# Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy

# **Supplementary Planning Document**

# Sustainability Appraisal Report

This Sustainability Appraisal Report has been prepared in order to comply with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, for the adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents by Local Planning Authorities.

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For a summary of this report in Gujurati, Bengali or Urdu please contact 0161 342 8355.

এই পুস্তিকাটির একটি সংক্ষিপ্রসার গুজরাটি, বাংলা এবং উর্দুতে পাবার ব্যবস্থা করা যেতে পারে। অনুগ্রহ করে 0161 342 8355 নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করুন।

આ દસ્તાવેજનું ટુંકમાં વર્ણન ગુજરાતી, બંગાળી અને ઉર્દૂ ભાષાઓમાં ઉપલભ્ય છે. મહેરબાની કરીને 0161 342 8355 ઉપર ટેલીફ્રોન કરો.

It can also be provided in large print or audio formats contact 0161 342 8355.

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Under the Planning Act 2008 supplementary planning documents may no longer be required to undertake a sustainability appraisal. Sustainability appraisal will only need to be undertaken where documents have significant social, environmental or economic effects that are not covered in the sustainability appraisal for the parent development plan document or where the SEA Directive would require one. In the case of the Ashton SPD, its parent development plan document is the Tameside Unitary Development Plan (UDP), which was not subject to an appropriate sustainability appraisal. As such, the Ashton SPD has been subject to a sustainability appraisal. This report describes the approach to and outcomes of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) for the "Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy" SPD. It describes what the appraisal aimed to achieve, how it was carried out and what the outcomes were.
- 1.2 In order to comply with the CLG's SA guidance the process should involve the assessment of alternatives, a such an appraisal was undertaken for two options:
  - Option One Continue the implementation of the existing UDP policies.
  - Option Two Produce and adopt an Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy SPD.

# 2. Relationship to the Unitary Development Plan

- 2.1 The policies within the Tameside Unitary Development Plan (UDP), adopted in November 2004, have been 'saved' for a period of three years in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The current UDP policies therefore continue to be the policies against which any new SPD is linked, as required under regulation 13(8) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations, 2004.
- 2.2 The "Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy" SPD has been prepared in relation to UDP saved policies E2, S1, S2, S4 and S9. Once adopted by the Council the SPD will become part of the Local Development Framework.

### 3. The Purpose of the SA and the SA Report

- 3.1 One of the main objectives of the new planning system is to achieve sustainable development. A key policy message of Planning Policy Statement 1 "Creating Sustainable Communities" is: "The need for planning authorities to take an approach based on integrating the four aims of sustainable development: economic development; social inclusion; environmental protection; and prudent use of resources".
- 3.2 ODPM (now CLG) guidance suggests that "The purpose of sustainability appraisal (SA) is to promote sustainable development " (paragraph 1.1). Consequently this report provides the findings of the SA for the Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy SPD. It has been published alongside the SPD in order to describe how effectively the principles of sustainable development have been incorporated into the document.

### 4. Objectives and Contents of the SPD

- 4.1 The Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre SPD was tabled to be produced and adopted in 2009, in the Council's submitted and approved Local Development Scheme (July 2009).
- 4.2 The document's aims and objectives are as follows:
  - Create clear and detailed planning policy guidance to promote and guide the continued regeneration of Ashton Town Centre

- Encourage the creation of a high quality urban environment
- Positively promote development
- Promote the positive development of under utilised / vacant properties and land
- Promote as a centre of employment, retail and town centre living
- Widen the use mix within the town centre of Ashton
- Aid the regeneration of Old Town
- Provide land-use guidance for potential developers, with specific reference to urban design principles, desired uses, public realm, transport and parking
- Encourage the growth of an effective integrated transport system
- Support retention and growth of town centre green spaces

The supplementary planning document focuses on the regeneration of Ashton Town Centre and how best this can be aided through the planning system. As such it highlights and acknowledges the issues and challenges facing the town. The town centre is then broken into quarters where development principles and desires are outlined for the specific quarter, which in turn will contribute to delivering / achieving the above aims and objectives for the town centre.

# 5. Sustainability Issues

- 5.1 A full range of sustainability issues and challenges relating to the Borough are described in chapter 3 of the SA of the LDF Core Strategy and Hattersley AAP Draft Scoping Report. Those objectives of most relevance to this SPD are considered to be:
  - To deliver urban renaissance
  - To reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime
  - To protect places, landscapes and buildings of historic cultural and archaeological value
  - To protect and improve local environmental quality
  - To protect & improve land quality
  - To reduce the need to travel
  - To establish a prosperous borough that offers attractive opportunities to individuals, businesses and communities
  - To improve the competitiveness and productivity of businesses

### 6. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 6.1 When preparing a SPD the LPA is required to consider whether or not the SEA Directive applies to the subject covered by the document. In the view of the LPA the SPD is not subject to the requirements of the SEA Directive because it's Sustainability Appraisal fully incorporates the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, nor will the SPD provide guidance of strategic significance when considered in relation to the policy-making hierarchy of international, national and regional plans and programmes.
- 6.2 There are only likely to be positive environmental impacts from this guidance through the sustainable regeneration of Ashton Town Centre.

### 7. Appraisal Methodology

7.1 ODPM guidance to Planning Authorities<sup>1</sup> indicates that: "The different forms of SPD that may be prepared will necessitate a relatively flexible approach to SA to ensure that it is appropriate and relevant. When producing the SA on SPD's, SA material from a RSS (Regional Spatial Strategy) revision, DPD (Development Planning Document) or SPD can be used, particularly for Stage A of the process." (paragraph 4.1.9).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents" Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) November 2005

- 7.2 Taking account of this the scoping assessment was carried out in July 2006 and the appraisal in October 2007 by Council Officers from Strategic Planning. The initial Scoping Report was forwarded for consultation to the (at the time) four statutory agencies, those being English Heritage, English Nature, Countryside Agency and Environment Agency. It was also sent to the Government Office for the North West, the North West Development Agency and the North West Regional Assembly for comment. All the additional consultation carried out in the preparation of this SPD is reported in the Consultation Statement, which will be released in parallel to this report.
- 7.3 Although it was concluded there is not likely to be any significant environmental, social or economic impact as a result of adopting this SPD, it was considered necessary to test its proposals against sustainability criteria and ensure there are no major gaps in the issues it addresses. As a result it was decided to undertake a SA by utilising the evolving SA Framework contained in the Scoping Report of the Council's Core Strategy DPD.

# 8. Summary and Outcomes of the SA

8.1 The results of the predicted effects of both options are recorded in a matrix form – for Option One see appendix A and for Option Two see appendix B. Following analysis of the results of the appraisal it has been concluded that Option Two - "Implementation of an Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy SPD" – is likely to be the most beneficial in terms of contributing towards the sustainability objectives. This SPD by its very nature has a sustainability context, in that it focuses on the regeneration of Ashton Town Centre emphasising the use of its public transport assets, promoting mixed use development where people can live work and under take leisure in the town centre and the reuse of buildings and land.

### 9. Results of the Appraisal

9.1 The results of the sustainability appraisal of the two options are contained in the attached appendices:

**Appendix A**Option One - 'Business as Usual approach' -Continued implementation of existing policies

Appendix B Option Two - Implementation and adoption of an Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

# **APPENDIX A**

# Sustainability Appraisal of Option One – 'Business as Usual' implementation of existing policies

KEY	~	Move away	٧	Move	>	Move	>>	Move	#	No Impact	?	Uncertain
		significantly		away		towards		towards				
				marginally		marginally		significantly				

# A: Social Progress Which Recognises the Needs of Everyone

				Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,	
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
<ol> <li>To improve access to good of</li> </ol>	uality, affordable and re	esource	efficient	housing	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	·	
1a. Will it provide additional affordable housing?	Provision of Affordable Housing driven by identification of demonstrable need. <sup>2</sup>	#	#	#	#	#	#	UDP Policy H4 Type, Size & Affordability of dwellings – outlines the Council's policy regarding affordable housing, yet to date it has not been enforced.
1b. Will it provide an appropriate mix of housing to meet residents needs?	Tameside has a higher proportion of terraced stock when compared to the national average. <sup>3</sup>	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP policy H1 highlights and number of designated residential sites across the Borough. Policy H2 promotes the use of previously developed sites for housing.
1c. Will it reduce the number of unfit and empty homes?	5% of homes identified as being unfit. Level of empty homes identified as 5%.4							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Tameside Housing Needs Survey <sup>3</sup> Tameside UDP

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Housing Investment Programme 2004 (ODPM).

		Geogra	phic Sca	ale	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention, reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans-boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		
<ol><li>To enable people to enjoy long</li></ol>		and limit	ing illnes	sses	_			
2a. Will it improve the health of people living in the borough	Life expectancy in the Borough is lower than the rest of the Country. <sup>5</sup>							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
2b. Will it encourage the population to adopt healthier lifestyle e.g. through more cycling and walking?	Levels of walking and cycling has stabilised at 2% of the total number of trips.	?	?	?	?	?	?	UDP policy OL6 promotes the improvement, extension or creation of sports and recreation facilities.  Apartment developments must provide for cycle parking facilities for residents.
2c. Will it improve access to health facilities?	Data gap	#	#	#	#	#	#	'business as usual' – no positive effect
3. To develop strong and positive		people	from diff	erent backgr	ounds and co	ommunities	_	
3a. Will it support community development?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
3b. Will it create a sense of belonging and wellbeing for all members of the community?	Community Strategy identifies that only 54% of the population (Borough) feel that their area is a place where people from different backgrounds can live together harmoniously.	#	#	#	#	#	#	The development / planning process requires & encourages public consultation on all development proposals.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 5}$  Office of National Statistics Deaths by Local Authority of usual residence 2004.

		Geograp	ohic Scale		Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention, reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans-boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		
4. To Deliver Urban Renaissance							_	_
4a. Will it improve economic, social and environmental conditions in the most deprived areas?	Tameside Ranked 49 <sup>th</sup> most deprived out of 354 Local Authorities within the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (1=worst).	?	?	?	?	?	?	Planning policies encourage / support development that aids regeneration across the borough.
4b. Will it improve the quality of the built environment through high standards of sustainable design and construction of new and existing buildings?	Data gap	^	#	#	>	>	>	High standards of sustainable design are encouraged through the sustainable design and construction guide SPD.  UDP policy H10 details the Council's requirements for high quality housing, which is detailed further by the Residential Development Guidelines SPD.
4c. Will it identify, assess and incorporate the physical, social, economic and environmental value of the historic environment in the regeneration of the borough?	Nine identified Conservation Areas and 312 Listed Buildings in the Borough.	^	#	#	>	>	>	UDP policy ensures development in conservation areas respect and enhance the historic character. Listed building policy ensures the borough's listed buildings are protected and ensured a future use.
5. To Regenerate Rural Areas		T		,		•		
5a. Will it Support Rural Diversification?	1.1% of the population of Tameside live in rural areas of which 72.4% are economically active. <sup>6</sup>							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

Γ	KFY	<<	Move away	<	Move away	>	Move towards	>>	Move towards	#	No Impact	?	Uncertain
	<u>···</u>		significantly		marginally		marginally		significantly				

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 6}$  Tameside Census 2001 and Access to Services: Focus on Rural Areas.

		Geogra	ohic Scale	)	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
6. To Improve access to and us	se of basic goods, se	rvices and	d amenitie	es				
6a. Will it reduce the number of people finding access to local food shops difficult?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
6b. Will it provide physical access for those with disabilities?	32.26% of Local Authority Buildings are Suitable and Accessible for those with disabilities. <sup>7</sup>	>	#	#	>	>	>	New development must comply with DDA
6c. Will it ensure the protection, creation and access to green spaces including access and recreation in the countryside in and around towns in the borough?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP policy OL4, Protected Green Space – details Council's policy on not permitting development on protected green space. UDP contains a number of policies related to the protection of green space assets.
6d. Will it improve access to cultural facilities?	Data gap	#	#	#	#	#	#	The Council activity promotes the cultural facilities within the Borough.
7. To reduce crime, disorder and								
7a. Will it make streets and public places safer for the community?	6% of Males and 25% of Females in North West feel unsafe walking alone at night. <sup>8</sup>	?	?	?	?	?	?	The promotion of secure by design and good urban design principles aids the safety of public and private areas.
7b. Will it promote design that discourages crime?	Data gap	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	Secure by design is a consideration on all development proposals.

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ODPM Best Value Performance Indicators 2003-04 British Crime Survey. Home Office 2002/03.

				Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention, reduction, offsetting of adverse effects	
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans-boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		
8. To enable groups and commu	unities to contribute t	o decisio	n-making					
8a. Will it enable the community sector to contribute to and have influence in decision-making?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	Public consultation is a statutory requirement of the planning process.
8b. Will it identify and engage with hard to reach stakeholders?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
9. To provide education which	is accessible to and v	alued by	all and pr	oduces achie	vements abo	ve the norm		
9a. Will it increase community access to and involvement with schools and colleges?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
9b. Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?	22.9% of population have no qualifications.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

# **B. Effective Protection of the Environment**

10.	To protect places, landscape	es and buildings of h	istoric, cu	Itural and	archaeologic	cal value			
10a.	Will it help conserve historic buildings through sensitive adaptation and re-use?	312 Listed Buildings within Borough	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP policy C5, Alternative Uses, Alterations & Additions for Listed Buildings – details Council's policy on listed building protection & alternative uses.
10b.	Will it use architectural design to enhance the local character and "sense of place" of development?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP policies C1, C2, C4 & H10 outline the Council's requirements / desires related design and local character.
10c.	Will it improve access to buildings and landscapes of historic / cultural value?	Data gap	#	#	#	#	#	#	See 10a & 10b
10d.	Will it protect and enhance places, landscapes and buildings of historic, cultural and archaeological value?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP policy C5, Alternative Uses, Alterations & Additions for Listed Buildings – details Council's policy on listed building protection & alternative uses. Policy C8, Demolition of Listed Buildings

		Geograp	hic Scale		Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
11. To protect and improve local	environmental qualit	ty						
11a. Will it improve the environment of town centres and other urban areas?	Percentage of land within Tameside which falls below an unacceptable level in terms of litter and debris is 27.8%. <sup>9</sup>	>	#	#	>	^	>	UDP Policy S1 Town Centre Improvement – outlines the councils intention to identify & implement improvement & investment schemes to support & develop role of Ashton.
11b. Will more trees and woodland be planted?	6% of borough covered in woodland and scrub.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
11c. Will it reduce light and noise pollution?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
12. To protect and enhance biod	iversity							-
12a. Will it protect and enhance existing designated wildlife / landscape areas?	South Pennine and Peak District Moors identified as SAC / SPA, 3 SSSI, 2 Local Nature Reserves and 52 SBI's.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
12b. Will it contribute to the delivery of local and regional Biodiversity Action Plans?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
12c. Will it protect and enhance endangered species, habitats and sites?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
12d. Will it protect and enhance existing wildlife and provide opportunities for new habitat creation?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP policy OL4, Protected Green Space – details Council's policy on not permitting development on protected green space.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> ODPM Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (BVPI 1999),

			Geograp	hic Scale	1	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
	ainable Development Objectives Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
13.	To protect and improve the q		aters	ı	ī	1		1	1
÷	Will it minimise the adverse effects on ground and surface water quality?	73% of inland water identified as being fair quality (biological) with 69% being of good chemical quality							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
	Will it make use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
14.	To protect and improve air qu	uality			-				=
	Will it comply with air quality process and regulation?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
14b.	Will it affect local air quality through traffic related emissions?	Six Air Quality Management Areas in Tameside							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
15.	To protect and improve land	quality			<u>I</u>		-1	<u>.</u>	
15a.	Will more derelict and brownfield land be restored?	262ha of brownfield land within Borough.	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP policy H2 permits / encourages the redevelopment of brownfield sites / buildings for residential use (where appropriate).  National planning policy promotes the use of brownfield and derelict land for new development.
15b.	Will it encourage the development of brownfield land in preference to greenfield?	Data Gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	See above (15b)

# C Prudent use of Natural Resources

16.	To ensure the prudent use of	natural resources ar	nd the sus	tainable r	nanagement o	of existing res	sources.		
<del>16a.</del>	Will it raise awareness of resource depletion?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
<del>16b.</del>	Will it encourage water conservation?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
<del>16c</del>	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
16d.	Will it promote the re-use of existing buildings and long life in new buildings?	Data Gap	۸	#		>	>	^	UDP Policy C5 outlines criteria for the reuse of listed buildings

		Geogra	phic Scale	<u> </u>	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objective and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
17. To address the need to lim	it and adapt to climate	change						
17a. Will it reduce or minimise greenhouse gas emissions?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
17b. Will it contribute to the ability to adapt to climate change?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
47c. Will it minimise the potential for flooding?	NW estimated that 5.5% of properties are at risk from flooding.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
18. To minimise the requireme	nt for energy use, prom	ote efficie	ent energy	use and inc	rease the use	of energy fr	om renewable res	ources
18a. Will it maximise the production and/or use of renewable energy?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
18b. Will it increase energy efficiency?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

19	To reduce the need to travel								
19a.	Will it encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport?	15% of people in Tameside travel to work by public transport. Some 76% of people travel less than 10Km to work. <sup>10</sup>	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP policies T6 Facilities for Buses, T7 Cycling & T8 Walking – outlines Council desires for providing these facilities & networks.
20.	To ensure the sustainable m	nanagement of waste	, minimise	its produ	iction and in	crease re-use,	recycling a	nd recovery rates	
<del>20a.</del>	Will it improve domestic waste recycling?	8.83% of household waste is recycled. 11							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
<del>20b.</del>	Will it reduce the amount of residual waste to landfill?	Data Gap on level of waste going to landfill.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
<del>20c.</del>	Will it reduce waste arising from construction and demolition?	Regional Average is 82.2%.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

# D. Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment

		Geogra	phic Scale	•	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
21. To establish a prosperous b	orough that offers att	ractive o	portuniti	es to individu	ials, business	es and com	nunities	
21a. Will it enhance and develop the economic potential of town centres?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP Policy S1 Town Centre Improvement – outlines councils intention to identify & implement improvement & investment schemes to support & develop role of Ashton. Tameside's economic strategy will promote & encourage the growth of Tameside's economic prosperity.

Ashton SPD Key Dec Notice & Rrpt 29-01-10

<sup>10</sup> Census 2001 11 BVPI 82a (2003/04)

21b.	Will it provide, or contribute to, the availability of a balanced portfolio of employment sites?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	UDP Policy E2 Development Opportunity Areas (2) & (12) outlines development areas in Ashton town centre, which could include employment uses. The Employment Land SPD provides guidance and grading of employment sites across the borough.
22.	To develop and exploit the B	orough's knowledge	base						
<del>22a.</del>	Will it encourage investment in Research and Development in emerging technologies?	2.24% of occupations within Science and Technology professional category. <sup>12</sup>							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
23.	To exploit the growth potenti	al of business sector	s						
<del>23a.</del>	Will it increase the number of growth businesses?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
<del>23b.</del>	Will it develop business clusters identified in the RES and other sub-regional/local strategies?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
24.	To improve the competitiven	ess and productivity	of busine	sses	1	1			1
24a.	Will it improve the Borough's Business Property Stock?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	See 21b

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> ONS 'Occupation Groups' (UV30).

		Geogra	phic Scale	e	Timescal	e	Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objective and Criteria	and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
25. To secure economic incl								
25a. Will it meet the employment needs of local people?	35% of jobs in SOC 2000 Major Group 1-3 (Managers, senior officials)							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
25b. Will it reduce unemployment levels?	Unemployment levels at 4.5%. 13							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
25c. Will it improve the physical accessibility of jobs through the location of sites and transport links close to area of high unemployment?	s							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
26. To develop and maintain								
26a. Will it provide better paid and higher quality jobs?	attract highly paid and professional employment however also a requirement to address existing labour market.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
27. To develop strategic trans	sport, communication an	d econon	nic infrast	ructure				
27a. Will it reduce traffic congestion and improve safety for road users?	4.1 road casualties per 1000 population							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
27b. Will it increase the level of investment in and use of rai and water freight transport?								N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
276. Will it improve transport link ICT, homeworking and green travel plans?								N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> NOMIS February 2003 – March 2004.

# **Sustainability Appraisal of Option Two – SPD ADOPTED**

KEY	~~	Move away	٧	Move	>	Move	>>	Move	#	No Impact	?	Uncertain
<u> </u>		significantly		away		towards		towards				
				marginally		marginally		significantly				

# A: Social Progress Which Recognises the Needs of Everyone

		Geogra	phic Sca	ale	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
<ol> <li>To improve access to good of</li> </ol>	juality, affordable and re	esource	efficient	housing				
1a. Will it provide additional affordable housing?	Provision of Affordable Housing driven by identification of demonstrable need. <sup>14</sup>	>	#	#	>	>	>	Residential plays a key role in town centre diversification, an element of which could be affordable housing. The SPD will
1b. Will it provide an appropriate mix of housing to meet residents needs?	Tameside has a higher proportion of terraced stock when compared to the national average. 15	>>	#	#	?	>>	>>	The promotion of mixed use schemes incorporating residential will provide a range of housing types, and will be actively encouraged by the SPD in appropriate locations.
1c. Will it reduce the number of unfit and empty homes?	5% of homes identified as being unfit. Level of empty homes identified as 5%. <sup>16</sup>							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

Tameside Housing Needs Survey
Tameside UDP

<sup>16</sup> Housing Investment Programme 2004 (ODPM).

		Geogra	aphic Sc	ale	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention, reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans-boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		
<ol><li>To enable people to enjoy long</li></ol>	g life, free from disease	and limit	ing illne	sses				
2a. Will it improve the health of people living in the borough	Life expectancy in the Borough is lower than the rest of the Country. <sup>17</sup>							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
2b. Will it encourage the population to adopt healthier lifestyle e.g. through more cycling and walking?	Levels of walking and cycling has stabilised at 2% of the total number of trips.	>	#	#	>	>	>	The application of high quality public realm will encourage healthy modes of transport. The provision of a town park and improvements to Portland basin will provide opportunities for leisure / activity
2c. Will it improve access to health facilities?	Data gap	#	#	#	#	#	#	N/A
<ol><li>To develop strong and positive</li></ol>	e relationships betweer	n people	from dif	ferent backgr	ounds and co	ommunities		
3a. Will it support community development?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
3b. Will it create a sense of belonging and wellbeing for all members of the community?	Community Strategy identifies that only 54% of the population (Borough) feel that their area is a place where people from different backgrounds can live together harmoniously.	^	#	#	>	>	>	The SPD will under go community consultation, resulting in a document that reflects the desires / needs of Ashton's residents and users.

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 17}$  Office of National Statistics Deaths by Local Authority of usual residence 2004.

		Geogra	ohic Scale	)	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention, reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans-boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		
4. To Deliver Urban Renaissance					_		•	
4a. Will it improve economic, social and environmental conditions in the most deprived areas?	Tameside Ranked 49 <sup>th</sup> most deprived out of 354 Local Authorities within the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (1=worst).	۸	#	#	>	>	>	The regeneration of Ashton Town Centre may have wider benefits aiding the economic, social & environment of the wider borough, with increased employment and prosperity.
4b. Will it improve the quality of the built environment through high standards of sustainable design and construction of new and existing buildings?	Data gap	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	High standards of sustainable design will be encouraged by any new development in Ashton through the SPD.
4c. Will it identify, assess and incorporate the physical, social, economic and environmental value of the historic environment in the regeneration of the borough?	Nine identified Conservation Areas and 312 Listed Buildings in the Borough.	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	Ashton Town Centre & Portland Basin Conservation Areas play key role in the regeneration of Ashton Town Centre, providing the town with areas of distinct identity.
5. To Regenerate Rural Areas			_					
5a. Will it Support Rural Diversification?	1.1% of the population of Tameside live in rural areas of which 72.4% are economically active. <sup>18</sup>							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

	KEY	<<	Move away	<	Move away	>	Move towards	>>	Move towards	#	No Impact	?	Uncertain
	11-1		significantly		marginally		marginally		significantly				

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 18}$  Tameside Census 2001 and Access to Services: Focus on Rural Areas.

		Geogra	phic Scale		Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
6. To Improve access to and us	se of basic goods, se	rvices and	d amenitie	es				
6a. Will it reduce the number of people finding access to local food shops difficult?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
6b. Will it provide physical access for those with disabilities?	32.26% of Local Authority Buildings are Suitable and Accessible for those with disabilities. <sup>19</sup>	#	#	#	#	#	#	New development must comply with DDA
6c. Will it ensure the protection, creation and access to green spaces including access and recreation in the countryside in and around towns in the borough?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	The SPD promotes and highlighted the importance of, creating high quality public realm encompassing water space and green space facilities.
6d. Will it improve access to cultural facilities?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	The SPD recognises the importance of cultural facilities in creating a vibrant town centre.
7. To reduce crime, disorder and		ı	•	1		•		
7a. Will it make streets and public places safer for the community?	6% of Males and 25% of Females in North West feel unsafe walking alone at night. <sup>20</sup>	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	The creation of high quality public realm coupled with appropriately design buildings will create help create safer street environments.
7b. Will it promote design that discourages crime?	Data gap	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	Secure by design is a consideration on all development proposals.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> ODPM Best Value Performance Indicators 2003-04 <sup>20</sup>British Crime Survey. Home Office 2002/03.

		Geograp	ohic Scale	,	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention, reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans-boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		
8. To enable groups and commu	ınities to contribute t	o decisior	n-making					
8a. Will it enable the community sector to contribute to and have influence in decision-making?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	#	>	Public consultation is a statutory requirement of the planning process, as such the community sector will have the opportunity to contribute to the SPD's content.
8b. Will it identify and engage with hard to reach stakeholders?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
9. To provide education which i	s accessible to and v	alued by	all and pro	oduces achie	vements abo	ve the norm		
9a. Will it increase community access to and involvement with schools and colleges?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
9b. Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?	22.9% of population have no qualifications.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

# **B. Effective Protection of the Environment**

10. 10a.	To protect places, landscape Will it help conserve historic buildings through sensitive adaptation and re-use?	es and buildings of h  312 Listed  Buildings within  Borough	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	The SPD views Ashton's 2 conservation areas & listed buildings as key assets that should be integral to the regeneration of Old Town, Portland Basin and the town centre.
10b	Will it use architectural design to enhance the local character and "sense of place" of development?	Data gap	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	High quality architecture and urban design are promoted throughout the SPD.
10c.	Will it improve access to buildings and landscapes of historic / cultural value?	Data gap	>	#	#	>	>	>	The SPD views Ashton's 2 conservation areas & listed buildings as key assets that should be integral to the regeneration of Old Town and the town centre.

10d. Will it protect and enhance	Data gap							The SPD views Ashton's 2 conservation
places, landscapes and								areas & listed buildings as key assets that
buildings of historic, cultural		>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	should be integral to the regeneration of
and archaeological value?								Old Town and the town centre.

		Geograp	hic Scale	)	Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
11. To protect and improve local		y		_				
11a. Will it improve the environment of town centres and other urban areas?	Percentage of land within Tameside which falls below an unacceptable level in terms of litter and debris is 27.8%. <sup>21</sup>	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	The application of high quality public realm and architecture is a key element of the SPD.
11b. Will more trees and woodland be planted?	6% of borough covered in woodland and scrub.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
11c. Will it reduce light and noise pollution?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
12. To protect and enhance biod	iversity	ı	ı	<u> </u>	·L			
12a. Will it protect and enhance existing designated wildlife / landscape areas?	South Pennine and Peak District Moors identified as SAC / SPA, 3 SSSI, 2 Local Nature Reserves and 52 SBI's.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
12b. Will it contribute to the delivery of local and regional Biodiversity Action Plans?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> ODPM Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (BVPI 1999),

12c. Will it protect and enhance endangered species, habitats and sites?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
12d. Will it protect and enhance existing wildlife and provide opportunities for new habitat creation?	Data gap	^	#	#	^	^	۸	The SPD promotes the improvement of green space to the south of Park Parade & green space & water space areas at Portland Basin.

		Geograp	ohic Scale		Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
13. To protect and improve the q	uality of controlled w	aters						
13a. Will it minimise the adverse effects on ground and surface water quality?	73% of inland water identified as being fair quality (biological) with 69% being of good chemical quality							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
13b. Will it make use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
14. To protect and improve air qu	uality							<del></del>
14a. Will it comply with air quality process and regulation?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
14b. Will it affect local air quality through traffic related emissions?	Six Air Quality Management Areas in Tameside							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
15. To protect and improve land						_	_	
15a. Will more derelict and brownfield land be restored?	262ha of brownfield land within Borough.	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	The SPD promotes the development of under utilised, derelict and brownfield sites and buildings.

15b. Will it encourage the development of brownfield land in preference to greenfield?  Data Gap  **The SPD promotes the development of brownfield under utilised, derelict and brownfield and buildings.  **The SPD promotes the development of brownfield under utilised, derelict and brownfield and buildings.  **The SPD promotes the development of brownfield under utilised, derelict and brownfield under utilised	velopment of brownfield and in preference to	de la	opment of brownfield n preference to
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# C Prudent use of Natural Resources

16.	To ensure the prudent use of	natural resources an	d the sus	tainable r	nanagement (	of existing re	sources.	
<del>16a.</del>	Will it raise awareness of resource depletion?	Data Gap						N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
<del>16b.</del>	Will it encourage water conservation?	Data Gap						N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
16c	. Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?	Data Gap						N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
16d.	Will it promote the re-use of existing buildings and long life in new buildings?	Data Gap	>	#	#	>	>	The SPD promotes the reuse of existing building, where appropriate, particularly those with historical value.

		Geogra	ohic Scale		Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
17. To address the need to limit	and adapt to climate	change						
47a. Will it reduce or minimise greenhouse gas emissions?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
17b. Will it contribute to the ability to adapt to climate change?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
17c. Will it minimise the potential for flooding?	NW estimated that 5.5% of properties are at risk from flooding.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

18.	To minimise the requirement	for energy use, prom	ote efficie	nt energy	use and inc	rease the use	of energy fr	om renewable res	ources
<del>18a.</del>	Will it maximise the production and/or use of renewable energy?	Data Gap		3.					N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
18b.	Will it increase energy efficiency?	Data Gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
19	To reduce the need to travel						-	-	•
19a.	Will it encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport?	15% of people in Tameside travel to work by public transport. Some 76% of people travel less than 10Km to work. <sup>22</sup>	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	The application of high quality public realm will encourage walking & cycling across Ashton and improve links to public transport.
20.	To ensure the sustainable n	nanagement of waste	, minimise	its produ	iction and in	crease re-use	, recycling a	nd recovery rates	
<del>20a.</del>	Will it improve domestic waste recycling?	8.83% of household waste is recycled. 23							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
<del>20b.</del>	Will it reduce the amount of residual waste to landfill?	Data Gap on level of waste going to landfill.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
<del>20c.</del>	Will it reduce waste arising from construction and demolition?	Regional Average is 82.2%.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

# D. Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment

		Geogra	Geographic Scale		Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
21. To establish a prosperous b	orough that offers at	tractive of	portuniti	es to individu	als, business	es and comi	munities	
21a. Will it enhance and develop the economic potential of town centres?	Data gap	>>	#	#	>>	^	>>	A key driver of the SPD is to create a town centre environment that encourages private investment; in turn aiding its economic prosperity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Census 2001 <sup>23</sup> BVPI 82a (2003/04)

21b.	Will it provide, or contribute to, the availability of a balanced portfolio of employment sites?	Data gap	>>	>>	#	>>	>>	>>	The SPD focuses on the creation of a diverse town centre environment containing a mix of uses aiding employment opportunities.  A number of sites across the town are highlighted as potential development sites for future development.
22.	To develop and exploit the B	orough's knowledge	base						
	Research and Development in emerging technologies?	2.24% of occupations within Science and Technology professional category. <sup>24</sup>							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
23.	To exploit the growth potenti		S	Π	I		1	I	I N/A
<del>23a.</del>	Will it increase the number of growth businesses?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
23b.	Will it develop business clusters identified in the RES and other sub-regional/local strategies?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
24.	To improve the competitiven	ess and productivity	of busine	esses			•		
24a.	Will it improve the Borough's Business Property Stock?	Data gap	>>	#	#	>>	>>	>>	Potential development sites identified could accommodate new business property.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> ONS 'Occupation Groups' (UV30).

		Geogra	ohic Scale		Timescale		Cumulative	Commentary, including prevention,
Sustainable Development Objectives and Criteria	Key baseline info and target (where available)	Ashton	Boroughwide	Trans- boundary	Within plan period	Beyond plan period		reduction, offsetting of adverse effects
25. To secure economic inclusion							-	
25a. Will it meet the employment needs of local people?	35% of jobs in SOC 2000 Major Group 1-3 (Managers, senior officials)							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
25b. Will it reduce unemployment levels?	Unemployment levels at 4.5%. 25							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
25c. Will it improve the physical accessibility of jobs through the location of sites and transport links close to areas of high unemployment?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
26. To develop and maintain a he								
26a. Will it provide better paid and higher quality jobs?	Requirement to attract highly paid and professional employment however also a requirement to address existing labour market.							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
27. To develop strategic transpor		d econom	ic infrastr	ucture				
27a. Will it reduce traffic congestion and improve safety for road users?	4.1 road casualties per 1000 population		_					N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
27b. Will it increase the level of investment in and use of rail and water freight transport?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report
27c. Will it improve transport links, ICT, homeworking and green travel plans?	Data gap							N/A – see Sustainability Scoping Report

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 25}$  NOMIS February 2003 – March 2004.