report | Consultation: English Nature, Natural England and Environment Agency |
| Version 2, December 2014 | Updated in line with FRMS | Internal contacts |

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**Preface**

There have been recent developments in the role and responsibilities of upper tier local authorities in managing flood risk. The commencement of the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 and the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 introduces new statutory roles for all local authorities Risk Regulations adopts a new institutional structure for the management of flood risk. The management of local flood risk, involving flooding from surface water, ordinary watercourses, groundwater, canals, lakes and small reservoirs, is now the responsibility of Lead Local Flood Authorities such as Tameside Council.

The Flood and Water Management Act places new responsibilities on Tameside Council, the main ones being:

* Locally leading on flood management.
* Mapping and registering flood defence assets including those in private ownership.
* Designating third party assets.
* A duty to investigate the causes of flooding.
* The technical approval body for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).
* The management and maintenance of adopted SuDS systems.

Tameside Council must develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management in its area for the following forms of flood risk:

* surface runoff
* groundwater and
* ordinary watercourses

The strategy sets out how Tameside Council will take on the challenges posed by flood risk by setting local objectives and stating how these will be achieved. It also reflects the needs and priorities identified by local people, business and flood risk partners.

The draft strategy sets out:

* The risk management authorities in Tameside.
* The flood risk management functions that may be exercised by those authorities in Tameside.
* The objectives for managing local flood risk.
* The measures proposed to achieve those objectives.
* How and when the measures are expected to be implemented
* The assessment of local flood risk for the purpose of the strategy.
* How and when the strategy is to be reviewed.
* How the strategy contributes to the achievement of wider environmental objectives.

It has been determined that the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive applies to the draft strategy.

1. **Introduction**

The council has prepared a Draft Local Strategy on Flood Risk. This document sets out what measures Tameside Council will undertake to mitigate flood risk in the future, and the policies that will be used to make it a reality.

The local strategy identifies actions to help implement the Strategy on the ground. It identifies the resources for a range of future uses including communication, studies, physical works and maintenance activities.

1.1 Purpose of the assessment

The European Union Directive on Environmental Impact Assessments (85/337/EEC, known as the EIA Directive) requires the council to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Flood Risk Strategy. The purpose of the SEA is to appraise the social, environmental and economic effects of the plan throughout its preparation and development. In doing so the SEA will help ensure that that decisions are made that contribute to achieving sustainable development.

1.2 Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

The Habitats Directive (European Directive 92/43/EEC) and the subsequent amendment in 2007, states that such plans require a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA). A HRA screening exercise was undertaken for Tameside’s Core Strategy, this can also be applied to the flood risk management strategy.

A HRA screening and scoping report is included in appendix A

This concludes that no HRA Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required for any plans or policies contained within the local flood risk management strategy. Future versions, may require a stage 2 assessment to be undertaken if it proposes physical works.

**SEA compliance**

The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (SEA) Annex 1 (d) requires “….any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC”

1.3 The SEA process

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Stages in the SEA process** | **SEA tasks** |
| Stage A:  Setting the context and objectives, establishing baseline and deciding on the scope | A1: Identifying other relevant plans, programmes, and environmental protection objectives |
| A2: Collecting baseline information |
| A3: Identifying environmental problems |
| A4: Developing SEA objectives |
| Stage B:  Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects | B1: Testing the plan or programme objectives against the SEA objectives |
| B2: Developing strategic alternatives |
| B3: Predicting the effects of the draft plan or programme,  including alternatives |
| B4: Evaluating the effects of the draft plan or programme, including alternatives |
| B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects |
| B6: Proposing measures to monitor the environmental effects of plan or programme implementation |
| Stage C:  Preparing the Environmental Report | C1: Preparing the Environmental Report |
| Stage D:  Consulting on the draft plan or programme and the Environmental Report | D1: Consulting on the draft plan or programme and Environmental Report |
| D2: Assessing significant changes |
| D3: Decision making and providing information |
| Stage E:  Monitoring implementation of the plan or programme | E1: Developing aims and methods for monitoring |
| E2: Responding to adverse effects |

This Scoping Report is the first stage in the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Strategy and requires the completion of Stage A. Within Stage A of the appraisal process, there are five tasks which have to be undertaken and reported on in a Scoping Report:

Stage A - Tasks

A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives.

A2: Collecting baseline information.

A3: Identifying environmental problems.

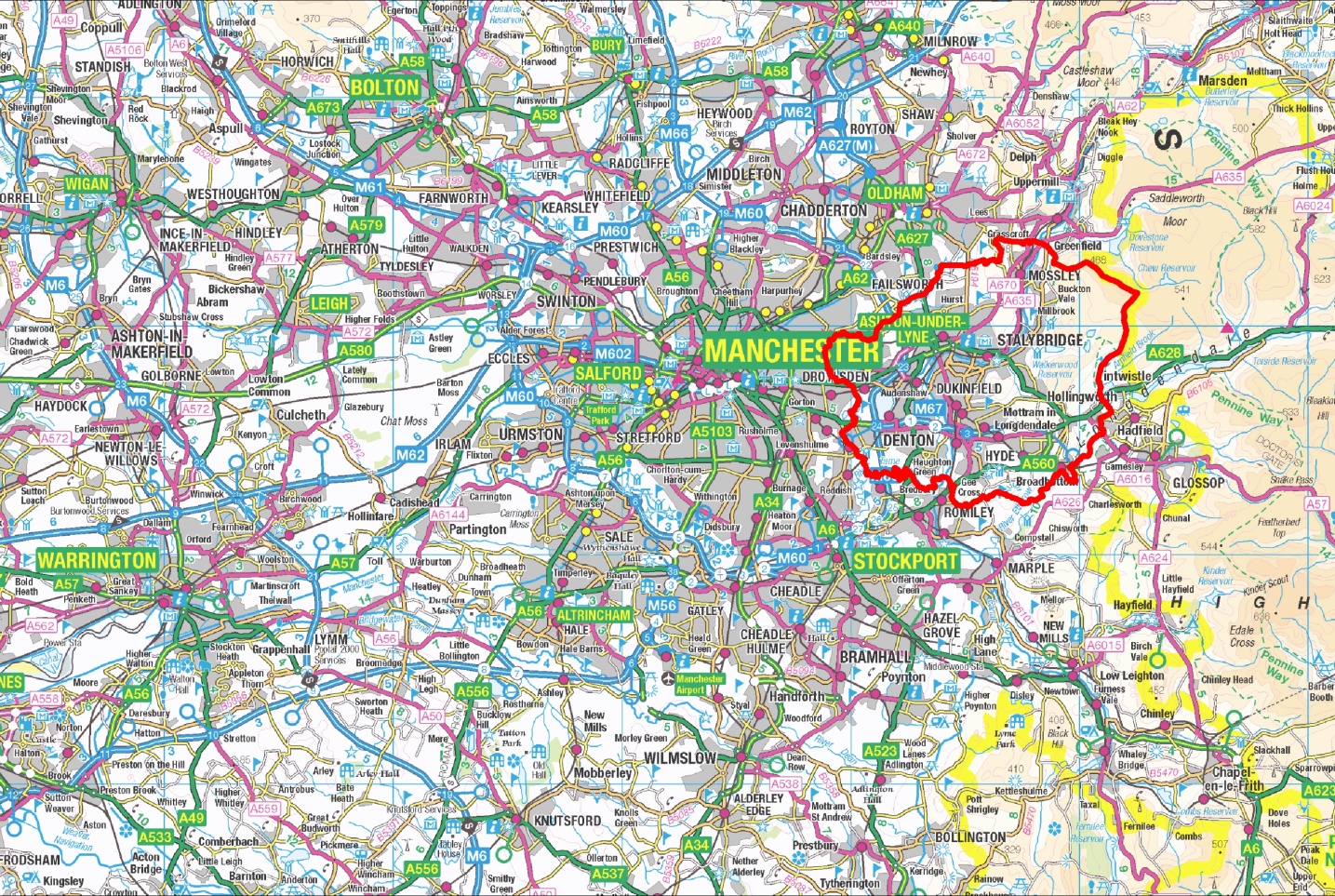
A4: Developing SEA objectives.

A5: Consulting on the scope of the SEA.

Stages B to E will be reported on in the subsequent Environmental Report.

* 1. **Setting the context and objectives, establishing baseline and deciding on the scope**
  2. **Spatial Scope**

Tameside’s Flood Risk Management Strategy will address flood risk in the administrative area of Tameside MBC. The area covers approximately 40 square miles; it is part of Greater Manchester and is within the river catchment areas of the Irwell and Upper Mersey. This area is shown edged red in the figure below.

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**Figure 1: The Tameside MBC administrative area.**

* 1. **Identifying other relevant plans, programmes, and environmental protection objectives**

The relevant plans, programmes and their environmental objectives are included in Appendix C. These have been assessed for their impact on the LFRM Strategy.

* 1. **Collecting baseline information**

Sources of baseline information and a summary of baseline figures are included in Appendix B.

* 1. **Identifying environmental problems**

Key and relevant environmental problems were identified from the plans, programmes and legislation included in Appendix C.

For the purposes of this study the following SEA subjects are combined into SEA themes:

Flood Risk and Material Assets combined into - ***Flood Risk***

Biodiversity, Fauna, Flora and Soil combined into - ***Biodiversity and Natural Environment***

Human Health and Population combined into ***- Population and Human Health***

Landscape, Cultural Heritage, Architectural and Archaeological Heritage combined into - ***Cultural Heritage and Landscape***

Climatic Factors and Air combined into - ***Climate Change***

The environmental problems identified relevant to flood risk were grouped together to form eight SEA themes covering the following subject headings:

1. Flood Risk
2. Water Quality
3. Biodiversity and Natural Environment
4. Transport
5. Population and Human Health
6. Development and Regeneration
7. Cultural Heritage and Landscape
8. Climate Change

Air Quality is very unlikely to be affected by the Local Strategy and has therefore been scoped out of the framework and SEA.

* 1. **Developing SEA objectives**

The following SEA objectives and environmental issues were developed from the relevant plans, programmes and environmental objectives.

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| **SEA**  **number** | **SEA Objective**  **Theme** | **SEA Objectives** | **Environmental Issues** | **Most Relevant Plans and Programmes** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Flood Risk | 1. To minimise annual flood damage to property and businesses. 2. To improve knowledge and understanding of flood risk. 3. To protect critical infrastructure. 4. To protect and maintain existing flood risk assets. 5. To maintain and improve water run-off. | 1. Pluvial flooding is the main source of flooding. There is additional flood risk in some areas from fluvial flooding. 2. 4,553 properties are predicted to be at risk of deep surface water flooding (300mm) in an extreme rainfall event (1 in 200 years) | GMSWMP  PFRA  SFRA |
| 2 | Water Quality | 1. To maintain and enhance water quality and water resources. 2. To promote sustainable drainage systems. | 1. Pollution from development and highways entering the water environment through surface water sewers and drains. 2. Control of pollution from contaminated land. | WFD |
| 3 | Biodiversity and Natural Environment | 1. To protect and improve our natural environment. 2. To grow a green economy, and reconnect people and nature. 3. To protect and enhance biodiversity 4. To conserve and enhance geodiversity. | 1. Communities are deprived of high quality open spaces and linkages, such as urban river ecosystems; those that exist are often fragmented. 2. Encroachment by development and In-fill development is causing loss of open space and habitats. 3. Conservation of the quality and extent of soil resources. | GM Biodiversity Action Plan  GM Green Infrastructure Framework  WFD  Habitats Directive  Biodiversity 2020 |
| 4 | Transport | To ensure the impact of flooding on the highway network and to transport infrastructure is minimised. | 1. Road congestion, travel delay and accidents caused during heavy rainfall due to flooding of roads. 2. Access to public transport during and after flood events. | 3rd GM Local Transport Plan |
| 5 | Population and Human health | To limit the impact on human health of flooding.  Enhanced health through access to green spaces. | 1. The safety of the public during and after flood events. 2. Access to healthcare services during and after flood events. 3. Flooding results in direct intangible social impacts (including disruption to family life, stress of dealing with insurers and builders, anxiety, serious impacts on physical and mental health, and loss of personal and family memorabilia of sentimental value) and disproportionately affects deprived communities. 4. Promoting access to riversides and canal-sides can have a positive effect on health. | GMSWMP  PFRA  SFRA |
| 6 | Development and Regeneration | To reduce future flood risk by avoiding inappropriate development and ensuring development does not contribute to downstream flood risk. | 1. Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk, but where development is necessary, making it safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere. | NPPF (Flooding)  CFMP’s  GM SWMP  Tameside’s Local Plan (LDF) |
| 7 | Cultural Heritage and Landscape | 1. To retain and enhance our built heritage, townscapes, landscapes, and visual amenity. 2. To identify Listed Buildings and other heritage assets at risk of flooding. 3. To protect and enhance the landscape. | 1. Traditional piped drainage systems utilise hard landscaping that provide no amenity or biodiversity. (When SuDS enacted) counter this by promoting soft landscape SuDS that include both amenity and biodiversity opportunities. 2. Flood damage to important cultural and heritage assets. | Tameside’s Local Plan (LDF)  NPPF (Heritage) |
| 8 | Climate Change | To ensure that new development is resilient to the predicted effects of climate change and has a reduced contribution to climate change.  [Climate change projections indicate an increasing risk of flooding] | 1. New development should be planned to avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change over the lifetime of the development. 2. (When SuDS enacted) Include adaptation and mitigation measures into SuDS systems. | UK CCRA  NPPF  GMCCS |

**The draft SEA objectives for the Tameside Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**

1. To minimise annual flood damage to property and businesses.
2. To improve knowledge and understanding of flood risk.
3. To protect critical infrastructure.
4. To protect and maintain existing flood risk assets.
5. To maintain and improve water run-off.
6. To maintain and enhance water quality and water resources.
7. To promote sustainable drainage systems.
8. To protect and improve our natural environment.
9. To grow a green economy, and reconnect people and nature.
10. To protect and enhance biodiversity.
11. To conserve and enhance geodiversity.
12. To ensure the impact of flooding on the highway network and to transport infrastructure is minimised.
13. To limit the impact on human health of flooding.
14. To enhance health through access to green spaces.
15. To reduce future flood risk by avoiding inappropriate development and ensuring development does not contribute to downstream flood risk.
16. To retain and enhance our built heritage, townscapes, landscapes, and visual amenity.
17. To identify listed buildings and other heritage assets at risk of flooding.
18. To protect and enhance the landscape.
19. To ensure that new development is resilient to the predicted effects of climate change and has a reduced contribution to climate change.
    1. **Baseline Indicators**

Collation of baseline information is required under SEA legislation; it is fundamental to provide a background evidence base for identifying environmental problems and opportunities in Tameside, and provides the basis for predicting and monitoring effects of the Local Strategy.

There is an absence of current baseline indicators that could provide an indication of the effects of the strategy. The following have been identified as relevant indicators that are either currently available or could be easily and feasibly be collected. Some of the indicators that relate to the construction of SUDS would only commence following enactment of the relevant legislation; currently anticipated in April 2015.

| **SEA No.** | **SEA Objective theme** | **Objective** | **Baseline indicator** | **Availability** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Flood Risk | Reduce the number of properties at risk of internal flooding from surface water, or watercourses. | Number of properties at an annual 1% risk of internal flooding from surface water, or watercourses. | Currently available |
| Annual number of internally flooded properties from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. | Currently available |
| Reduce the number of properties at risk of internal flooding from sewers | Annual number of internally flooded properties due to overflow from sewers. | Available via United Utilities |
| Improve flood resilience of critical infrastructure | Critical infrastructure (as defined by GM SWMP) within floodzones 2 and 3 that are at risk and have not been subject to flood management measures | Not currently collected but feasible |
| 1 | Flood Risk | Protect, maintain and improve flood risk assets | Percentage of flood risk assets in fair / good or very good condition | Not currently collected but feasible |
| 2 | Water Quality | Improve water quality | WFD waterbodies - no deterioration in WFD status. | Available via Environment Agency |
| Number of SUDS systems constructed containing water quality improving elements. | Not currently collected but feasible |
| 3 | Biodiversity and Natural Environment | Create or enhance biodiversity and visual amenity | Area of habitat created / maintained or enhanced, within new development sites that increase biodiversity. | Not currently collected but feasible |
| To protect and enhance biodiversity | Number of SBI’s receiving new drainage discharges from development sites. | Not currently collected but feasible |
| 4 | Transport | Improve flood risk to transport infrastructure | Number of incidents of flooding to transport stations, motorways and strategic roads causing delay or stoppage. | Partial data collection |
| 5 | Population and Public Health | Improve flood risk within deprived communities | Number of properties at risk of flooding from surface water, or ordinary watercourses in the 10% most deprived LSO areas | Currently available |
| Improve flood resilience of healthcare facilities | Number of healthcare facilities at an annual 1% risk of internal flooding from surface water, or watercourses. | Not currently collected but feasible |
| 6 | Development and Regeneration | Avoid inappropriate development | Number of properties constructed in floodzones 2 and 3. | Currently available |
| 7 | Cultural Heritage and Landscape | Improve flood resilience of heritage assets | Number of historic environment assets (Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Buildings in Conservation Areas etc) at risk of flooding. | Not currently collected but feasible |
| 8 | Climate Change | Ensure development is resilience to predicted climate change. | Percentage of developments taking into account predicted climate change over the lifetime of the development into the design of drainage systems. | Not currently collected but feasible post enactment of SUDs legislation |

**3.0 Task A4: Developing the Strategic Environmental Assessment Framework**

The SEA Framework is the central component of the SEA, it provides a clear and consistent way in which sustainability effects can be assessed and compared.

A SEA Framework was developed at the Flood Risk Management Strategy Scoping stage and subsequently revised at the Strategy Preferred Options stage. It ensures that the SEA framework draws out all the environmental and sustainability issues that relate to actions and objectives.

The SEA Framework is an appraisal of the flood risk management measures we propose to undertake.

It contains five primary measures relevant to the plan

• Studies assessments and plans

• Development Planning and Climate Change

• Flood Awareness and Communication

• Asset Management and Maintenance

• Land Management

The primary measures contain 30 secondary measures that we propose to undertake. These are contained below:

**3.1 Flood Risk Management Strategy Measures**

|  |
| --- |
| **Studies, Assessments and Plans** |
| 1. Provide continued support to, and collaborate with other local authorities in supporting and progressing the Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan. 2. Prepare flood risk and flood hazard maps. 3. Prepare flood risk management plans for areas having a significant flood risk. 4. Undertake studies to identify locations where there is high risk to: communities, business and critical infrastructure. 5. Produce a programme of improvements to mitigate flood risk. 6. Identify the parts of the road network most at risk of flooding. 7. Examine opportunities on the highway network to mitigate the risk of flooding and for reducing pollution. 8. Develop local highway adoption standards for highway SuDS. 9. Ensure that flooding emergency response procedures are kept up to date and are fit for purpose. 10. Undertake an assessment of routine maintenance activities to ensure that these are WFD compliant. |
| **Development Planning and Climate Change** |
| 1. Ensure new development complies with the national standards on SuDS (when enacted). 2. Promote the use of green and blue infrastructure. 3. Ensure development and infrastructure takes account of, and is resilient to, the effects of Climate Change. 4. Improve the heritage and legacy of development through enhanced landscapes, improved quality of open spaces, and habitat creation. 5. Ensure close co-operation between the SAB and the Planning Authority. 6. Ensure the SAB has input into local plans and development master plans. |
| **Flood Awareness and Communication** |
| 1. Communicate with residents in high flood risk areas and how they should prepare for and respond to a flood. 2. Communicate with businesses in high flood risk areas on how they can mitigate risk and what they can do to be resilient to flooding. |
| **Asset Management and Maintenance** |
| 1. Develop a Water Asset Management Plan. 2. Utilise the latest technology to manage and maintain flood risk assets by utilising and developing mobile working technologies. 3. Mitigate any surface water flooding problems identified on key or strategic roads as far as practicable. 4. Improve our knowledge of highway drainage systems. 5. Implement improvements in the management of highway drainage. 6. Develop and implement a culverting policy for watercourses and drainage systems. 7. Work with asset owners to improve the maintenance regimes of surface water assets as this offers the greatest opportunity to reduce flood risk without capital investment. 8. Ensure co-operation with all Risk Management Authorities in the area so that opportunities to improve other owner’s assets and contribute to reducing any residual risk 9. can be explored. 10. Ensure any capital works or maintenance activities undertaken by the authority or by others are WFD compliant. |
| **Land Management** |
| 1. Promote the mitigation of flood risk through changes in land management. 2. Encourage and promote the construction of SuDS that include recreational facilities, footpaths for walking, wildlife watching, cycle routes etc. 3. Utilise SuDS as an educational resource. |

Each measure will be tested against each objective theme to ensure the appraisal is robust. These flood risk objectives can be supported by indicators, which can be used in monitoring the effects of the strategy.

* 1. **Scoring**

Each flood risk measure is assessed against the 8 Sustainability Themes using the Scoring system below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Symbol** | **Meaning** | **Explanation** |
| -- | Very Negative | Could significantly undermine the objective |
| - | Negative | Makes a negative contribution to the objective. |
| 0 | Neutral | Does not contribute to the objective. |
| + | Positive | Makes a significant contribution to the objective. |
| ++ | Very Positive | Makes a close to optimal contribution to the objective. |

**3.3 Appraisal process**

The flood risk management team will carry out the Sustainability Assessment of each of the flood risk management measures identified in the draft strategy in a small group, bringing in experts from across the council when required.

**4.0 Task A5: Consulting on the scope of the SEA**

Consultation on this document will help to ensure that the SEA is comprehensive, robust and adequate. The three SEA organisations being consulted are:

• Natural England

• English Heritage

• Environment Agency

Once consultation on the Scoping Report is complete, then the Methodology will be amended, if necessary.

**SEA compliance**

The SEA directive (Article 5(4) states in relation to consultation, Local Planning Authorities shall consult with 'The authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the environmental report.

**Appendices**

**Appendix A : Habitats Regulations Assessment (Scoping and Screening Report)**

**Appendix B: Baseline Information**

**Appendix C: A Review of current plans and programmes**

**Appendix A: Habitats Regulations Assessment – Scoping and Screening Report.**

1. **Introduction**

EC directive on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna (known as the “Habitats Directive”) is enacted with the Birds Directive in the UK by the Conservation Regulations 1994 and 2010. The Habitats and Birds Directives set out the requirements for plans and projects likely to affect Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA), collectively called Natura 2000 sites, sites known as Sites of Community Importance (SCI) are also included under the Directive.

The directive requires that plans that may have an effect on Natura sites be subject to an assessment of its implications on those sites.

The following is to be read in conjunction with :

*Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Impact on European Protected Sites of Tameside Council’s Joint Core Strategy & Development Management Polices (Issues & Options Paper) January 2012*

<http://www.tameside.gov.uk/corestrategy/hra.pdf>

and

*Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Impact on European Protected Sites of Tameside Council’s Joint Core Strategy & Development Management Policies (Preferred Options)August 2012*

<http://www.tameside.gov.uk/plan/habitats.pdf>

The HRA will need to be monitored and updated so that it takes into account of any revisions to the draft LFRMS, as required by Regulation 102 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010.

1. **Local Natura Sites**

From the screening process detailed in the above documents the following European designated sites have been identified as having some potential to be affected by proposed and planned actions within Tameside Borough.

* South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation
* South Pennine Moors Special Protection Area Phase 1 & 2
* Rochdale Canal Special Area of Conservation

A previous iteration of the HRA identified by a screening process that the Rochdale Canal SAC and South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs could potentially be affected by policies in Tameside. For ease of use, this screening process is repeated within this document for the policies and actions contained in the plan.

Additional sites of potential relevant interest to flood risk are those downstream of the Tameside area. There are no SCI sites downstream of Tameside, relevant SAC and SPA sites downstream of Tameside are located at:

Mersey Estuary SPA

Dee Estuary SAC

A map showing the location of these sites is included in the strategy. For the reasons stated in the HRA for the Core Strategy, and the distance downstream being in excess of 40km, these sites have been screened out.

1. **Impact of Local flood Risk Management Strategy**

Description and information of the relevant SAC and SPA sites are contained in the Tameside Council document “*Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Impact on European Protected Sites of Tameside Council’s Joint Core Strategy & Development Management Policies”*

1. **Screening Opinions**

**4.1 The Screening Criteria**

In carrying out this screening process the assessment has considered the main possible sources of effects on the European sites arising from the Plan, possible pathways to the European sites and the effects on possible sensitive receptors in the European sites.

* The source is the direct or indirect changes (land take, emissions to air or water, hydrological changes) potentially occurring as a result of the development at an identified site.
* The pathway is the route or mechanism by which any likely significant effect would manifest in the environment and would reach the receptor.
* The receptor is the European Site and more specifically the qualifying features and conservation objectives for the site.

Possible Impacts of the Flood Risk Management Plan on the Rochdale Canal SAC

Flood risk management operations that may damage the special interest of the canal include operations and activities that affect the growth and survival of Floating water-plantain : *Luronium natans*. These have been identified as:

* Dredging of the canal
* Draining of the canal
* Use of herbicides in or adjacent to the canal

Possible Impacts of the Flood Risk Management Plan on the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs

The most important flood risk management operations that may damage the European special interest of the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs are considered to include:

* Grip Blocking
* Application of pesticides
* Drainage
* Construction or removal of ditches, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying or removal of pipelines and cables
* Erection of permanent structures
* Use of vehicles likely to damage the vegetation
* Disturbance to species

It should be noted that in this section of the assessment it is the broad principle of the plan that is being assessed, rather than the detail of any proposed flood risk activity, since these details are not yet available. Details of possible sources, pathways and receptors for impacts are not available for assessment at this stage of plan production.

**Table 1: Screening Summary Tables – Flood Risk Management Options**

**Studies, Assessments and Plans**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| European Site | Potential Flood Risk Management Measures | Likely significant effects of FRM actions | Screening Option |
| Rochdale Canal SAC | Dredging of the canal | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Draining of the canal | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Use of herbicides in or adjacent to the canal | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs | Grip Blocking | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Drainage | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Construction or removal of ditches, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying or removal of pipelines and cables | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Erection of permanent structures | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Use of vehicles likely to damage the vegetation | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Application of pesticides | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Disturbance to species | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |

**Table 2: Screening Summary Tables – Flood Risk Management Options**

**Development Planning and Climate Change Measures**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| European Site | Potential Flood Risk Management Measures | Likely significant effects of FRM actions | Screening Option |
| Rochdale Canal SAC | Dredging of the canal | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Draining of the canal | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Use of herbicides in or adjacent to the canal | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs | Grip Blocking | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Drainage | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Construction or removal of ditches, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying or removal of pipelines and cables | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Erection of permanent structures | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Use of vehicles likely to damage the vegetation | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Application of pesticides | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Disturbance to species | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |

**Table 3: Screening Summary Tables – Flood Risk Management Options**

**Flood Awareness and Communication** **Measures**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| European Site | Potential Flood Risk Management Measures | Likely significant effects of FRM actions | Screening Option |
| Rochdale Canal SAC | Dredging of the canal | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Draining of the canal | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Use of herbicides in or adjacent to the canal | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs | Grip Blocking | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Drainage | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Construction or removal of ditches, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying or removal of pipelines and cables | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Erection of permanent structures | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Use of vehicles likely to damage the vegetation | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Application of pesticides | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Disturbance to species | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |

**Table 4: Screening Summary Tables – Flood Risk Management Options**

**Asset Management and Maintenance Measures**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| European Site | Potential Flood Risk Management Measures | Likely significant effects of FRM actions | Screening Option |
| Rochdale Canal SAC | Dredging of the canal | Unlikely to occur as a direct result of a flood risk requirement. The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Draining of the canal | Unlikely to occur as a direct result of a flood risk requirement. The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Use of herbicides in or adjacent to the canal | Unlikely to occur as a direct result of a flood risk requirement. The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs | Grip Blocking | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Drainage | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Construction or removal of ditches, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying or removal of pipelines and cables | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Erection of permanent structures | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Use of vehicles likely to damage the vegetation | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Application of pesticides | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Disturbance to species | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |

**Table 5: Screening Summary Tables – Flood Risk Management Options**

**Land Management Measures**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| European Site | Potential Flood Risk Management Measures | Likely significant effects of FRM actions | Screening Option |
| Rochdale Canal SAC | Dredging of the canal | Unlikely to occur as a direct result of a flood risk requirement. The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Draining of the canal | Unlikely to occur as a direct result of a flood risk requirement. The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Use of herbicides in or adjacent to the canal | Unlikely to occur as a direct result of a flood risk requirement. The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs | Grip Blocking | If proposed within the SAC/SPA. The proposed measures could have a potential negative effect on the European Site. | **Screen in** |
| Drainage | If proposed within the SAC/SPA. The proposed measures could have a potential negative effect on the European Site. | **Screen in** |
| Construction or removal of ditches, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying or removal of pipelines and cables | If proposed within the SAC/SPA. The proposed measures could have a potential negative effect on the European Site | **Screen in** |
| Erection of permanent structures | If proposed within the SAC/SPA. The proposed measures could have a potential negative effect on the European Site | **Screen in** |
| Use of vehicles likely to damage the vegetation | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Application of pesticides | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |
| Disturbance to species | The proposed measures are highly unlikely to have an effect on the European Site. | **Screen out** |

1. **SUMMARY OF THE SCREENING OPINION**

**Impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC**

The Screening Opinion of the HRA has concluded that the following Flood Risk Management measures and polices in the Plan do not have a significant effect on the special interest of the

Rochdale Canal.

**Impacts on the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs**

The Screening Opinion of the HRA has concluded that the following Flood Risk Management measures and policies in the Plan could have a significant effect on the special interest of the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA if undertaken.

Table 2 Potential effects on the special interest of the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs arising from the Strategic Spatial Options

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Flood Risk Management Measures | Potential effect on the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA’s |
| Grip Blocking | Potential to disrupt habitat if undertaken within the site. |
| Drainage (installation of) | Potential to disrupt habitat if undertaken within the site. |
| Construction or removal of ditches, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying or removal of pipelines and cables | Potential to disrupt habitat if undertaken within the site. |
| Erection of permanent structures | Potential to disrupt habitat if undertaken within the site. |

This first version of the plan is primarily concerned with the acquisition of data, the assessment of this data, communication of flood risk to the public, the assessment of new development, collecting data on existing drainage assets and the promotion of sustainable drainage systems. It does not contain proposals to undertake any of the physical works outlined above that would potentially impact the South Pennines Moor site.

**Conclusion**

The plan does not currently contain any physical works to alter the environment. Therefore, it is not considered the assessment of any impact of the South Pennine Moors be undertaken at this stage.

However, future versions of the plan may contain proposals to undertake works. It is therefore recommended that a further, more detailed assessment be undertaken in the event of any flood risk management works being proposed within the South Pennine Moors Site.

**Appendix B: Baseline Information**

**Baseline information**

Shown below are sources of local baseline information on:

biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape

For the purposes of this study the following subjects are combined:

Human Health and Population

Biodiversity, Fauna, Flora and Soil, (Under Biodiversity and Natural Environment)

Landscape, Cultural Heritage, Architectural and Archaeological Heritage (Under Cultural Heritage and Landscape)

Climatic Factors and Air (Under Climate Change)

**Biodiversity, Fauna, Flora and Soil,**

Habitat Regulation Assessment for the North West River Basin Management Plan

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/124837.aspx>

Greater Manchester Biodiversity Project

<http://www.gmbp.org.uk/site/>

Greater Manchester Ecology Unit

<http://www.gmwildlife.org.uk/>

**Human Health and Population**

ONS Key Population and Vital Statistics Communities and Local Government (CLG)

**Cultural, Architectural and archaeological heritage and Landscape**

**Sourced from English Heritage**

<http://services.english-heritage.org.uk/NMRDataDownload/Default.aspx>

**Climatic Factors and Air**

**UKcip for NW**

<http://ukclimateprojections.defra.gov.uk/21716>

**Air quality**

<http://www.greatairmanchester.org.uk/>

**The Greater Manchester Climate strategy 2011-2020**

<http://www.agma.gov.uk/what_we_do/gmlowcarbonhub/index.html>

**Greater Manchester Air Quality Action Plan (2004)**

<http://www.greatairmanchester.org.uk/whatarewedoing/aqap.aspx>

**Water and Flooding**

**GM SFRA**

[**Greater Manchester Strategic Flood Risk Assessment**](http://www.agma.gov.uk/what_we_do/planning_housing_commission/our-work/integrated-infrastructure-strategy-for-gm/flood-and-water-management/gm-strategic-flood-risk-assessment-2008/index.html)

**Tameside SFRA**

<http://www.tameside.gov.uk/planning/ldf/evidence/sfra>

**Tameside PFRA**

<http://www.tameside.gov.uk/flooding/riskassessment>

**Catchment Flood Management Plans**

**For Upper Mersey and Irwell**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/catchment-flood-management-plans>

**River Basin Management Plans**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/north-west-district-river-basin-management-plan>

**Material Assets (housing and infrastructure relating to areas such as energy, water and transport networks, schools, hospitals and other public buildings. )**

**National Land and Property Gazetteer**

**Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plane**

**Water infrastructure**

[www.unitedutilities.com](http://www.unitedutilities.com)

**Energy Infrastructure**

[www.nationalgrid.com](http://www.nationalgrid.com)

**Environmental Infrastructure, forestry and Agriculture:**

[www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)

**Recreation Infrastructure:**

**Telecommunications:**

[www.bt.com](http://www.bt.com)

<http://www.mobilemastinfo.com>

**Waste and Waste Infrastructure:**

<http://www.gmwda.gov.uk/>

**Aggregates and Minerals**

<http://www.gmmineralsplan.co.uk/>

**Transport**

[www.tfgm.com](http://www.tfgm.com)

**Social Housing**

<http://www.tameside-strategic-partnership.org.uk/partnerships/housing.htm>

**Baseline information for Tameside**

Collecting baseline environmental, social and economic information helps to identify trends and possible problems.

|  | **Tameside (10,285 ha)** | **National Comparison / Target** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Human Health** | | |
| Life Expectancy at birth | Male : 75.7  Female: 79.7  2007-2009, ONS | England:  Male – 78.3  Female – 82.3  (2007-2009), ONS |
| Adult participation at least once per week 1 | 34.9% | England 35.7% |
| **Geo and Bio-diversity including Flora and Fauna** | | |
| No. of Sites of Biological  Importance | 55 | N/A |
| Total Area of Sites of Biological Importance | 1,428 hectares | N/A |
| Local Nature Reserves | 4 No. Total of 81 hectares  0.36 ha / 1000 population | Natural England target 1  ha / 1,000 population |
| Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) | 3 No. 119 ha | N/A |
| The percentage of land designated as SSSI in favourable condition as a percentage of all land with SSSI status within the District | 19.9 % | GM average: 29.8%;  NW average: 78.9%;  England average:  69.7% (2006) |
| Priority Habitats (2013) | 2,167 ha | N/A |
| **Soils** | | |
| Agricultural Land Classification | Grade 1: 0  Grade 2 – 114 ha  Grade 3 – 787 ha  Grade 4 – 1,507 ha  Grade 5 – 1,523 ha | England:  Grade 1 – 354,644 ha  Grade 2 – 1,849,258 ha  Grade 3 – 6,291,711 ha  Grade 4 – 1,840,315 ha  Grade 5 – 1,100,784 ha |
| % of new dwellings built on previously developed land | 82% (2008-2011) | 72% (2008 – 2011) |
| **Water and Flood Risk** | | |
| Water Quality –  Classification of watercourses under Water Framework Directive  (2012) | 10 Waterbodies in Tameside have a classification.  Current Overall Status:  Moderate – 6 no.  Poor - 4 no. | N/A |
| Water availability | Part of NW – classified  by EA as an area at Low  Water Stress | N/A |
| Residential properties in EA fluvial flood risk zones | Flood Zone 3 – 631  Flood Zone 2 & 3 - 1075 | N/A |
| Residential properties at risk of surface water flooding (depth of 0.3m or greater)2 | 1 in 30 year chance – 762  1 in 200 year chance – 2,021 | N/A |
| **Climatic Factors** | | |
| Predicted increase in number of properties at risk of surface water flooding between now and 2080, as a result of climate change | 1,100 | N/A |
| Projected winter precipitation increase by 20503 | +14% | N/A |
| Increase in precipitation on wettest day in winter by 20503 | +11% | N/A |
| Increase in peak river flows in catchment by 20503 | +11 to 18% | N/A |
| **Population** | | |
| Total Population (2011 census) | 226,600 | N/A |
| Population Increase (2001 – 2011) | +7.8% | Regional growth in Greater Manchester +6.61%  National growth: +6.98% 4 |
| Deprivation – Rank in the 2010 Index of Multiple Deprivation 5 | Ranked 34th of 326 (England)  35 % of Tameside’s 141 SOA’s are amongst the 20% most deprived in England.  9 % of Tameside’s 141 SOA’s are amongst the 5% most deprived in England. | N/A |
| Number of properties at risk of fluvial flooding in 10% most deprived areas  (EA flood zones) 5 | Flood Zone 3 – 23  Flood Zone 2 & 3 – 200 | N/A |
| **Cultural Heritage** | | |
| Listed buildings | 318 | 3.2% (997) of England’s  grade I and II listed  buildings are ”at risk“ |
| Potential number of listed buildings at risk of surface water flooding. 6 | 27 | N/A |
| Scheduled Ancient Monuments | 3 | N/A |
| Conservation Areas | 9 | N/A |
| Number of properties in conservation areas | 5,569 | N/A |
| Potential number of properties within conservation areas at risk of surface water flooding. 6 | 323 | N/A |
| No of parks registered by English Heritage | 1 | N/A |

1. Sport England Active People Survey (April 2011 - April 2012)
2. Data from the Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan Strategic Flood Map
3. North West River Basin District
4. <http://www.manchesterconfidential.co.uk/News/The-2011-Census-Greater-Manchester-Results>
5. The Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010 are based on Super Output Areas (SOAs). (Source: Indices of Deprivation, ONS/CLG, 2010). Flood Zone 3 contains the area having up to a1% flood risk in any year. Flood Zone 2 contains the area having up to a 0.1% flood risk in any year
6. An initial estimate, a more accurate figure would require detailed on-site assessments of individual sites.

**Appendix C: Review of Plans and Programmes**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | **Title of plan / programme** | | |  | | --- | | **Relevant objectives** | | |  | | --- | | **Implications for the Strategy** | |
| |  | | --- | | **International/ European Framework** | |  |  |
| **Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002)** | Actions include:  Reverse trend in loss of natural resources, efficient use of resources and reduction in consumer consumption, increase global uptake of renewable energy, increase business innovation in green technology, and reduce loss of biodiversity. | Include objectives which cover the action points where relevant to the Strategy. |
| **Guiding Principles for the Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent (ESDP) (2000)** | Promote territorial cohesion through a more balanced social and economic development of regions and improved competitiveness;   * Encourage development generated by urban functions and improving the relationship between town and countryside; * Promoting more balanced accessibility; * Develop access to information and knowledge; * Reduce environmental damage; * Enhance and protect natural resources and the natural heritage; * Enhance the cultural heritage as a factor for development; * Develop energy resources while maintaining safety; * Encourage high quality sustainable tourism; * Limit the impacts of natural disaster. | Include appropriate objectives to deal with the issues of economic and social cohesion within Tameside and the North West region, conservation and management of natural resources and cultural heritage and competitiveness. The national sustainable development framework and national planning policy has taken account of these principles and these in turn will inform the development of the Local Development Framework. |
| **EU Framework Directives on:**    **Air Quality, Water, Nitrates, Water Quality, Drinking Water Quality, Pollution, Wild Birds, Conservation of Wild Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna, Waste, Landfill of Waste, Urban wastewater treatment, Packaging, Packaging Waste, and Noise, Habitats, Floods, Landfill, Groundwater, Mining Waste** | Relevant objectives include:  Improvement of ambient air quality, improving water quality, protection of water resources, protection of aquatic ecosystems, reducing water pollution caused by nitrates, protection of important ecological sites and species, reduction of waste and effective waste management. | Ensure that the Strategy objectives, policies and proposals give due consideration to water and air quality, waste, noise, habitats.  Ensure the SEA supports the overall requirements of the Directives and contains relevant objectives. |
| **A Sustainable Europe for a Better World: A European Strategy for Sustainable Development (2001)** | Strategy focuses on the need to:   * Limit climate change and increase the use of clean energy; * Address threats to public health; * Combat poverty and social exclusion; * Raise employment rates amongst women and older people; * Manage natural resources more responsibly (including biodiversity and waste generation); * Improve the transport system and waste management. | The priorities of this strategy have been absorbed into the national sustainable development framework.  The strategy will address those issues with spatial implications especially climate change, management of natural resources, transport and waste management. |
| **EU Sixth Environmental Action Programme (2002) Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice** | This proposes five priority avenues of strategic action to help achieve environmental objectives:   * Improve the implementation of existing legislation; * Integrating environmental concerns into other policies; * Encouraging the market to work for the environment; * Empowering citizens and changing behaviour; * Greening land use planning and management decisions;   The four priority areas for action are:   1. Tackling climate change; 2. Nature and biodiversity – protecting a unique resource; 3. Environment and health; 4. Sustainable use of natural resources and management of wastes. | The priorities of this strategy have been absorbed into the national sustainable development framework. The strategy will address those issues with spatial implications especially climate change, management of natural resources, nature and biodiversity. |
| **European Biodiversity Strategy** | This states that the scale of human impact on biodiversity has accelerated dramatically in recent decades and that, in spite of efforts by the Community and Member States to address the problem of biodiversity reduction or loss, existing measures are insufficient to reverse present trends.  This is developed around four major themes:   1. Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; 2. Sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources; 3. Research, identification, monitoring and exchange of information; 4. Education, training and awareness. | The strategy will address those issues with spatial implications. |
| **European Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment** | Legislation from the European Commission regarding the assessment of plans and programmes. Translated through planning guidance and national legislation. | SEA to address requirements of SEA Directive. |
| **A Sustainable Future in Our Hands: EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)** | The strategy lists the following seven key challenges:   1. Climate change and clean energy 2. Sustainable transport 3. Sustainable consumption and production 4. Conservation and management of natural resources 5. Public health 6. Social inclusion, demography and migration 7. Global poverty | This document guides the sustainable development principles in the strategy. |
| **UNESCO World Heritage Convention 1972** | a convention establishing an effective system of collective protection of the cultural and natural heritage. | The strategy will consider any implications for heritage sites |
| **European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention)** | Convention on the preservation of landscape quality, laying down the general framework for protecting landscape quality. | The strategy will consider any implications on existing landscapes. |
| **The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural**  **Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention)** | Convention on the preservation of Architectural Heritage. | The strategy will consider any implications on heritage sites |
| **The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valetta Convention)** | Convention on the preservation of Archaeological Heritage. | The strategy will consider any implications on archaeological heritage sites |
| **National Framework** |  |  |
| **Securing the Future – UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)** | Four priority areas are identified for immediate action:   * Sustainable development and consumption; * Climate change and energy; * Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement; * Sustainable communities. | As the overarching framework for sustainable development, this document will guide the sustainable development principles in the Allocations Plan. |
| **National Planning Policy Framework** | Planning should facilitate and promote sustainable and inclusive patterns of urban and rural development by:   * Making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people’s quality of life; * Contributing to sustainable economic development; * Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities; * Ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources; and * Ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable, liveable and mixed communities with good access to jobs and key services for all members of the community. * Take a strategic approach to the location of potentially polluting development and on the location of sensitive development; * Facilitate the development on and remediation of existing contaminated and derelict land; * Polluting activities that are necessary for society and the economy should be so sited and planned that adverse effects are minimised. * Prepare Strategic Flood Risk Assessments * Locate development to avoid flood risk, and manage residual risk; and * Reduce flood risk to and from new development, through policies on location, layout and design. * protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils; * recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services; * minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government’s commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological * networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; * preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and * remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate. | Needs to be taken into account in the allocation of land for housing development. Include policies to minimise flood risk through location, layout and design. |
| **The Localism Act 2011** | The Act devolves greater powers to councils and neighbourhoods and give local communities more control over housing and planning decisions.  **Key areas**  The planning and regeneration provisions:  • abolishes Regional Spatial Strategies  • abolishes the Infrastructure Planning Commission and return to a position where the Secretary of State takes the final decision on major infrastructure proposals of national importance  • amends the **Community Infrastructure Levy,** which allows councils to charge developers to pay for infrastructure. Some of the revenue will be available for the local community  • provides for neighbourhood plans, which would be approved if they received 50% of the votes cast in a referendum  • provides for neighbourhood development orders to allow communities to approve development without requiring normal planning consent | The Act may have significant implications for the strategy and funding of projects. |
| **Natural Environment White paper: The natural choice: securing the value of nature (June 2011)** | Key measures in the White Paper, which also takes forward recommendations contained in “Making Space for Nature‟, include:  **Reconnecting nature**  New Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs), transforming rural and urban areas and providing bigger, connected sites for wildlife to live in and adapt to climate change. With a £7.5 million fund for 12 initial NIAs to demonstrate just what can be done. Professor Sir John Lawton has agreed to chair the panel to allocate funding.  Biodiversity offsetting – new way for developers to ensure we don’t lose wildlife sites and make them better by making and improving other sites.  New Local Nature Partnerships to strengthen joined-up action across local agencies and organisations, with a £1 million available this year.  Phasing out peat – working with the horticulture industry to phase out peat use, which will help to protect and restore our peatlands, which are valuable carbon sinks, habitats and part of our ecological network. A task force to consider all options to phase out use of peat in the supply chain will be chaired by Dr Alan Knight OBE.  **Connecting people and nature for better quality of life**  Green Areas Designation allowing local communities to give protection to areas that are important to them for recreation, the view or their importance for wildlife.  Better urban green spaces for the benefit of cities and towns. Support for parks, gardens, and tree planting which benefit people and nature alike  More children experiencing nature by learning outdoors, through practical support to schools and reducing red-tape for outdoor learning.  Strengthening local public health activities which connect people with nature for better health  New environmental volunteering initiative “Muck in 4 Life” to improve places in towns and countryside for people and nature to enjoy.  **Capturing and improving the value of nature**  Natural Capital Committee – an independent body to report to the Government’s economic affairs committee chaired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. This body will put the value of nature at the heart of the Government’s economic thinking, and advise Government about the best way of securing our natural assets for the future.  An annual statement of green accounts for UK Plc – showing where our economy has withdrawn from the value of nature’s bank balance, and where we have invested in it. This will help measure green growth alongside GDP.  A business-led Task Force chaired by Kingfisher Group Chief Executive Officer Ian Cheshire, to expand the UK business opportunities from new products and services which are good for the economy and nature alike. | Ensure that the strategy and the SEA protect and enhance the natural environment.  Protect and improve our natural environment  Grow a green economy  Reconnect people and nature |
| **Planning Tomorrow’s Countryside (2000), Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning (with English Heritage, English Nature and the Environment Agency) (2005), The Countryside in and Around Towns (with Groundwork) (2005), Planning Position Statement – Planning for Sustainable Design and Construction (2005)** | Planning Tomorrow’s Countryside sets the overall objectives for all these documents:  All policies should aim for sustainable development; and  Sustainable development requires social, economic and environmental objectives to be met together. | Ensure the Strategy contributes to sustainable development. |
| **Underground, Under Threat** | An Environment Agency report on the state of groundwater in England and Wales. It outlines the uses of groundwater as  a water resource and then go on to look at the risks to this resource from pollution and over exploitation. | The LFRMS should take account of the recommendations contained in the report. |
| **Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990** | Act making provisions for the listing of buildings, authorising works on buildings and prevention of deterioration and damage. | The strategy will consider any implications for heritage sites |
| **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979** | Act making provisions in relation to the protection of scheduled monuments | The strategy will consider any implications for heritage sites |
| **Future Water, The government’s water strategy for England 2008** | This water strategy for England sets out the Government’s plans for water in the future and the practical steps that we will take to ensure that good clean water is available for people, businesses and nature. It looks ahead to 2030 and describes the water supply system we want to see then and how to get there. It looks at the water cycle as a whole, from rainfall and drainage through to discharge and treatment. | The LFRMS should take account of the recommendations contained in the report. |
| **Foresight Project: Future Flooding** | The Foresight Flood and Coastal Defence project set out to produce a long-term vision for the future of flood and coastal defence in the UK. This vision, while taking account of the many uncertainties such as the future extent of climate change, provides a robust analysis to  inform policy development. | The LFRMS should take account of the recommendations contained in the report. |
| **Making Space For Water – (2005)** | New strategy:   * builds upon work to take account of sustainable development and the Government’s strategic   priorities;   * addresses the messages from the Foresight *Future Flooding* report and reflects lessons learned from the flood events in the recent past; * addresses the challenges and pressures we will face in the 21st century such as climate change, development pressures and rising levels of risk and cost; and * develops a more integrated and holistic approach to the management of flood and coastal erosion risk using a portfolio of measures. | The LFRMS should take account of the recommendations contained in the report. |
| **Land Drainage Act 1991** | A general act providing local authorities with powers to manage and enforce the flow and repair of watercourses. | The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act. |
| **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981** | The act gives protection to native species (especially those at threat), controls the release of non-native species, and enhances the protection of SSSIs. | The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act. |
| **Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000** | The Act made changes to the regulation of nature conservation and wildlife protection. | The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act. |
| **Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act** | Makes provisions in connection with wildlife, sites of special scientific interest, and creates a duty on public bodies to conserve biodiversity. | The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act. |
| **Water Resources Act 1991** | The act regulates water resources, water quality and pollution, and flood defence. | The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act. |
| **Environment Act 1995** |  | The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act. |
| **Water Industry Act 1999** |  | The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act. |
| **The Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations 1999** | These regulations implement in part the EU Council Directive 85/377/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment. | The LFRMS should take account of the duties required by these regulations. |
| **Water Act 2003** |  | The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act. |
| **The Water Environment Regulations 2003** |  | The LFRMS should take account of the duties required by these regulations. |
| **The Pitt Review** | Review calls for urgent and fundamental changes in the way the country is adapting to the likelihood of more frequent and intense periods of heavy rainfall. | The LFRMS should take account of the recommendations contained in the Review report. |
| **Flood Risk Regulations** | Implements the EU Floods Directive in UK law.  Requires the mapping of flood risk and hazards, and the creation of flood risk management plans. | The LFRMS should take account of the duties required by these regulations. |
| **Flood and Water Management Act** | Defines local authorities new role in surface water management.  Introduces local lead flood authority and their responsibility to manage risk from the following sources:   * Surface Water * Groundwater * and ordinary watercourses. | The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act. |
| **National flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England** | The strategy, all the local partner flood risk organisations work together with communities to:   * manage the risk of flooding and coastal erosion to people and their property. * Over time, we will be able, where possible, to improve standards of protection. * help householders, businesses and communities better understand and manage the flood and coastal erosion risks they face. * respond better to flood incidents and during recovery, and to coastal erosion. * move the focus from national government-funded activities towards a new approach that gives more power to local people, either at an individual, community or local authority level. Local innovations and solutions will be encouraged, too. * invest in actions that benefit communities who face the greatest risk, but who are least able to afford to help themselves. * put sustainability at the heart of the actions we take, so that we work with nature and benefit the environment, people and the economy. | The LFRMS should take account of the recommendations contained in the strategy. |
| **Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England’s wildlife and ecosystem services** | It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea | The LFRMS should take account of the recommendations contained in the strategy. |
| **UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA)**  **CCRA 2012 Evidence Report**  **UK Climate Change Risk**  **Assessment: Government Report** | The CCRA can be used to:  • Compare the risks posed by a changing climate over the next 80 years and to prioritise and compare these risks;  • Provide evidence to support primarily Government, but also businesses, local authorities and other organisations, in making decisions on adaptation policies and actions. | Ensure the strategy takes into account the Climate change adaptation and mitigation principles set out in the government reports |
| **Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England (Defra, 2009).** | The soil strategy provides a vision that by 2030, all soils in England will be managed sustainably and degradation threats tackled successfully. | The LFRMS should take account of the recommendations contained in the strategy. |
| **Climate change and biodiversity adaptation: the role of the spatial planning system. (Natural England commissioned report. April 2009)** | Identifies the role the planning system could play in assisting biodiversity adaptation to climate change. | The LFRMS should take account of the recommendations contained in the strategy. |
| **Regional Strategies** |  |  |
| **Northern Way Growth Strategy** | Establish the North of England as an area of exceptional opportunity combining a world class economy with a superb quality of life. | Ensure that the strategy contributes to the quality of life. |
| **Sub regional** |  |  |
| **City Region Development Programme – Manchester City Region** | The City Region will be a world class city-region at the heart of a thriving North.   * One of Europe’s premier city regions, at the forefront of the knowledge economy, and with outstanding commercial, cultural and creative activities; * World class, successfully competing internationally for investment, jobs and visitors; * An area where all people have the opportunity to participate in, and benefit from the investment and development of their city; * An area known for, and distinguished by the quality of life enjoyed by its residents; * An area with GVA levels to match those of London and the South East. | Ensure the strategy is compatible with the vision for the Manchester City Region. |
| **The Greater Manchester Economic Development Plan 2004/5 – 2006/7** | The plan vision is to build a world class city at the heart of the North West by:  Building competitive businesses;  Attracting/retaining investment, visitors and talent;  Creating world class skills;  Achieving economic inclusion;  Ensuring the best transition to working life for young people;  Securing a modern, integrated, efficient transport network. | Ensure the strategy is compatible with the economic vision for Greater Manchester. |
| **Greater Manchester Combined Authority / Transport for Greater Manchester (March 2011) *Third Greater Manchester Local Transport Plan*** | The plan proposals seek to contribute to achieving the vision of the above documents by developing an integrated transport network to meet the demands that will be placed upon it by a growing economy while addressing the need to tackle social exclusion, create sustainable communities and enhance the environment. | Ensure that the strategy and SEA contain policies/objectives that reduce the impact of flooding to transport infrastructure and the highway network. |
| **Greater Manchester Derelict Land Strategy (2002)** | The strategy aims to set the framework for reclaiming derelict land and buildings across the conurbation to improve the image and environment of the area, support sustainable regeneration initiatives and enhance biodiversity, forestry initiatives and recreational provision. | Provision needs to be made to ensure that the following are included:  Appropriate proposals for the installation of sustainable drainage systems during development that includes the reclamations/re-use of previously developed land. Potential negative effects from the mobilisation of soil contaminants.    Appropriate proposals to enhance biodiversity and informal recreation provision. |
| **Greater Manchester Air Quality Action Plan (2004)** | The plan seeks to deliver improved air quality across the conurbation particularly within the locations designated as Air Quality Management Areas by:  Reducing road traffic emissions;  Promoting energy efficiency;  Enforcing air pollution legislation;  Providing guidance/advice to developers;  Promoting/supporting relevant action by other agencies (the Highways Agency, Environment Agency, etc.) | Ensure the issues highlighted in the Plan are considered in the SEA. |
| **Draft Greater Manchester Noise Plan (2006)** | The strategy seeks to provide a consistent framework for controlling neighbour and neighbourhood noise across the conurbation. | Ensure the issues highlighted in the Plan are considered in the SEA. |
| **River Irwell Catchment Flood Management Plan - Environment Agency (2008)** | This Plan gives an overview of the flood risk in the Irwell catchment and sets out the preferred plan for sustainable flood risk management over the next 50 to 100 years. | Ensure the issues highlighted in the Plan are considered in the SEA. |
| **Upper Mersey Catchment Flood Management Plan Environment Agency (2008)** | This Plan gives an overview of the flood risk in the Douglas catchment and sets out the preferred plan for sustainable flood risk management over the next 50 to 100 years. | Ensure the issues highlighted in the Plan are considered in the SEA. |
| **Prosperity for all: The Greater Manchester Strategy - Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (July 2009)** | The Plan’s Vision is to:  By 2020, the Manchester city region will have pioneered a new model for sustainable economic growth based around a more connected, talented and greener city region where the prosperity secured is enjoyed by the many and not the few. | Ensure the issues highlighted in the Plan are considered in the SEA. |
| **Greater Manchester Urban Historic Landscape Characterisation Project. Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit (2008)** | This result of this project was a GIS database which identifies and groups, archaeological, historical and other environmental attributes to land parcels. | Ensure the issues highlighted in the Plan are considered in the SEA. |
| **Greater Manchester Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Association of Greater Manchester Authorities- Scott Wilson Consultancy (2008)** | The Greater Manchester SFRA assesses flood risk arising from all sources and sets out potential mitigation and management measures to assist in preparing local development documents, determining planning applications and emergency planning. | Ensure flood risk is taken into account in all stages of the planning process. |
| **Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action**  **Plan (BAP)** | The overall aim of the Greater Manchester Action Plan is  “To promote the conservation, protection and enhancement of biological diversity in Greater Manchester for current and future generations.” | Ensure the FRMS protects and preserves biodiversity, and safeguards protected species. |
| **Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (2008) *Greater Manchester Strategic Housing Market Assessment, Deloitte and GVA Grimley*** | The report explores the issues affecting housing markets in Greater Manchester and identifies the scale and nature of future housing requirements. | Ensure that the FRMS takes into account the issues around future housing requirement and projections. |
| **Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (2007) *Making Housing Count.*** | The Making Housing Count project looked at the challenges and opportunities associated with delivering sustainable housing markets at a time of rapid economic change. It is a wide-ranging policy and research programme that highlighted key issues affecting Greater Manchester housing markets to inform, support and influence the development of policy at local and national levels. | Ensure the issues highlighted in the Plan are considered in the SEA. |
| **Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (2011) Green Infrastructure Framework.** | The framework set out a basis for the shaping of the natural environment in Greater Manchester how these support the GM strategy and provide economic benefits. | Ensure the FRMS agrees with the objectives of : Protecting and improving our natural environment; growing a green economy ; and reconnecting people and nature. |
| **GM Surface Water Management Plan (2011)** | The Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan  Provides and evidence base which allows different organisations to work together and develop a shared understanding of the most suitable solutions to surface water flooding problems. | The LFRMS should utilise the content of the plan to make strategic and local decisions on flood risk management. |
| **Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy (GMCCS)** | The strategy sets out Greater Manchester's plan to build a low carbon economy by 2020, reducing carbon emissions by 48% and reacting to the changing climate while creating future jobs and new industries in the 'green' sector. | Ensure the issues highlighted in the Plan are considered in the SEA. |
| **Pennine Edge Forest – Business Action Plan 2004-2013** | Seeks to create increased amount of woodland habitat in the area. | Policies should seek to promote opportunities for new woodland creation. Potential synergies with Suds creation. |
| **Local** |  |  |
| **Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (2011)** | Requirement of the Flood Risk Regulations identifies the general flood risk in the area. | The LFRMS should take account of the content of the report. |
| **Tameside Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (Level 2)**  **(2011)** | Examines the flood risk in key development areas, and a more detailed flood risk assessment of the town centre area. | The LFRMS should take account of the content of the report. |
| **Tameside Community Strategy 2012-2022** | The borough’s long term plan to improve the lives of residents in Tameside. | Ensure the issues highlighted in the Plan are considered in the SEA. |
| **Sustainability Appraisal of the LDF – Scoping Report** | The key aim of the SA Report is to establish and assess the sustainability implications of the LDDs and SPDs which form the LDF. | Ensure the issues highlighted in the appraisal and SPD’s are considered in the SEA. |
| **A Trees and Woodlands Strategy for Tameside** | The aims of the Trees and Woodlands Strategy are to create more woodland habitat and to conserve existing woodland sites. | Develop policies that support the objectives of the Strategy. |
| **A Nature Conservation Strategy for Tameside 1996** | The Nature Conservation Strategy aims to protect and enhance the Borough’s wildlife resource and its nature features; | Develop policies that support the objectives of the Strategy. |
| **Tameside Housing Strategy 2010-2016** | Tameside’s strategy on meeting housing demands in the area. | Ensure future development needs are considered in the strategy. |
| **Supplementary Planning Documents and Development Briefs** | Planning documents to establish suitable development standards and requirements. | May have implications for drainage systems on some sites. |