

# Big City Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

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## Purpose of this Report

This Scoping Report documents the first main stage (Stage A) of the SA (incorporating SEA) process for the Birmingham City Centre Master Plan Development Plan Document (DPD). It will assist Urban Initiatives and Birmingham City Council in the development and appraisal of the Birmingham City Centre Master Plan DPD and enable the performance of the policies to be monitored against the existing baseline conditions.

This report will be consulted upon for a minimum period of five weeks with the statutory environmental consultees (Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage), and other relevant organisations. This allows consultees to consider the contents of this report, and to make any comments where necessary. Comments will be taken into account when carrying out the later stages of the SA process.

## List of Abbreviations

BME	Black and Minority Ethnic
CLG	Communities and Local Government
DPD	Development Plan Document
EFW	Energy from Waste
EINA	Equalities Impact Needs Assessment
LDF	Local Development Framework
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
NHS	National Health Service
NNR	National Nature Reserve
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PPS	Planning Policy Statement
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SLINC	Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record
UDP	Unitary Development Plan

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Birmingham City Council is preparing an Area Action Plan for Birmingham City Centre hereafter referred to as the 'Big City Plan'. The Big City Plan will form an important part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) for Birmingham.
- 1.1.2 This Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report sets out how a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Big City Plan will be carried out. It incorporates the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive and Government Guidance on the Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks (ODPM, 2005).
- 1.1.3 This Scoping Report records the process of deciding on the scope and level of detail for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA), including the sustainability effects and options which need to be considered, the assessment methods to be used, and the structure and contents of the SA Report. It documents the first main stage (Stage A) of the SA process for the Big City Plan. The Scoping Report is published for consultation, for a period of 5 weeks, to ensure that the process is comprehensive and that statutory environmental consultees (Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage) and other relevant organisations can comment on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the SA Report.

## 1.2 Sustainable Development

- 1.2.1 Sustainable development is one of the core principles of planning. Planning Policy Statement 1<sup>1</sup> states:

“Planning authorities should ensure that sustainable development is treated in an integrated way in their development plans. In particular, they should carefully consider the inter-relationship between social inclusion, protecting and enhancing the environment, the prudent use of natural resources and economic development.”

- 1.2.2 The Government sets out five principles for sustainable development in its Sustainability Strategy<sup>2</sup>. They are as follows:

- Living within environmental limits;
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;
- Achieving a sustainable economy;
- Promoting good governance;
- Using Sound Science Responsibly.

- 1.2.3 The Big City Plan should be based on these sustainable development principles.

## 1.3 Requirement for SA and SEA

- 1.3.1 SEA is required by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the 'SEA Regulations') which in turn is derived from the European Directive 2001/42/EC<sup>3</sup> (known as the SEA Directive). The SEA Regulations require the

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<sup>1</sup> ODPM (2005) Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development

<sup>2</sup> Defra (2005) Securing the Future – UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy

<sup>3</sup> European Parliament (2001) Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment

assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant environmental effects. Development Plan Documents are considered to have significant environmental effects and therefore require SEA.

- 1.3.2 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004<sup>4</sup> requires SA for Development Plan Documents, Regional Spatial Strategies and Supplementary Planning Documents. This requires the assessment of the sustainability of the proposals in the document in question. The Big City Plan is a Development Plan Document, and therefore requires SA.

## **1.4 Approach to the SA incorporating SEA of the Big City Plan**

- 1.4.1 Whilst the requirements to produce SA and SEA are distinct, as outlined above, UK Government guidance<sup>5</sup> considers it possible to satisfy the SA and SEA requirements through a single integrated approach. This approach is proposed for the Big City Plan. Throughout this document, where reference is made to SA, it denotes SA incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive.

## **1.5 The Staged Process of SA**

- 1.5.1 There are five main stages of SA, as identified in guidance issued by the ODPM (2005), outlined in Table 1.1.

**Table 1.1 Incorporating SA within the DPD Process (ODPM, 2005)**

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<sup>4</sup> British Government (2004) The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

<sup>5</sup> ODPM (2005) Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents

<b>DPD Stage 1: Pre-Production – Evidence Gathering</b>
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope
A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
A2: Collecting baseline information
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems
A4: Developing the SA framework
A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA
<b>DPD Stage 2: Production</b>
Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects
B1: Testing the DPD objectives against the SA framework
B2: Developing the DPD options
B3: Predicting the effects of the DPD
B4: Evaluating the effects of the DPD
B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing DPDs
Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report
C1: Preparing the SA Report
Stage D: Consulting on the preferred options of the DPD and SA Report
D1: Public participation on the preferred options of the DPD and the SA Report
D2(i): Appraising significant changes
<b>DPD Stage 3: Examination</b>
D2(ii): Appraising significant changes resulting from representations
<b>DPD Stage 4: Adoption and monitoring</b>
D3: Making decisions and providing information
<b>Stages E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD</b>
E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring
E2: Responding to adverse effects

## 1.6 Equalities Impact Needs Assessment

- 1.6.1 Birmingham City Council is required to carry out an Equality Impact Needs Assessment (EINA) for all land use plans under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Disability Discrimination Act 2005, and in accordance with the Council's own corporate equalities policy. An EINA will be carried out in conjunction with this SA so that the two processes can complement one another.

## 1.7 Structure of the Report

1.7.1 This scoping report documents the first stage (Stage A) of the SA process for the Big City Plan (see Table 1.1). Following the introduction, this report is structured according to the tasks required under Stage A (see Table 1.1) as follows:

**Section 2: Identifying other relevant Plans and Programmes (Task A1)** – This section outlines a review of relevant international, national and local documents to assist in identifying the key sustainability issues and developing the sustainability objectives.

**Section 3: Collecting Baseline Information (Task A2)** – This section sets out relevant baseline information for Birmingham as well as identifying and describing the key sustainability issues.

**Section 4: Identifying Sustainability Issues and Problems (Task A3)** – This section sets out the proposed SA objectives, appraisal questions and the relevant indicators.

**Section 5: Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework (Task A4)** – This section sets out the proposed SA framework and describes how the framework will be used to assess policies.

**Section 6: Conclusion** – This section provides an explanation of the subsequent stages of SA. It also provides a quality assurance checklist.

The guidance requires five tasks under Stage A. The above structure shows how four of these have been met. The fifth task is consultation. Section 1.8 shows how this will be met.

## 1.8 Consultation on the Scoping Report

1.8.1 This report is being sent to a number of organisations for consultation, including the statutory environmental consultees under the SEA Regulations: the Environment Agency, Natural England, and English Heritage. Comments received will be considered and the scope and levels of information provided within this document amended as appropriate.

1.8.2 Procedures for providing comments are provided in Box 1.1.

### Box 1.1 Responding to Consultation on the Scoping Report

We would welcome your views on this Scoping Report. The consultation period will run for 5 weeks from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June to Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July. We are particularly interested to know the following:

**1. Do you agree with the main sustainability issues identified?**

These are listed in Table 3.1 and are expanded on in further detail in section 3.2. They outline the key problems and opportunities that Birmingham faces and the issues which should be taken into account in the SA of the Birmingham LDF.

**2. Do you know of any baseline information which will help to inform the SA process?** The key baseline information relating to each sustainability issue is presented in Section 3. This information will be used to help inform the appraisal process.

**3. Do you agree that the SA objectives cover the breadth of sustainability issues appropriate for Birmingham City Centre?**

These objectives are presented alongside appraisal criteria in Section 4. They will be used to appraise policies coming out of the review.

Please provide comments by 5pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Comments should be sent to:

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Urban Initiatives	
1 Fitzroy Square	Telephone: 0207 380 4545
London	
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## 2 Identifying Other Relevant Plans and Programmes (Task A1)

- 2.1.1 The purpose of reviewing plans and programmes as part of the SA is to ensure that the relationship with these other documents is fully explored and to ensure that the relevant environmental protection and sustainability objectives are taken on board throughout the SA and the plan-making process. Reviewing plans and programmes can also provide appropriate information on the baseline for the plan area and the key sustainability issues.
- 2.1.2 The plans and programmes selected as relevant are listed in **Table 2.1** below. A review of many of these documents can be found in the SA of the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy<sup>6</sup> and the Scoping Report for the SA of the Birmingham Core Strategy. The review of these documents has not been repeated in this SA, but any relevant additional plans and programmes have been reviewed, and local plans and programmes have been added. **Appendix A** contains the review of these documents.
- 2.1.3 The review identifies objectives and targets which will have implications for the SA and illustrates how they have been taken on board by the SA. Since the relevant objectives identified in these documents have been integrated within the SA objectives – synergies and inconsistencies will be highlighted during the appraisal process.

**Table 2.1 Relevant Plans and Programmes**

<b>Plans and Programmes</b>
<b>International</b>
EU (2006) Directive on Waste (2006/12/EC, Waste Framework Directive)
EU (2001) Directive on Electricity Production from Renewable Energy Sources (2001/77/EC)
EU (2000) Directive on Establishing a Framework for Community Action in the Field of Water Policy (2000/60/EC, The Water Framework Directive)
EU (1998) European Biodiversity Strategy
UNFCC (1997) Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
EU (1996) Ambient Air Quality Assessment and Management (96/62/EC, Air Quality Framework Directive)
EU (1992) Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC, Habitats Directive)
EU (1991) Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
EU (2006) Directive on Waste (2006/12/EC, Waste Framework Directive)
<b>National</b>
Defra (2007) Waste Strategy for England 2007
Defra (2007) The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
CLG (2006) The State of English Cities, volume 1
CLG (2006) Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk
CLG (2006) Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing
CLG (2006) Minerals Policy Statement 1: Planning and Minerals
Defra (2005) UK Sustainable Development Strategy
ODPM (2005) Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development
ODPM (2005) Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres
ODPM (2005) Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

<sup>6</sup> Ursus Consulting Ltd (2006) Sustainability Appraisal of Draft West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy Phase 2 Revision

ODPM (2005) Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management
Department of Health (2004) White Paper: Choosing Health
ODPM (2004) Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas
ODPM (2004) Planning Policy Statement 22: Renewable Energy
ODPM (2004) Planning Policy Statement 23: Planning and Pollution Control
ODPM (2003) Sustainable Communities Plan
Department of Health (2003) Tackling Inequalities: A Programme for Action
DfES (2002) Education and Skills: Delivering Results, A Strategy to 2006
Defra (2002) Working with the Grain of Nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for England
ODPM (2002) Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation
Environment Agency (2001) Water Resources for the Future – A Strategy for England and Wales
DCMS (2001) The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future
ODPM (2001) Planning Policy Guidance 2: Green Belts
ODPM (2001) Planning Policy Guidance 13: Transport
DETR (2000) UK Climate Change Programme
Department of Environment and Department of National Heritage (1994) Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the Historic Environment
ODPM (1994) Planning Policy Guidance 24: Planning and Noise
ODPM (1992) Planning Policy Guidance 4: Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms (and draft PPS4)
ODPM (1990) Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning
The Code for Sustainable Homes (2006)
<b>Regional</b>
Sustainability West Midlands (2006) Regional Sustainable Development Framework
The 7 Authorities of the West Midlands Metropolitan Area (2006) West Midlands Local Transport Plan
West Midlands Regional Assembly and Partners (2006) West Midlands Regional Concordat
Regional Skills Partnership (2005) Regional Skills Partnership Introduction and Priorities
West Midlands Regional Assembly (2005) West Midlands Regional Housing Strategy
West Midlands Regional Sustainability Forum (2005) Enriching Our Region: An Environmental Manifesto for the West Midlands
Environment Agency (2005) A Water Resources Strategy for the West Midlands
West Midlands Regional Assembly and West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership (2005) Restoring the Region's Wildlife: Regional Biodiversity Strategy for the West Midlands
Forestry Commission (2004) West Midlands Regional Forestry Framework
Energy West Midlands (2004) West Midlands Regional Energy Strategy
Advantage West Midlands and West Midlands Regional Assembly (2004) Delivering Advantage: The West Midlands Economic Strategy and Action Plan 2004-2010
Government Office for the West Midlands (2004) Regional Planning Guidance for the West Midlands, RPG11
Advantage West Midlands (2003) West Midlands Regional Language Strategy
Advantage West Midlands (2002) Cluster mapping and analysis in the environmental industries of the West Midlands
West Midlands Regional Transport Strategy (RTS)
<b>Local</b>
Birmingham City Council (2007) Religion and Belief Equality Scheme 2007-2010
Birmingham City Council (2007) Lesbian, Gay and Bi-Sexual People Equality Scheme 2007-2010
Birmingham City Council (2007) Race Equality Scheme 2007-2010

Birmingham City Council (2007) Gender Equality Scheme 2007-2010
Birmingham City Council (2006) Air Quality Action Plan
Birmingham Strategic Partnership and Birmingham City Council (2005) Taking Birmingham Forward: Community Strategy for Birmingham 2005-2010
Birmingham City Council (2006) Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2006-2026
Birmingham Community Safety Partnership (2005) Birmingham's Community Safety Strategy 2005-2008
Birmingham City Council (2005) Housing Strategy
Birmingham City Council (2004) Archaeology Strategy
Birmingham City Council and Birmingham Health Services (2003) Plan for Birmingham's Older People
Birmingham City Council (2000) Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan 2000-2005
Birmingham City Council (2000) A Transport Strategy for Birmingham
Birmingham City Council (1999) Regeneration Through Conservation: Birmingham Conservation Strategy
Birmingham City Council/Birmingham strategic Partnership (2007) Birmingham Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan Consultation
Ludi Simpson (2007), University of Manchester, Population Forecast for Birmingham with an ethnic group dimension
Professor Michael Parkinson CBE (2007), The Birmingham City Centre masterplan: the visioning study
Birmingham Biodiversity Action Plan
Birmingham City Council (2005), Unitary Development Plan
Birmingham City Council (2008), Draft Issues and Options of the Core Strategy
Birmingham City Council (1989) City Centre Design Strategy
Birmingham City Council (1985) City Centre Strategy
Birmingham City Council (1999) Regeneration through Conservation
Birmingham City Council (2002) City Centre Canal Corridor Strategy
Birmingham City Council (2003) SPG, High Places: A planning Policy Framework for Tall Buildings
Birmingham City Council (2000), VISIONS Transport Strategy
Birmingham City Council (1994) SPG, Convention Centre Quarter Planning and Urban design Framework
Birmingham City Council (1996) SPG, Digbeth Millennium Quarter Planning and Urban Design for the Future
Birmingham City Council (1998) SPG, Bull Ring. Markets Quarter Planning and Urban Design Framework
Birmingham City Council (2001) SPG, Eastside Development Framework
Birmingham City Council (2003) SPG, Eastside Design and Movement Framework
Birmingham City Council (1998) SPG, Jewellery Quarter Urban Village Urban Framework Plan
Birmingham City Council (2004) SPG, Bath Row & Holloway Head Development Framework
Birmingham City Council (1999) Central Area Estates Development Framework
Birmingham City Council Bristol Street South Development Brief (Bull Ring / Markets, 2003)
Birmingham City Council Former Museum of Science and Technology Development Brief (Jewellery, 2002)
Birmingham City Council Great Charles Street Draft Planning Guidelines (Jewellery, 2005)
Birmingham City Council Post & Mail Site Urban Design Brief (City Core, 2004)
Birmingham City Council Snow Hill Development Brief (City Core, 2002)
Birmingham City Council (2001) Places for Living – Housing Design Guidance
Birmingham City Council (2001) Places for All – General Urban Design Guidance
Birmingham City Council (2007) Public Open Space and New Residential Development
Birmingham City Council (2006) Lighting Places – Draft Lighting Strategy for the City Centre & Local Centres
Birmingham City Council (2006) Colmore Row and Environs Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Supplementary Planning Policies

Birmingham City Council (2002) Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan
Birmingham City Council (2007) Steelhouse Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Supplementary Planning Policies
Birmingham City Council (2007) Warwick Bar Conservation Area Draft Character Appraisal and Draft Supplementary Planning Policies
Birmingham City Council (2007) Sustainable Management of Urban Rivers and Floodplains
Birmingham City Council (2006) Loss of Industrial Land to Alternative Uses
Birmingham City Council (1992) Affordable Housing

### 3 Collecting Baseline Information (Task A2)

#### Introduction

- 3.1.1 An essential part of the SA process is the identification of current baseline conditions and their likely evolution. It is only with a knowledge of existing conditions, and a consideration of their significance, that the issues which a plan or programme should address (in this case the Big City Plan) can be identified and its subsequent success or otherwise be monitored.
- 3.1.2 As part of the evidence gathering in the preparation of the Big City Plan extensive baseline information for Birmingham City Centre has been collected. This is available in the form of a separate report titled 'Birmingham Baseline Report'. The issues and problems identified here draw on the findings from the baseline report as well as the plans, programmes and policies reviewed in section 2.
- 3.1.3 Evidence to support the issues has also been identified from the websites/reports of a number of organisations, such as the Birmingham City Council, Birmingham Strategic Partnership, Environment Agency, Natural England, Audit Commission, West Midlands Regional Assembly and Department of Health.
- 3.1.4 The SEA Directive requires that the evolution of the baseline conditions of the plan area are identified. This is useful in informing assessments of significance, particularly with regard to the effect that conditions may already be improving or worsening and the rate of such change. Where information on these trends is available it has been included in the following section. Some information crosses into more than one topic. Where this is the case, the information has been put in the section considered to be of most relevance.

#### 3.2 Key Sustainability Issues and Baseline Data

- 3.2.1 The SEA Directive requires that the evolution of the baseline conditions of the plan area (that would take place without the plan or programme) are identified. This is useful in informing assessments of significance, particularly with regard to the effect that conditions may already be improving or worsening and the rate of such change. Where information on these trends is available it has been included in the following section. The information has been arranged in topic headings that will also be used for the SA objectives (see section 4). Some information crosses into more than one topic. Where this is the case, the information has been put in the section considered to be of most relevance.

### 3.3 Overview

- 3.3.1 The study boundary for the Big City Plan is the ring road, also known as the Middleway. The population at the census in 2001 was just over 23,000, however given the number of new dwellings that have been constructed since that time it is estimated that the population is nearer 30,000, which is 2.3% (or 3% according to recent estimate) of Birmingham's overall urban area population of 1 million. Birmingham is also at the centre of the West Midlands region, with a population of approximately 2.5 million.

### 3.4 Resource Use

- 3.4.1 There are no mineral workings in Birmingham City Centre. Water and gas are the only natural resources consumed directly in the City Centre. Gas use will be detailed in the Energy section of this report.

#### *Water*

- 3.4.2 Birmingham City Centre is served by Severn Trent Water. In 2004, Birmingham residents consumed on average 137 litres of water per person per day and it is not mandatory for homes to have a water meter. The national average is 154 litres per person per day (Audit Commission).

### 3.5 Energy Use, Efficiency and Renewables

- 3.5.1 Birmingham consumed 22,601.8 Gigawatt hours (GWh) of energy in 2003 and obtained only 70.8 GWh, 0.31%, of its needs from renewable sources (Climate Change Strategy Consultation Draft). Households in Birmingham use 20,862kWh of gas per capita each year and 4,531kWh of electricity. The City aims to source 15% of energy from renewable sources and generate 30% of energy locally by 2020.
- 3.5.2 Heating is by far the largest domestic use of energy in Birmingham. Space heating accounts for 62% of use, while water heating accounts 22%. This is exacerbated by a large number of homes that do not meet Decent Homes standards, including 49,250 Council-owned homes and an estimated 35,000 private sector dwellings.
- 3.5.3 Only a very small fraction of Birmingham's building stock is built new each year, so new building standards will take decades to have a significant impact on resource use across the city, making the condition of the existing building stock very important. There are no indicators of the age or quality of the building stock as a whole in Birmingham, but energy use data suggest there are a large number of homes of poor quality that contribute to high energy usage.

### 3.6 Waste Disposal and Reduction

- 3.6.1 Birmingham City Council handled 551,442 tonnes of municipal waste in 2003-04, of which 13% was recycled, 62% incinerated and 25% sent to land fill. However, it is estimated domestic waste accounts for only 18% of Birmingham's total waste output. Industry and commerce and construction and demolition generate the majority of waste and given the high levels of these activities in the city centre it is reasonable to assume that the city centre produces higher than average levels of waste.
- 3.6.2 Birmingham's households produce less waste each year than those in other metropolitan authorities and the rate of waste growth is lower than the national average. In 2005/06, households in Birmingham produced on average 462.7kg of waste (Audit Commission). Recycling levels, while still low, have improved from 8%

in 2000/01 to 17% in 2005/06 (Waste Strategy). Birmingham's statutory recycling target was 18% in 2005-06 and will rise to 30% in 2010. The current recycling rate is far below this goal. There is no reason to assume that the situation in the city centre would differ from the trends of the whole city in this respect.

3.6.3 The City has increased the scope of its recycling programme and now includes more material than in previous years. The City's target is 40% recycling and compost rates by 2026 (Waste Strategy).

3.6.4 According to the Municipal Waste Management Strategy, the City Council has sufficient municipal waste treatment capacity up to 2019.

### **3.7 Sustainable Design, Construction and Maintenance**

3.7.1 A number of new developments in Birmingham City Centre have implemented sustainable building strategies.

3.7.2 The City Council, through a joint venture with energy company Utilicom, installed a new Combined Heat and Power (CHP) network in the Convention Centre Quarter. The Broad Street Network delivers shared heating and cooling to the ICC, NIA, Council House, Town Hall, Rep Theatre, Paradise Circus and Hyatt Regency Hotel. CHP increases energy efficiency significantly by reducing the amount of energy lost in transmission, reducing energy waste. Further CHP networks are planned for Attwood Green and Eastside.

3.7.3 Eastside was conceived as a demonstration of sustainable development principles. In addition to the CHP network, renewable energy technology like wind and solar power will be placed on site along with green roofs and sustainable urban drainage systems.

3.7.4 Several large building schemes in Birmingham City Centre have achieved high BREEAM Buildings and Ecohomes / Code for Sustainable Homes ratings, exemplifying sustainable building practice. Commercial buildings include 19 George Road (Excellent), Calthorpe House (Excellent) and Baskerville House (Excellent). The homes at Attwood Green received Excellent Ecohomes standard.

### **3.8 Sustainable Transport**

3.8.1 Birmingham lies at the centre of the transport networks in the West Midlands and England, being well connected nationally by road, rail and water.

#### Rail

3.8.2 There are three main rail stations in the City Centre: New Street, Snow Hill and Moor Street. New Street Station is a major rail interchange that offers both local, regional and national services. A significant upgrade to the station is planned, though a tunnel to the east creates a bottleneck that will continue to limit the potential growth of this station. Snow Hill and Moor Street Stations offer regional services.

#### Metro

3.8.3 A Metro tram line runs from Birmingham Snow Hill Station to Wolverhampton with a station in the Jewellery Quarter. The route follows the northern rail line and is typically used for long-distance commuting, with the average trip length 13km. There are plans to extend the Metro through the City Centre and down Broad Street to Five Ways.

#### Road

- 3.8.4 The City Centre was once constrained by the Inner Ring Road, which has been partially deconstructed, with the A38 Corridor remaining a significant through route. As outlined in paragraph 15.14 of the UDP, the City Council envisages that the A38 will remain a major arterial route but will be physically segregated from local City Centre traffic where appropriate. A number of radial routes connect the pedestrianised City Centre with the Outer Ring Road, the study boundary.

There are a large number of households in Birmingham without access to a car, whether by choice or financial necessity. In the City Centre, 65% of households do not have a car and across the whole city 38% of residents. Despite the walkability and good public transport connections the Council still requires 100% provision of parking for new residential developments in the city centre.

#### Bus and Coach

- 3.8.5 Over 90% of all passenger transport in Birmingham is handled by the city's buses. The bus network is operated by a number of companies. Routes run along the main radial routes and provides good coverage throughout the City Centre. There are priority measures in place on a number of these routes, like Digbeth High Street and others are planned. Buses, though, are unreliable and do not meet expected 6-minute headways as they get stuck in traffic.
- 3.8.6 The City Centre has a maximum capacity in the Centre Core of 600 bus vehicles. Pedestrianisation limits bus traffic to a few key corridors, which reduces capacity and has significant environmental problems along these routes.
- 3.8.7 A coach station in Digbeth provides connections from Birmingham to destinations throughout the country.

#### Pedestrian and Bicycling Facilities

- 3.8.8 The pedestrian environment in the City Centre Core is good, having received significant attention over the course of the last decade. Improvements to Victoria Square and the public realm in the Convention Centre Quarter, along with pedestrianisation of key routes in the Core have created a series of connected spaces that are of distinct character and welcoming to pedestrian traffic. Further expansion of the car-free zone has been proposed along with the Metro extension.
- 3.8.9 In other parts of the City Centre, the pedestrian environment is poor, especially along radial routes to the Ring Road. The quality of spaces along the valuable canal corridors is mixed, with some areas quite welcoming to foot traffic and others inaccessible and uninviting altogether.
- 3.8.10 The A38 corridor and the Ring Road present significant barriers to both pedestrian and bicycle movement across the City Centre, encouraging the use of other transport modes.
- 3.8.11 Bicycling accounts for only a small fraction of travel. The City Council desires to create a network of bicycling routes but at present this is fragmented and there are only a limited number of dedicated cycle lanes.

#### Travel Behaviour

- 3.8.12 Birmingham City Centre is a major regional employment centre and is impacted directly by transport behaviour of residents throughout the region, not only those in the City Centre. Because there is an imbalance between the number of jobs and homes in the City Centre, it is affected by travel decisions made by residents who live outside the City.

3.8.13 In 2001, 53% of people who work in the City Centre live in Birmingham. Of this, only 2.5% live in the City Centre. So, 47% of the working population, nearly 58,000 people, commutes from elsewhere.

3.8.14 For the most part, those commuting from outside Birmingham live in West Midlands County, or the region, with the largest number of commuters coming from Solihull, Sandwell and Dudley and Worcestershire and Staffordshire.

**Table 3.1 Commuting Flows to Birmingham City Centre Workplaces, 2001**

Place of Residence	Working in City Centre	
	Number	% of total
Within City Centre	3,106	2.5
Rest of Birmingham	61,706	50.3
Outside Birmingham	57,858	47.2
West Midlands County	32,375	26.3
Solihull	9,845	8.0
Sandwell	8,722	7.1
Dudley	5,279	4.4
Worcestershire	7,359	6.0
Staffordshire	6,871	5.6
<b>Total*</b>	<b>122,670</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: 2001 Census of Population

\* Origin-destination data is less accurate than other Census datasets and figures do not tally with other tables in this report.

3.8.15 The resulting split of transport modes corresponds to this distribution of residential location. For many people, the only way to the City Centre is by car as public transport service decreases in coverage and frequency with distance except along key routes. It is not surprising that as residential location moves toward the City Centre, car use decreases. However, it is clear that even in Birmingham, many drive to the City Centre, suggesting public transport or pedestrian facilities need improvement.

**Table 3.2 Commuting Flows to Birmingham City Centre by Mode of Transport, 2001**

Place of Residence	Working in City Centre					
	Number	Foot / bicycle	Bus	Metro	Train	Car
Within City Centre	1,487	49.0%	16.8%	0.3%	1.4%	19.9%
Rest of Birmingham	61,706	3.7	41.1	0.5	6.8	46.6
Outside Birmingham	57,858	1.0	14.5	2.3	22.2	59.1
Solihull	9,845		20.2	0.2	22.7	55.3
Sandwell	8,722		32.7	6.4	8.8	49.6
Dudley	5,379		16.1	1.5	26.3	54.2
Worcestershire	7,359		5.4	0.3	24.3	68.5
Staffordshire	6,871		5.7	0.9	30.0	62.1

Source: 2001 Census of Population

\* Origin-destination data is less accurate than other Census datasets and figures do not tally with other tables in this report.

### **3.9 Reducing the Need to Travel**

3.9.1 The City Council has set many targets for decreasing car traffic in the City Centre and improving public transport access, as outlined in the Sustainability Strategy. In the past decade, cordon surveys have found the number of car trips going into the City Centre on the decline, while the number of bus trips has remained constant and the number of rail trips has increased. It is hoped this trend will continue. There have also been a number of successful mixed use developments within the city centre over recent years, which enable people to travel easily between central area facilities therefore reducing the need to travel.

### **3.10 Efficient Use of Land**

3.10.1 A very high proportion (80%) of employment development in Birmingham as a whole has taken place on previously developed land between 1991 and 2006. For office development, the percentage is higher, at over 88%. This is largely due to the amount of office development that has taken place in the City Centre.

3.10.2 Since 2001/02, the proportion of new housing developed on previously developed land has been high, and generally increasing. The Unitary Development Plan target has been exceeded for the last four years, and for the last three years the Regional Spatial Strategy target has also been exceeded. This trend is expected to continue, as there is brownfield land in the city centre with the potential to accommodate new development, including office, retail and residential development.

### **3.11 Responding to Climate Change**

3.11.1 The Government estimates Birmingham produces 6.6 million tonnes of carbon emissions each year. Industry and commerce account for 47% of emissions, homes 35% and transport 18%. Given the high levels of these activities in the city centre it is not unreasonable to assume that the city centre makes a significant contribution to this figure.

3.11.2 On average, each dwelling unit emits 5,424kg of carbon dioxide each year, the fifth highest of 23 UK cities studied (Sustainability Consultation Draft). The City aims to reduce carbon emissions by 20% by 2010.

3.11.3 Birmingham City Centre has seen much development in the recent past that has sought to increase considerably the intensity of land use. This contributes to urban density and vitality and enables more sustainable transport behaviour.

3.11.4 Developed surfaces contribute to stormwater runoff, a contributing factor to urban flooding. These surfaces also create Heat Islands that warm that ambient air.

3.11.5 Birmingham's many rivers and streams are susceptible to flooding, whether caused by Climate Change or otherwise. The River Rea and a series of canals run through Birmingham City Centre. The City Council is currently undertaking a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) in accordance with PSS25: Development and Flood Risk. The results of this report should be incorporated into the SA process when available.

### **3.12 Sense of Place**

3.12.1 Birmingham City Centre has undergone significant change in the last two decades and the City Council has implemented a number of environmental improvements. The City Centre is characterised by a high level of commercial activity, historic streets and a network of canals. It is a place of enormous visual variety with distinct

neighbourhoods and spaces. Extensive redevelopment has contribute to a generally improved public realm at the heart of the City.

3.12.2 Birmingham's residents are positive about the city. According to the Community Strategy Draft, opinion polls show that 81% of people think it is a good place to live.

### 3.13 Built and Historic Environment

3.13.1 Birmingham has a rich history and remnants of this exist throughout the City Centre. Within the study area, there are a number of conservation areas as well as a large selection of historic monuments.

#### Conservation Areas

3.13.2 There are five designated conservation areas within the city centre:

- Colmore Row and Environs Conservation Area (21.70 hectares)
- Steelhouse Lane Conservation Area (11.07 hectares)
- The Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area (107 hectares)
- Warwick Bar Conservation Area (16.19 hectares)
- Digbeth, Deritend and Bordesley High Streets Conservation Area (26.68 hectares)

3.13.3 For each of these conservation areas, with the exception of Digbeth, Deritend and Bordesley High Streets, the council has prepared a Conservation Area Character Appraisal. The purpose of these documents is to highlight the special interest of the conservation areas.

3.13.4 In summary, the Colmore Row and Environs Conservation Area is characterised by buildings belonging to the period from the 1860s up to the outbreak of the Second World War. There are six grade I listed buildings, including the early eighteenth century Church of St. Philip.

3.13.5 The preservation of the fine townscape surrounding the Victorian Law Courts (grade I listed) remains the principal justification for the designation of the Steelhouse Lane Conservation Area. There are ten statutorily listed buildings within the conservation area, including three II\* listed buildings.

3.13.6 The significance of the Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area derives from (i) the substantial survival of an historically important manufacturing trade within a distinct urban area; (ii) the significant number of surviving buildings which contain or contained the processes involved within that trade; and (iii) the visible level of specialist skills traditionally employed within the core trade. There are a huge number of statutorily listed buildings within the Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area.

3.13.7 In relation to the Warwick Bar Conservation Area the character appraisal states that 'the built character of the conservation area is defined through a range of warehouse complexes and purpose built works or manufactories dating from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century'. There are six statutorily listed buildings. All of these buildings are grade II listed.

3.13.8 Finally, the Digbeth, Deritend and Bordesley High Streets Conservation Area covers much of what can be still readily discerned of Birmingham's medieval townscape. The fifteenth century timber framed Old Crown on Deritend High Street, recently identified as the Guildhall of St. John, provides a centrepiece of the conservation area.

### **Archaeology**

- 3.13.9 As outlined within the Archaeology Strategy (SPG, February 2004) Birmingham's City Centre has well preserved archaeological remains dating from the 12th century onwards. Indeed, the City Centre includes the historic heart of Birmingham around St Martin's Church and areas of residential, industrial and commercial development over centuries.
- 3.13.10 Within the strategy the Digbeth and High Street Deritend area is identified as an area of archaeological significance. Already archaeological remains dating from the 18th and 19th centuries have been found in the northern part of this area. In addition there are above and below ground remains of canalside industries in the City Centre.
- 3.13.11 Policy 14 of the strategy highlights the importance of preserving these archaeological remains. As such, the city council require all planning applications for development involving significant ground disturbance or alteration to historic buildings in the city centre to be accompanied by an archaeological assessment. This policy supplements the policies in the UDP (paragraphs 3.30-3.33 and 8.36), which seek to protect archaeological remains.

### **3.14 Natural Landscape and Biodiversity**

- 3.14.1 The City Centre is a largely built-up urban area with limited natural landscape. Notable green spaces include St Paul's Square and Cathedral Square as well as Highgate Park. The City Centre's biodiversity, then, is derived primarily from street trees, parks, derelict sites and the city itself. Building edges and roofs are inhabited by a number of plant and animal species. Within the City Centre there are a number of sites of local importance for nature conservation (SLINCs), essentially the canal network and the River Rea. These areas, as well as the linear corridors along main rail and Metro lines are key wildlife corridors.
- 3.14.2 There are three animal species of special importance in Birmingham, the black redstart, peregrine falcon and common pipistrelle bats. There are a number of other protected bird species that inhabit the City Centre, living in, on, or around buildings. These include the house sparrow, starling, kestrel, grey wagtail and kingfisher, among others.
- 3.14.3 The black redstart is a migratory bird seen in the UK primarily in the summer, though there have been recorded sightings throughout the year. Its natural habitat in Europe is in rocky, mountainous terrain. In the UK the birds live in urban areas where buildings recreate this habitat. There are numerous areas in the City Centre where black redstarts are active. These include the Jewellery Quarter, Eastside, parts of Digbeth and parts of the Gun Quarter.
- 3.14.4 Black redstarts are legally protected. New development must consider mitigation of habitat destruction and the provision of suitable roosting sites.
- 3.14.5 Urban wasteland sites can be home to numerous invertebrate species that are natural prey for birds.
- 3.14.6 Birmingham City Council conducted a biodiversity audit of the Eastside area as part of its development proposal. This audit informed plans for Curzon Park and Ventureast, which will deliver substantial biodiversity gains when completed. Several other projects have included features such as brown roofs or new public green spaces.

### **3.15 Air Quality**

- 3.15.1 The whole of Birmingham was declared as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in 2003 with respect to nitrogen dioxide levels. A review in 2010 is likely to take into account objectives for reducing airborne particles.
- 3.15.2 The transportation sector is a major contributor to the emissions of nitrogen oxides and particles across the city. The Air Quality Action Plan notes a slight decrease in the traffic contribution over the last few years.

### **3.16 Water Quality**

- 3.16.1 The Environment Agency monitors the chemical and biological quality of rivers and waterways. Agency data indicates that river quality in Birmingham ranges from bad to fairly good. Only 3.72% of Birmingham's river length is considered of good biological quality and 5.86% is of good chemical quality (Audit Commission). The River Rea, the only river to pass through the city centre passes for the most part through industrial areas and is culverted for much of its length.

### **3.17 Soil Quality**

- 3.17.1 Historically, Birmingham has had a very broad spectrum of manufacturing industries. Many of these have the potential to leave a legacy of land contamination. At the heart of the UK's road and rail network, Birmingham has considerable land which may be contaminated due to transportation activities. However, public open space within the city, except for land located on former landfills, is considered unlikely to be affected by contamination. There are no contaminated sites reported in the City Centre (Land contamination registry).

### **3.18 Noise**

- 3.18.1 Levels of noise pollution are problematic in some parts of the city, according to the Community Strategy. Recent surveys have found that one in eight residents are concerned about noise and the Council receives over 3,000 noise complaints each year. Traffic is one of the principal sources of this noise. Pubs, bars, clubs and related street activity can be another source of noise disturbance.

### **3.19 Social and Environmental Responsibility**

- 3.19.1 Large organisations, whether corporations or local authorities, have the ability to deliver large social and environmental benefits to the local community. Businesses in Birmingham engage with the community through the Business in the Community member network. Examples of work in Birmingham include Cadbury's support of Business Action on Homelessness and Birmingham International Airport's skills development programme. The City Council can similarly influence the social and environmental quality of Birmingham by setting procurement and other policies to reward partners that share its goals.

### **3.20 Economy and Equality**

- 3.20.1 Birmingham City Centre is a major economic centre not only for the city but also the West Midlands as a whole. It is an economic cluster with a particular focus on the banking, finance and insurance and distribution, hotels and restaurants and public service sectors. As shown in Table 3.4, the City Centre's share of employment in most sectors is high with notable clusters in banking, finance and insurance and transport and communications.

**Table 3.4 Employment structure in Birmingham and its City Centre**

Industrial Sector	Birmingham City Centre	Percent of total	Birmingham	Percent of total	City Centre share
Agriculture and fishing	25	0.0	119	0.0	21.0
Energy and water	366	0.2	2,176	0.1	16.8
Manufacturing	12,289	8.4	65,246	4.8	18.8
Construction	3,100	2.1	16,562	2.3	18.7
Distribution, hotels and restaurants	29,335	20.0	108,911	16.9	26.9
Transport and communications	11,015	7.5	24,733	8.4	44.5
Banking, finance and insurance, etc	57,071	38.9	108,298	44.0	52.7
Public administration, education & health	28,804	19.6	144,576	19.1	19.9
Other services	4,778	3.3	21,242	4.3	22.5
Total	146,784		491,863		29.8

Source: ABI, IMPACT, 2001 Census, LEFM and BEIC

3.20.2 Future employment growth in Birmingham is expected primarily in the banking, finance and insurance sector. Continued declines are projected in the manufacturing sector, as well as the distribution, hotels and restaurants sector. The recent growth in the public services sector is not expected to continue. The resulting distribution of employment in the City Centre across sectors as a result of this growth is detailed in Table 3.5.

**Table 3.5: Expected Change in Employment structure in Birmingham City Centre**

Industrial Sector	Percent of total (2001)	Percent of total (2031)	Change
Agriculture and fishing	0.0	0.0	0
Energy and water	0.2	0.1	-0.1
Manufacturing	8.4	4.8	-3.6
Construction	2.1	2.3	+0.2
Distribution, hotels and restaurants	20.0	16.9	-3.1
Transport and communications	7.5	8.4	+0.9
Banking, finance and insurance, etc	38.9	44.0	+5.1
Public administration, education & health	19.6	19.1	-0.5
Other services	3.3	4.3	+1.0

Source: ABI, LEFM model and BEIC

### 3.21 Learning and Skills

3.21.1 There are a number of educational facilities within Birmingham City Centre providing places for the development of knowledge and skills at all levels. There are two nursery schools, nine primary schools, two colleges and three special schools in the City Centre. In addition to these, there is one nursery school and six primary schools in close proximity to the City Centre. There is one secondary school in the City Centre, St Alban's in Highgate, which provides education between the ages of 11 and 16.

#### Primary and Secondary Education

3.21.2 This section sets out the current school provision and achievement levels at a Birmingham wide level. The population forecasts produced by the University of Manchester (in Table 3.6 below) show that there will be an increase in the number of children between 0-4 (+10,000 between 2006 and 2026) and 5-10 (+13,500).

**Table 3.6: Population's age structure 1991-2026, Birmingham**

YEAR	0-4	5-10	11-15	16-17	18 - retired	retired - 74	75-84	85+	Total
1991	77,450	86,300	62,300	24,450	577,100	111,250	52,100	13,600	1,004,500
1996	75,600	91,500	69,500	26,250	567,750	103,350	51,750	15,400	1,001,100
2001	69,850	85,900	72,800	27,450	565,300	95,250	51,000	17,100	984,650
2006	73,650	79,850	68,700	29,650	593,650	91,000	49,300	18,750	1,004,600
2011	77,950	82,200	63,950	27,300	618,250	91,050	47,850	20,600	1,029,050
2016	81,850	87,400	64,200	25,800	633,800	92,300	48,100	22,100	1,055,600
2021	83,350	91,450	68,200	27,500	643,000	95,250	48,950	23,800	1,081,450
2026	83,050	93,350	71,300	28,250	649,000	102,500	51,850	25,950	1,105,250

Source: University of Manchester, Ludi Simpson

#### Primary Schools

3.21.3 The education department of Birmingham City Council forecasts the demand for primary schools places up to 2010. These projections, as in Table 3.7, show a steady increase in the number of school places required in the city centre wards, particularly in Ladywood.

**Table 3.7: Demand for school places, primary schools, 2007-2010**

Ward	Current Capacity	Sept 07	Sept 08	Sept 09	Sept 10
Aston	555	550	551	558	565
Ladywood	270	266	273	308	323
Nechells	540	540	561	597	567
Total	1365	1356	1385	1463	1455

Source: Birmingham Council

3.21.4 According to the education department, there is currently no shortage of primary schools places in Birmingham City Centre. Nevertheless, considering the fast population growth and birth rates experienced in the last years, there might be a shortage if no additional school places are opened.

3.21.5 Some of this new capacity will be provided within existing schools and plans for extension of some City Centre schools are being developed. Demand for new premises will be required if current population growth rates are continuing

3.21.6 Secondary schools

3.21.7 As for primary schools, the education department's forecast shows a steady increase in the demand for secondary school places in the City Centre. These projections, presented in Table 3.8 below, are produced for the Ladywood constituency, which takes in the Aston, Ladywood, Nechells and Soho wards.

**Table 3.8: Demand for school places, secondary schools, 2007-2017**

Constituency	Current Capacity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Ladywood	1,545	1,599	1,601	1,574	1,546	1,565	1,610	1,650	1,810	1,784	1,882	1,870

Source: Birmingham Council

#### School Achievement

3.21.8 The analysis of achievements at key stages shown in Table 3.9 that secondary school pass rates have improved in Birmingham as a whole. Birmingham is compared with neighbouring Solihull and the English Average. The 2006 data also shows that when English and Maths are included in the school pass rates, the gap between Birmingham's results and the English average is larger than when not included.

**Table 3.9: GCSE Secondary Schools Pass Rates (5+ grades A\*-C), 2004-2006**

	Birmingham	Solihull	England Avg
2004	51.2	60.2	53.7
2005	56.6	64.2	57.1
2006	58.8	66.8	59.2
2006 (including English and Maths)	40.8	50.5	45.8

Source: Parkinson Visioning study

#### Programmes to improve education services in Birmingham

3.21.9 There are currently several initiatives taken forward by Birmingham Council and the Learning and Skills Council to improve the educational offer and education delivery in the level of skills in Birmingham.

3.21.10 Birmingham is one of only 23 local authorities to be chosen by the government to pilot the Primary Capital Programme, a national scheme that aims to develop primary schools and primary age special schools across the country. Lozells Primary School is the first school to be part of the pilot programme.

3.21.11 Government priorities for the Pilot Primary Capital Programme include improving nutritional standards through school meals, improving the basic skills of numeracy and literacy, modernising sports, music, information and communication technology (ICT) facilities, ensuring that teaching and learning is consistent across all schools and providing activities for families and residents outside of school hours.

#### **Building schools for the future**

3.21.12 Building Schools for the Future (BSF) is a national building programme that will give Birmingham the opportunity to rebuild or refurbish all 76 secondary schools and 6 secondary special schools over the next decade. Birmingham is the largest urban Building Schools for the Future project in the country.

3.21.13 The developments will take place over six phases. The priority list for work on the schools is based on the degree of disadvantage in the neighbourhood plus the level

of pupil achievement in that school. None of the priority schools to be developed in phase one (2009-2010) is located in the City Centre.

### **Birmingham Academies**

3.21.14 Birmingham Academies are a key part of the Transforming Education programme in the city. Along with all the schools in the Building Schools for the Future programme, Birmingham Academies is intended to deliver a fresh approach to learning and be the key driver in inspiring young people and the community to explore new opportunities. By 2012, Birmingham will have seven Academies developed in partnership with sponsors.

3.21.15 Each academy will support young people to develop skills in construction, engineering, finance and law, health, hospitality, manufacturing, retail and media and arts. Of those academies with identified sponsors are St Albans CE (Angelina Street) and Eastside is located in the City Centre and Heartlands High school (Great Francis Street, Nechells) is close to the City Centre.

### **Improving further education:**

3.21.16 There are numerous programmes on-going to improve further education in Birmingham. These are mainly programmes run by the Learning and Skills Councils such as Train to Gain, Skills Pledge and learning grants.

3.21.17 Moreover, the city strategic partnership is to develop a comprehensive approach to training, skills and economic development, and to set up targets for 2012 with a focus on priority wards, that includes most of the wards that form the city centre. However, the exact nature of the priorities has not been developed yet

## **3.22 Community Involvement**

3.22.1 Community involvement can be measured by a number of indicators, including election turnout. Birmingham City Centre is wholly within the Ladywood Parliamentary constituency. In the 2005 general election 46.8% of registered voters voted in Ladywood Constituency, a 2.6 point increase over the 2001 election. This is the lowest turnout of Birmingham's 10 constituencies and the 13th lowest in the UK.

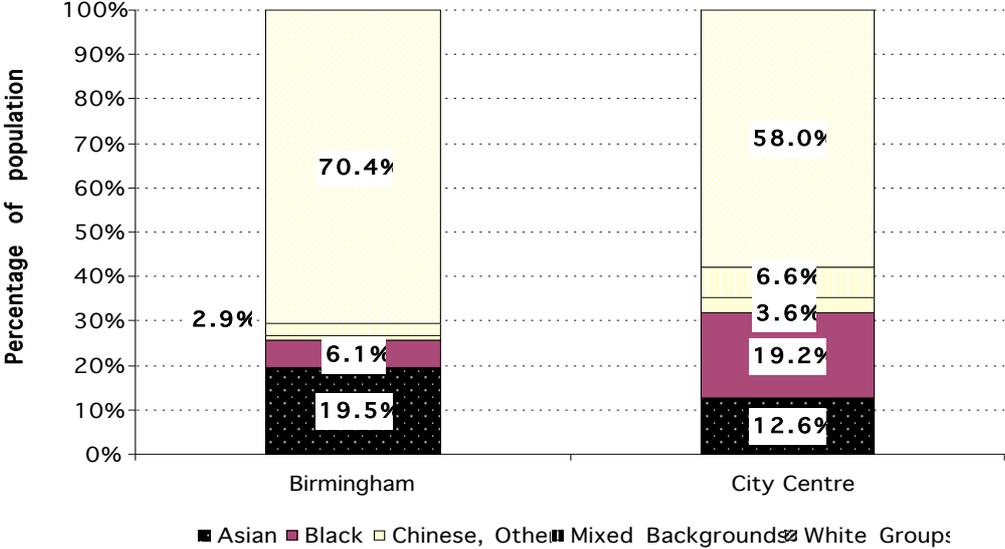
3.22.2 Another aspect of community involvement is the extent to which people feel involved in the development of their local area. Surveys in 2005 found over half of those asked felt that people together can influence decisions in their constituency, particularly in the Ladywood constituency (Birmingham Community Strategy – Strategic Assessment Update November 2006).

## **3.23 Age, Diversity and Equality**

3.23.1 Birmingham is a cosmopolitan city with a strikingly diverse population. In 2001, 30% of the population was from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BME) backgrounds. This characteristic is more marked in the city centre than in Birmingham's urban area as a whole. In 2001, in the city centre 42% of the population was from BME groups. The groups that are proportionally more represented in the city centre than in the city as a whole include Black people, people of mixed ethnic background, and Chinese people. Asian and White people are less well represented in the city centre.

3.23.2 The following chart shows are more detailed picture of the cosmopolitan nature of Birmingham's city centre:

**Figure 3.10: Composition of Birmingham and Birmingham’s city centre population, by five ethnic groups**



Source: 2001 Census, Birmingham Economic Strategy Unit

- 3.23.3 Population projections suggest that the ethnic make-up of Birmingham will become more diverse in the future, as the size of BME groups will increase. This trend can already be seen between 2001 and 2006; within a six year period, the share of BME population increased from 30% to 35% of the total population.
- 3.23.4 Birmingham is not only relatively younger than England but is one of the youngest urban areas in Europe (Urban Audit, 1997). In September 2007, the Birmingham Council demographic briefings mention that “Birmingham has a higher proportion of residents younger than 35 years” and “the most notable difference is in the 20 to 24 year age group where the proportion in Birmingham is 2.7 percentage points [9.6% of the population] above the national average [6.6% of the population]”. Conversely, the City has a lower proportion at every age group above 35 years.
- 3.23.5 Figure 3.1 shows the age structure of Birmingham and Birmingham city centre population in 2001.

Figure 3.1: Age Profile, Birmingham and Birmingham city centre, 2001



Source: census 2001, Birmingham Economy, Local Area Profile<sup>7</sup>

- 3.23.6 The city centre has a relatively young population. In 2001, the 16-24 years age group represents 30% of city centre residents. In the urban area, this age group is 13.6% of the total population.
- 3.23.7 This partly reflects the high proportion of students living in the area (25.9% of residents are students, compared with 10.1% city wide) but it is also the results of the younger age structure of the ethnic groups represented in the city centre.

### 3.24 Poverty

3.24.1 The Index of Deprivation in 2004 shows that many of the wards in which the City Centre lies are in the most deprived 10% in England. The Centre Core, parts of the Convention Centre Quarter and the Eastside regeneration area are generally less deprived. Child Poverty (measured as the percent of children in low-income households), in the whole of Birmingham is 34.8%, which is higher than the England average of 21.3%

### 3.25 Health

- 3.25.1 Information on health for Birmingham can be found in the NHS Health Profile for the area (2007), which gives a snapshot of health in Birmingham. According to the NHS, the percentage of local residents feeling in poor health in 2001 was 10.5%, compared to the England average of 7.8%.
- 3.25.2 Adults in Birmingham are less likely than average to follow health eating guidelines. It is estimated that more than half of the adult population in Birmingham is overweight and 18% are clinically obese. Amongst children aged 5 to 15, 25% are

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.birminghameconomy.org.uk/sum/kfsumprojpop.htm>

overweight and 12.5% are clinically obese (community strategy draft). A recent Sport England survey indicates that there is a low rate of participation in sport and other physical activity in Birmingham.

- 3.25.3 Teenage pregnancy rates are higher in Birmingham than the England average. Binge drinking is lower than the England average; however, the number of alcohol-related deaths is higher than the national average.
- 3.25.4 Despite male and female life expectancy increasing over the last decade, the male life expectancy gap compared to England has widened.
- 3.25.5 People in routine and manual occupations have poorer health than those in more highly-skilled jobs. These people are also more likely to smoke. The infant death rate is greater than the England average in this group.

### 3.26 Crime

- 3.26.1 Amongst Core Cities, Birmingham recorded the lowest overall crime rate per 1,000 population in 2005/2006 and the trend of a market reduction in overall recorded crime continues. However, the rate of violent crime in Birmingham is above the national average, with over 25,000 reported incidents in 2005/06 (NHS, 2007). Crime and safety remain the biggest single concern of local people, with only one third of survey respondents thinking that Birmingham is a safe city (MORI Opinion Survey 2004).
- 3.26.2 According to Birmingham Community Safety Partnership's Crime and Disorder Audit (2005, draft for consultation), over the three year period of August 2001 to July 2004 there were 438 recorded crimes per 1,000 population. Despite reductions in recorded crime in recent years, Birmingham remains ranked 20th on the list of authorities with the highest crime rates in England and Wales.
- 3.26.3 In Birmingham City Centre, there are certain areas that suffer from crime more than the rest of the city. There are high burglary and robbery rates south of Aston University, high robbery rates south of the Centre Core and in the Broad Street area and a concentration of violent crime in the Centre Core and down Broad Street and Holloway Head.

### 3.27 Housing

- 3.27.1 In 2001, there were 10,700 households living in the city centre. The current profile of city centre living however is significantly different from the 2001 census. This is attributed to the significant scale of residential development in the city centre since 2003. New housing development between 2003 and 2007 accounts for 6,506 new residential units with a further 3,749 units under construction in April 2007. This is an additional 10,225 new homes in the city centre, nearly double the number of households recorded in the 2001 census (Barber A. and Blackaby B., 2008, pg 13).
- 3.27.2 Supply of new homes in the city centre is dominated by private sector housing which accounts for approximately 55% of the total city centre housing stock. This marks a dramatic change from 1991 when private homes comprised only 16% of the total stock, and most of those were ex-council 'right to buy' properties. The Council owns 3340 homes within the study area, predominantly located in outer lying areas close to the ring road, such as Ladywood, the Gun Quarter and Highgate. Notable exceptions are Stephenson Tower, immediately south of New Street Station, the four towers behind Centenary Square and Sentinel Towers at Holloway Head.
- 3.27.3 There is a demand for small units which has led to an increased number of homes less suitable for owner-occupiers, people with young children who would tend to

stay in the city centre for longer period compared to mobile young professionals or students. This has resulted in a high proportion of smaller units and studios, one and two bed apartments in the city centre have become more prevalent since 2003. There is a need to diversify the size of homes but high land values act as a major constraint in making developments comprising larger units stack up.

- 3.27.4 Birmingham City Centre competes with surrounding neighbourhoods in terms of residential location choice. Outside the City Centre are a number of predominantly residential areas with very different characters that may attract potential residents away from the City Centre. These include Edgbaston, Hall Green, Small Heath, Aston, Moseley and others. The City Council already plans to encourage families to move to the City Centre by providing new parks and open spaces and a new secondary school (UDP paragraph 15.9A).
- 3.27.5 There have been concerns about the extent of empty properties in the city centre. At February 2002, 7.4% of private properties (owner occupied and privately rented) in the city centre were empty. This compares with a rate of 3.1% (9528 out of 308,424) across Birmingham as a whole. This shows a much higher incidence of empty properties in the city centre.
- 3.27.6 While the city centre has large scale retail uses which cater to a regional catchment area, there is a shortage of local facilities for resident e.g. health facilities, small shops, play spaces and secondary schools. There is also some evidence of on street parking conflicts between residents and commuters/visitors.

## 3.28 Culture, Sport and Recreation

- 3.28.1 Birmingham is internationally known for sports and exhibitions, with well-known venues including the International Indoor Arena and the National Exhibition Centre. Developments in arts, sports and leisure have played a key part in the City's renaissance over the past twenty years. Birmingham has many strengths, including world-class performance, arts, sports and exhibition facilities, and internationally recognised companies of cultural excellence (Community Strategy, 2005). Many of these facilities are located in the City Centre, including the International Convention Centre; Birmingham Symphony Hall, home of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the National Indoor Arena, a major concert and sporting venue; Birmingham Hippodrome; Birmingham Royal Ballet and Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. These are complemented by smaller venues such as the IKON Gallery, Jam House and Electric Cinema.
- 3.28.2 Investment in new hotels and other leisure developments in the City Centre continues. The newest hotel is the Radisson SAS in the 39 storey Beetham tower, and there are others in the pipeline, which are needed given the high demand for hotel beds when major events are held in the city. Leisure uses include tourism-related facilities like the National Sea Life Centre and Millennium Point, and are increasingly targeting city living uses.
- 3.28.3 Cultural and leisure facilities both attract people to Birmingham and serve local residents. According to the Community Strategy, surveys show that 45% of Birmingham residents had been to the theatre or a concert in the city in the last year, while 36% had visited a museum or gallery.

### **3.29 Limitations of the Information and Assumptions Made**

- 3.29.1 There is a substantial amount of baseline information available for Birmingham City Centre and the aim in this report has been to ensure that sufficient information exists to inform the Sustainability Appraisal process without unnecessary duplication. For this reason the information presents a summary of information on the various sustainability topics. Other information is presented in other plans and strategy documents on specific topics which have been prepared by the City Council or other bodies.
- 3.29.2 It should be noted that for a small number of topics, data is not available for Birmingham City Centre specifically. In this instance, data was used at the lowest level available; either for the whole of Birmingham or the West Midlands region.
- 3.29.3 Much of the data was extracted from the 2001 Census or other reports of similar age and may not be representative of the current situation.

## 4 Identifying Sustainability Issues and Problems (Task A3)

The next stage in the process is to identify and record the sustainability problems affecting the city centre. This provides the opportunity to define key issues for the Big City Plan and develop sustainable plan objectives and options.

The identified problems are recorded under the broad headings of economic, social and environmental and in accordance with the guidance, supported by evidence from the baseline information.

**Table 4.1: Identifying Issues and Problems for the Sustainability Appraisal**

Sustainability Issues	Supporting Evidence
<b>Environmental</b>	
<b>Resource Use</b>	New additional water management measures or water resources will be needed to ensure there is sufficient water for the new housing proposed in the current and revised Regional Spatial Strategy for Birmingham City.
<b>Energy Use, Efficiency and Renewables</b>	The efficiency of the existing building stock must be improved while new renewable energy sources are needed to limit the overall use of energy in Birmingham City Centre.
<b>Waste Disposal and Reduction</b>	Landfill diversion rates are increasing in the city, and past targets for recycling have been met, however the recycling rate remains below the national average and remains some way from the national target of 30% recycling by 2010.
<b>Sustainable Design, Construction and Maintenance</b>	New buildings should be built to the most advanced standards to limit the environmental impact of human development.
<b>Sustainable Transport</b>	Although the city has good public transport infrastructure, it needs expanding and upgrading to help reduce the high level of car use in Birmingham. Congestion is a significant issue at certain times on both road and rail.

<b>Pedestrian and Cycle movement</b>	Major roads – mainly Middle Way and the Inner Ring Road act as barriers to easy pedestrian and cycle movements.
<b>Responding to Climate Change</b>	Birmingham’s residents and businesses emit over 6.6 million tonnes of CO <sup>2</sup> per year. Development proposals and public programmes should minimise the risks and take into account the effects of potential climate changes.
<b>Built and Historic Environment</b>	There are significant parts of the city centre that have both historic and architectural interest. Much of this is preserved within conservation areas, including the nationally recognised Jewellery Quarter. The city centre also has a number of listed buildings (including several grade I listed buildings), as well as an extensive network of historic canals.
<b>Natural Landscape and Biodiversity</b>	Although much of Birmingham is built up, it does contain some valuable open spaces and semi-natural green spaces, as well as the extensive waterways. The City Centre must improve upon these assets though and increase biodiversity.
<b>Air Quality</b>	Air quality is an issue within the city centre as the whole City is designated as an Air Quality Management Area; the main source pollutant being nitrogen dioxide as a result of pollution is vehicle emissions. Particulate emissions are also of concern. There is a strong correlation between traffic congestion and poor air quality.
<b>Water Quality</b>	The chemical and biological quality of rivers and waterways in Birmingham City Centre is generally poor and in need of improvement.
<b>Noise</b>	Noise pollution is a problem in some parts of the city centre, with traffic being the principal source.

	The night economy and associated street activity may give rise to problems and this needs to be considered in the relationship between different land uses.
<b>Economic</b>	
<b>Economic Activity</b>	The proportion of economically active residents (16-74) is lower in the city centre than in Birmingham and in England. This is partly due to the higher proportion of students living in the city centre, as well as socio-economic variables including skills levels.
<b>Learning and Skills</b>	The city centre has a strong and developing higher education and research sector, particularly in medical, bioscience and biomedical engineering. This is supported by three universities located in the city centre. The city centre, however, is losing many of these students/graduates following the completion of their studies. Also, the proportion of people in the city centre with few or no qualifications is still above the national average, but improvements are being made in educational achievement.
<b>Decline in manufacturing</b>	Large areas of land in the city centre, including parts of the Gun Quarter, Digbeth and Highgate, are occupied by low value industrial uses but the proportion of jobs in manufacturing are declining (NOMIS, 2007). It should be recognised, however, that manufacturing will remain important in parts of the city centre.
<b>New business start ups</b>	There is a low proportion of new business start ups in the city centre, despite the supply of potential premises (VAT, Annual Population Survey and Labour Force Survey).
<b>Social</b>	
<b>Deprivation</b>	Much of the City Centre's population lives in areas that are in the most deprived 10% in England.

	<p>There is a real difference, also, between those residents who have recently moved to new city centre apartments, and those who are living in areas of predominantly socially-rented areas.</p>
<b>Equality</b>	<p>The city centre has a great ethnic mix, which differs from Birmingham as a whole, with more black and Chinese people and a proportionately declining white population. The issue of equality is therefore of particular importance.</p>
<b>Health</b>	<p>The number of residents feeling in poor health is higher than the national average, and people in Birmingham have generally less healthy lifestyles than the English average.</p>
<b>Crime</b>	<p>Despite reduction in crime in recent years, Birmingham remains ranked 20 on the list of authorities with the highest crime rates in England and Wales. There are particular parts of the city centre which suffer from higher rates of crime than the rest of the city, including the city core, the Broad Street area and Holloway Head.</p>
<b>Population Profile</b>	<p>There is a very high proportion of young people in the city centre with nearly 30% of all city centre residents in the 16-24 age group (Census, 2001).</p>
<b>Housing</b>	<p>Birmingham faces several issues relating to housing: there are large numbers of homeless people.</p> <p>Existing affordable housing is in need of updating and re-locating.</p> <p>There is a very low proportion of family housing.</p>

## 5 Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework (Task A4)

### 5.1 SA Objectives and Appraisal Criteria

5.1.1 The SA objectives and appraisal criteria are components of a framework that will be used consistently to appraise the policies arising from the review.

5.1.2 The sustainable development objectives for the Birmingham Core Strategy have been used as a starting point for formulating the SA objectives for the City Centre Masterplan. These objectives have already incorporated the regional sustainable development objectives. The City Centre objectives have been slightly altered to be made specifically applicable to the Birmingham City Centre Master Plan SA.

5.1.3 The list of SA objectives can be seen in Table 3.1 below. The objectives are supported by appraisal questions which help to clarify the SA objectives and ensure that the regional or city-wide objectives are captured where multiple objectives have been merged. The questions will help clarify to the assessors what they should be considering during the assessment process.

**Table 5.1 Developing SA Objectives for the Big City Plan and Criteria Questions**

Core Strategy SA Objective	The Big City Plan SA Objective	Appraisal Questions
1. Use natural resources such as water and minerals efficiently	<b>Resource Use</b> 1. To use natural resources such as water efficiently.	Will it achieve high standards of water efficiency?  Does it minimise surface water run-off by employing measures such as SUDS?
2. Promote and ensure high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design, construction and maintenance of buildings, where possible exceeding the requirements of Building Regulations	<b>Climate Change, Energy Use, Efficiency and Renewables</b> 2. To reduce contributions to climate change  (combination of core strategy objectives 2, 3, 4, and 9)	Will it achieve high standards of energy efficiency?  Will it encourage the generation and use of renewable energy?  Will it encourage a reduction in the emission of key pollutants?
3. Encourage development of alternative and renewable resources	See SA objective 2	-
4. Reduce overall energy use through energy efficiency	See SA objective 2	-
5. Increase use of public transport, cycling and walking as a proportion of total travel and ensure development is primarily focused on the major urban areas, making efficient use of existing physical transport infrastructure	<b>Sustainable Transport, Climate Change</b> 3. Promote sustainable transport and minimise the need to travel by car.  (combination of core strategy objectives 5 and 6)	Will it encourage development near key transport/public transport locations?  Will it improve accessibility in and around the city centre by public transport, walking and cycling?

		<p>Will it improve accessibility to key amenities and services by public transport, walking and cycling?</p> <p>Will it improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists?</p> <p>Will it encourage the use of alternatively fuelled vehicles?</p> <p>Will it promote protection of existing rail facilities?</p> <p>Will it support access to, and for, local businesses?</p> <p>Will it contribute to improving air quality?</p> <p>Will it provide high quality local services such as convenience shops and other community facilities within the vicinity of people's homes?</p>
6. Ensure development reduces the need to travel	See SA objective 3	-
7. Encourage and enable waste minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery	<p><b>Waste Disposal and Reduction</b></p> <p>4. Encourage and enable waste minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery</p>	<p>Will it provide appropriate waste management infrastructure? E.g. integrated recycling facilities</p> <p>Will it promote reduction of waste during construction/operation?</p>
8. Encourage land use and development that optimises the use of previously developed land and buildings	5. Encourage land use and development that optimises the use of previously developed land and buildings	Does it make the most efficient use of land?
9. Minimise Birmingham's contribution to the causes of climate change by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources	See SA objective 2	-
10. Implement a managed response to the unavoidable impacts of climate change, ensure that the design and planning process takes into account predicted changes in Birmingham's climate, including flood risk	<p>Climate Change</p> <p>6. Ensure that design and planning process reduces the risk of flooding</p>	<p>Does it include measures such as SUDS to minimise surface water run off?</p> <p>Does it comply with EA advise?</p>

11. Encourage land use and development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place	<p><b>Natural Landscape, Biodiversity and Sense of Place</b></p> <p>7. Promote, protect and enhance open spaces, green corridors and biodiversity</p> <p>(Combination of core strategy objectives 11, 13 and 14)</p>	<p>Will it encourage development on previously developed land?</p> <p>Will it encourage the appropriate management or enhancement of existing open spaces or the creation of open spaces?</p> <p>Will it enhance public access to open space?</p> <p>Will it help achieve the aims of Birmingham Biodiversity Action Plan?</p>
12. Value, protect, enhance and restore Birmingham's built and historic environment and landscape	<p><b>Sense of Place</b></p> <p>8. Value, protect, enhance and restore the city centre's built and historic environment and landscape</p>	<p>Will it conserve or enhance the historic environment?</p> <p>Will it involve the loss of an existing traditional feature of interest that positively contributes to the character of the area?</p> <p>Will it conserve the archaeological heritage of the area?</p>
13. Value, protect, enhance and restore Birmingham's natural landscape	See SA objective 7	-
14. Value, protect, maintain, restore and re-create local biodiversity	See SA objective 7	-
15. Minimise air pollution levels and create good quality air	<p><b>Air Quality</b></p> <p>9. Minimise air pollution levels and create good quality air</p>	Will it improve air quality?
16. Minimise water pollution levels and create good quality water	<p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <p>10. Minimise water pollution levels and create good quality water</p>	Will it improve the quality of the water in the canals or the River Rea?
17. Minimise soil pollution levels and create good quality soil	Not considered an SA objective for the Big City Plan	-
18. Minimise noise pollution levels	<p><b>Noise</b></p> <p>11. Minimise noise pollution levels</p>	Will it reduce the impact of noise nuisance to the population?
19. Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with local organisations and agencies leading by example	Not considered a sustainability objective for the Big City Plan	-
20. Achieve a strong, stable and sustainable economy and prosperity for	<p><b>Economy and Equality</b></p> <p>12. Position the City Centre to</p>	Will it promote inward investment?

the benefit of all of Birmingham's inhabitants	achieve a strong, stable and sustainable economy that benefits all of Birmingham's inhabitants and the wider regional and the national economy	<p>Will it enhance enterprise opportunities?</p> <p>Will it improve the range of employment opportunities?</p> <p>Will it maximise the potential of high value employment sectors?</p>
21. Promote investment in future prosperity, including ongoing investment and engagement in learning and skills development	<p><b>Learning and Skills</b></p> <p>13. Promote investment in future prosperity, including ongoing investment and engagement in learning and skills development</p>	<p>Will it provide high quality educational facilities?</p> <p>Will it provide opportunities to improve the skills of the population?</p>
22. Enable communities to influence the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and quality of life	<p><b>Community Involvement</b></p> <p>14. Enable communities to influence the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and quality of life</p>	<p>Does it encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example enabling communities to improve their neighbourhoods?</p> <p>Will it encourage engagement in community activities for example through the establishment of social and cultural facilities that address the needs of equalities groups?</p> <p>Will it increase the ability of people to influence decisions?</p>
23. Ensure easy and equitable access to services, facilities and opportunities, including jobs and learning	<p><b>Accessibility</b></p> <p>15. Ensure easy and equitable access to services, facilities and opportunities, including jobs and learning</p>	<p>Will it secure improved facilities and infrastructure for people with disabilities?</p> <p>Will it facilitate access to jobs and/or learning?</p> <p>Will it encourage the retention of key services and amenities such as schools and green spaces?</p> <p>Will it create job opportunities?</p> <p>Will it help remove barriers to employment?</p> <p>Will it encourage the retention and/or growth of local employment?</p>

24. Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantage	<p><b>Poverty and Disadvantage</b></p> <p>16. Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantage</p>	<p>Does it promote environmental justice, recognising that deprived areas and disadvantaged communities are more likely to be affected by environmental damage and degradation?</p> <p>Does it reduce household poverty, especially the proportion of children living in poor households?</p>
25. Improve health and reduce health inequalities by encouraging and enabling healthy active lifestyles and protecting health	<p><b>Health</b></p> <p>17. Improve health and reduce health inequalities by encouraging and enabling healthy active lifestyles and protecting health</p>	<p>Will it promote healthy living e.g. through the provision of walking/cycling facilities</p> <p>Will it reduce health inequalities?</p> <p>Will it improve access to high quality health facilities?</p>
26. Reduce crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour	<p><b>Crime</b></p> <p>18. Reduce crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour</p>	<p>Will it improve safety and security?</p> <p>Will it incorporate measures to reduce the fear of crime?</p>
27. Provide decent and affordable housing for all, of the right quantity, type, tenure and affordability to meet local needs	<p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>19. Provide decent and affordable housing for all, of the right quantity, type, tenure and affordability to meet local needs</p>	<p>Will it contribute to meeting the need for affordable housing?</p> <p>Will it provide a range of housing tenures?</p> <p>Will it provide housing that caters to local needs?</p> <p>Will it provide housing that meets decent homes standards?</p> <p>Does it provide the appropriate density of housing?</p>
28. Improve opportunities to participate in diverse cultural, sporting and recreational activities	20. Improve opportunities to participate in diverse cultural, sporting and recreational activities	Will it improve the quality or extend the range of cultural, sporting or recreational activities?

## 5.2 Developing Indicators for Monitoring

- 5.2.1 It is a requirement of the SEA Directive to establish how the significant sustainability effects of implementing the plan will be monitored. Further, Government guidance on SA also requires monitoring to be carried out.
- 5.2.2 Table 3.2 lists the SA objectives and a series of indicators which could be used to monitor performance of the City Centre Master Plan. Indicators have largely been taken from the indicators already monitored by Birmingham City Council for their Annual Monitoring Report. However, other indicators are also identified from other readily available sources.

**Table 5.2 Indicators and Identified Targets for SA Objectives**

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
1. To use natural resources such as water efficiently	Domestic water consumption	No target identified
	Land use intensity	No target identified
2. To reduce contributions to climate change	Number of new developments built to exceed at least Code for Sustainable Homes Level 1 or BREEAM standards	No target identified
	Renewable energy capacity installed by type (AMR)	No target identified
	Percentage of energy generated by renewable sources in Birmingham City Centre	15% of energy use in Birmingham from renewable sources by 2020 (Birmingham Climate Change Strategy and Plan Consultation) 5% of energy to be generated from renewable sources by 2010 and 10% by 2020 (Regional Energy Strategy) 10% of electricity to be supplied from renewables by 2010/11, with an aspiration to double this by 2020 (UK Sustainable Development Strategy)
	BV63 Energy efficiency of housing stock	No target identified
	Number of publicly available long stay parking spaces in the City Centre	Reduce the number of publicly available long stay parking spaces in the City Centre by 1.5% per year (Air Quality Action Plan)
	Nitrogen dioxide levels	By 2011, reduce the average nitrogen dioxide level by 1% in areas where nitrogen dioxide exceeds the national objective compared to 2004/05 (West Midlands Local Transport Plan)
	Share of car use for local trips	No target identified
	Carbon dioxide emissions	Reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050 (Energy White Paper)

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
		Reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050 with real progress by 2020 (UK Sustainable Development Strategy)
		Reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 20% below 1990 levels by 2010 (UK Sustainable Development Strategy)
	Greenhouse gas emissions	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% below base year levels of the period 2008-2012 (UK Sustainable Development Strategy)
	Household carbon dioxide emissions	By 2011, reduce by 26% the total annual household carbon dioxide emission for Birmingham (Community Strategy)
	Nitrogen Dioxide levels	By 2011, reduce the average nitrogen dioxide level by 1% in areas where nitrogen dioxide exceeds the national objective compared to 2004/05 (West Midlands Local Transport Plan)
3. Promote sustainable transport and minimise the need to travel by car	Percentage of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary and secondary school, employment and a major shopping centre (AMR)	By 2011, increase by 50% the total population within 30 minutes inter-peak travel time of a main NHS hospital by 'accessible' public transport compared to 2005 (West Midlands Local Transport Plan)
	Percentage of trips by public transport into Birmingham City Centre (AMR)	No target identified
	Cycling Index	Increase the cycling index by 1% by 2010 (West Midlands Local Transport Plan)
	Car use in the City Centre	By 2020, reduce car use in the City Centre by 20% compared with 2000 levels (Local Transport Plan Visions)
	BV102 Passenger Journeys on Buses	By 2011, increase bus use by 9% compared with 2003/04 (West Midlands Local Transport Plan)

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
	BV178 Footpaths and Rights of Way easy to use by the public	No target identified
	Road traffic mileage	Limit the increase in road traffic mileage to no more than 7% between 2004 and 2010 (West Midlands Local Transport Plan)
4. Encourage and enable waste minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery	Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type, and percentage each management type represents of the waste managed (AMR)	Aim to be better than average by reducing or exhibiting less growth in household waste relative to the average authority in England, year on year (Municipal Waste Management Strategy)
	BV84 The weight of household waste collected per head of the population	
	BV82d Household waste management (landfilled)	Reduce landfill to 75% of 1995 levels by 2010 and 50% of 1995 levels by 2015, 35% of 1995 levels in 2020 (Landfill Directive)
	Percentage of household waste not re-used, recycled or composted	Reduce the amount of household waste not re-used, recycled or composted by 29% by 2010 (Waste Strategy 2007)
	BV82c Household waste management (energy recovery)	Recover 53% of municipal waste by 2010, 67% by 2015 and 75% by 2020
	BV82a Percentage of household waste sent for recycling	To double the recycling and composting performance (from the current BVPI level of 17%) within 5 years (by 2011/12) (Municipal Waste Management Strategy)
	BV82b Percentage of household waste sent for composting / anaerobic digestion	
	BV90 Percentage of people expressing satisfaction with recycling facilities, household waste collection and civic amenity sites	No target identified

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
	BV91a Percentage of households served by kerbside collection of one recyclable	No target identified
	BV91b Percentage of households served by kerbside collection of at least two recyclables	No target identified
	Amount of recycling infrastructure	To develop recycling infrastructure to secure sustainable markets for all collected recyclable materials for the duration of the Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2026)
5. Encourage land use and development that optimises the use of previously developed land and buildings	Percentage of employment land, by type which is on previously developed land (AMR)	No target identified
	Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land (AMR)	No target identified
	Percentage of new and completed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o less than 30 dwellings per hectare;</li> <li>o between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare;</li> <li>o above 50 dwellings per hectare. (AMR)</li> </ul>	No target identified
	BV106 New homes on previously developed land	No target identified
6. Ensure that design and planning process reduces the risk of flooding	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality	100% of new development to comply with EA advice
7. Promote, protect and enhance open spaces, green corridors and biodiversity	Percentage of eligible open spaces managed to "green flag award" standard	No target identified
	Provision of open space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Net loss/gain in amount of public open space and public and private playing fields</li> <li>(ii) Percentage of new dwelling completions within reasonable walking distance of public open space</li> </ul>	No target identified

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
	BV199a Local street and environmental cleanliness – litter and detritus	By 2009, halve the percentage of sites with unsatisfactory levels of (combined) litter and detritus (Community Strategy)
	BV199b Local street and environmental cleanliness – graffiti	No target identified
	BV199c Fly posting visible from relevant land and highways	No target identified
	BV199d Local Street and environmental cleanliness	No target identified
	BV218b Abandoned Vehicles – removal	No target identified
	Percentage of people who would like to remain living in their neighbourhood	By 2009, increase by 15% the percentage of people who would like to remain living in their neighborhood (Community Strategy)
	None found	None found
	Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance, including: (i) change in priority habitats and species (by type); (ii) change in areas designated from their intrinsic environmental value, including sites of international, national, regional or sub-regional significance (AMR)	Maintain current extent of Priority Habitats (RSS)
	Populations of Wild Birds (Working with the Grain of Nature)	No target identified
	Condition of SLINCs (Working with the Grain of Nature)	No target identified
	Biological quality of rivers (Working with the Grain of Nature)	Specific River Quality Objective Targets (Environment Agency)
8. Value, protect, enhance and restore the city centre's built and historic environment and landscape	BV219b Preserving the special character of conservation areas; character appraisals	No target identified

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
9. Minimise air pollution levels and create good quality air	Number of publicly available long stay parking spaces in the city centre	Reduce the number of publicly available long stay parking spaces in the city centre by 1.5% per year (Air Quality Action Plan)
	Household carbon dioxide emissions	By 2011, reduce by 26% the total annual household carbon dioxide emissions for Birmingham (Community Strategy)
	Nitrogen dioxide levels	By 2011, reduce the average nitrogen dioxide level by 1% in area where nitrogen dioxide exceeds the national objective compared to 2004/05 (West Midlands LTP)
10. Minimise water pollution levels and create good quality water	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality (AMR)	No target identified
	Biological quality of rivers (Working with the Grain of Nature)	Specific River Quality Objective Targets (Environment Agency)
	Percentage of water bodies classified as being of 'good ecological status'	All water bodies to reach Good Ecological Status' by 2015 (Water Framework Directive)
11. Minimise noise pollution levels	None found	None found
12. Position the City Centre to achieve a strong, stable and sustainable economy that benefits all of Birmingham's inhabitants, the wider regional and the national economy	Amount of land developed for employment by type (AMR)	No target identified
	Employment land supply by type (AMR)	No target identified
	Loss of employment land to other uses (AMR)	No target identified
	Number of new businesses created and demonstrating growth after 12 months	By 2009, increase by 75% the number of new businesses created and demonstrating growth after 12 months in the 11 priority (high deprivation and high BME) wards compared to 2005/06 (Community Strategy)
13. Promote investment in future prosperity, including	Percentage difference between the Job Seeker's	By 2009, reduce by 19% the difference between the

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
on-going investment and engagement in learning and skills development	Allowance unemployment rate	Job Seeker's Allowance unemployment rate in the 11 most deprived priority wards and the city average [Community Strategy]
	Number of working age adults achieving basic skills qualification in the 11 priority wards	By 2009, increase by 250% (to 7,415) the number of working age adults achieving basic skills qualification in the 11 priority wards compared to 2003/04 [Community Strategy]
	Number of working age adults achieving NVQ Level 2 qualification in the 11 priority wards	By 2009, increase by 28% (to 6,602) the number of working age adults achieving NVQ Level 2 qualification in the 11 priority wards compared to 2003/04 [Community Strategy]
	BV38 GCSE performance: grades A*-C	By 2009, increase the percentage of 16 year olds achieving at least 5A*-C GCSE or equivalent by 17% compared to 2004 [Community Strategy]
	BV39 GCSE performance: grades A*-G inc. English and Maths	By 2009, increase the percentage of 16 year olds achieving at least 5A*-G or equivalent (including English and Maths) to 91% (from 85% in 2004) [Community Strategy]
14. Enable communities to influence the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and quality of life	Percentage of people who feel that they can influence decisions affecting the local area	By 2009, increase by 63% the percentage of people who feel that they can influence decisions affecting the local area [Community Strategy]
	Geographic coverage of community neighborhood forums	By 2009, increase by 15% (to 75%) the geographic coverage of community neighbourhood forums [Community Strategy]
	Membership of community networks and associations	By 2009, increase by 50% (to 12,000) the membership of community networks and associations [Community Strategy]

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
	Percentage of citizens who are active citizens or volunteers	By 2009, increase by 18-30% the percentage of citizens who are active citizens or volunteers (Community Strategy)
15. Ensure easy and equitable access to services, facilities and opportunities, including jobs and learning	The difference between unemployment rates in the city centre and Birmingham as a whole	No target identified
	The number of hate crimes committed in the city centre	No target identified
	BV11a The percentage of the top 5% of earners that are women (excluding all staff in schools) (Gender Equality Scheme)	No target identified
	BV11b Top 5% of Earners: Ethnic Minorities	No target identified
	BV11c Top 5% of Earners: with a disability	No target identified
	BV2b Duty to promote race equality	No target identified
	Relative position of deprived areas in the Index of Multiple Deprivation	No target identified
	BV16a Percentage of Employees with a disability	No target identified
16. Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantage	Children in poverty (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	No target identified
	Homeless families living in temporary accommodation (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	By 2009, reduce by 36% the number of people and families accepted as homeless (Community Strategy)
17. Improve health and reduce health inequalities by encouraging and enabling healthy active lifestyles and protecting health	BV16b Percentage of economically active people who have a disability	No target identified
	BV17a Ethnic minority representation in the workforce – employees	No target identified

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
	BV156 Buildings accessible to people with a disability	No target identified
	BV197 Teenage pregnancies	By 2009, reduce teenage pregnancy by 4.8% faster than national reduction (Community Strategy)
	Death rates from cancer and heart disease (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	No target identified
	Road accident casualty rates in disadvantaged communities (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	No target identified
	Numbers of primary care professionals (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	No target identified
	Uptake of flu vaccinations (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	No target identified
	Smoking among manual groups and among pregnant women (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	By 2009, more than double (to 9,423) the number of 4 week quitters of smoking
	Educational attainment (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	No target identified
	Consumption of fruit and vegetables (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	No target identified
	Proportion in non-decent housing (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)	No target identified
	Percentage of 5-16 year olds undertaking moderate physical activity	By 2009, increase percentage of 5-16 year olds undertaking moderate physical activity by 26%
	Infant mortality and life expectancy at birth	By 2010 reduce the inequalities in health outcomes by 10% as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth (Tackling Health Inequalities: A

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
		Programme for Action]
	Gap between the areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole	By 2010 reduce by at least 10% the gap between the areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)
	Gap in mortality between routine and manual groups and the population as a whole	Starting with children under one year, by 2010 reduce by at least 10% the gap in mortality between routine and manual groups and the population as a whole (Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action)
	BV12 Working days lost due to sickness absence	No target identified
	BV15 Percentage of ill-health retirements	No target identified
18. Reduce crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour through 'Secure by Design principles'	BV127b Robberies per 1,000 population	Reduce robbery of personal property by 11% (Community Safety Strategy)
	BV126 Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households	Reduce residential burglary by 22% (Community Safety Strategy)
	Common assault rates	Reduce common assault by 20% (Community Safety Strategy)
	BV128 Vehicle crime per 1,000 population	Reduce all vehicle crime by 22% (Community Safety Strategy)
	Criminal damage rates	Reduce criminal damage by 20% (Community Safety Strategy)
	Amount of theft from person	Reduce theft from person by 22% (Community Safety Strategy)
	Amount of woundings (serious and other)	Reduce woundings (serious and other) by 18% (Community Safety Strategy)

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
	Pedal cycle theft rates	Reduce theft of pedal cycles by 20% (Community Safety Strategy)
	Recorded crime rates	Reduce total recorded crime by 20% (Community Safety Strategy)
	BV127a Violent crime per 1,000 population	No target identified
	Number of children and young people under 18 who are victims of crime	By 2009, reduce by 2% the number of children and young people under the age of 18 who are victims of crime (Community Strategy)
	Number of arson vehicle crimes	By 2009, reduce the number of arson vehicle fires by 33% (compared to 2003/04) (Community Strategy)
19. Provide decent and affordable housing for all, of the right quantity, type, tenure and affordability to meet local needs	Housing trajectory showing: (i) net additional dwellings over the previous five year period or since the start of the relevant development plan document period, whichever is longer; (ii) net additional dwellings for the current year; (iii) projected net additional dwellings up to the end of the relevant development plan document or over a ten year period from its adoption, whichever is the longer; (iv) the annual net additional dwelling requirement; and (v) annual average number of net additional dwellings needed to meet annual average number of net additional dwellings needed to meet overall housing requirements, having regard to previous years' performance (AMR)	No target identified
	Net additional dwellings in the city centre (AMR)	No target identified
	Affordable housing completions (AMR)	No target identified
	Reduction in vacancies in the existing housing stock	No target identified

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
	(AMR)	
	BV64 Vacant dwellings returned to occupation or demolished	No target identified
	BV184a Non-decent Local Authority dwellings	By 2010, ensure all social housing meets the Decent Homes Standard (Community Strategy)
	BV184b Non-decent Local Authority dwellings (change)	By 2010, ensure all social housing meets the Decent Homes Standard (Community Strategy)
	BV212 Average time to re-let Local Authority housing	No target identified
	BV183b Length of stay in temporary accommodation (hostel)	By 2009, reduce by 63% the average length of stay for households in temporary accommodation (Community Strategy)
	BV202 Number of rough sleepers	By 2009, reduce by 36% the number of people and families accepted as homeless (Community Strategy)
20. Improve opportunities to participate in diverse cultural, sporting and recreational activities and regional access to cultural and recreational assets in the city centre.	BV170 Visits to and use of museums and galleries	By 2009, increase by 7% the percentage of residents satisfied with museums and galleries (Community Strategy)
	BV220 Compliance against the Public Library Service Standards	By 2009, increase by 6% the percentage of residents satisfied with library services (Community Strategy)
	Percentage of residents satisfied with theatres and concert halls	By 2009, increase by 6% the percentage of residents satisfied with theatres and concert halls (Community Strategy)
	Percentage of 5-16 year olds undertaking moderate physical activity	By 2009, increase the percentage of 5-16 year olds undertaking moderate physical activity by 26% (Community Strategy)
	Percentage of children achieving Key Stage 2 standard for swimming by age 11	By 2009, double the percentage of children achieving Key Stage 2 standard for swimming (25m) by age 11

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Target
		[Community Strategy]

### 5.3 Assessing Sustainability Performance

- 5.3.1 The table below (4.1) illustrates a draft of the SA matrix developed to comprehensively meet the requirements of the SA Guidance (including the requirements of the SEA Directive). It contains the SA objectives and appraisal questions presented in Section 3. The matrix also includes the timescale of the effect and a commentary. These are briefly explained below:
- 5.3.2 **Timing of Effect:** Will the effect manifest itself in the short, medium or the long term? In the context of the Birmingham City Centre Master Plan DPD the short term can be interpreted as being within the first five years of the Plan, the medium term within the lifetime of the Plan, and the longer term beyond this.
- 5.3.3 **Commentary:** The commentary text within the matrix and summary text within the report will identify possible mitigation measures, in the form of amendments to policy or inclusion/removal of policy to increase the opportunity for sustainable development. Where a score is indicated as 'uncertain' the commentary should identify ways in which this uncertainty could be reduced, for example, through additional data collection or further consultation with experts.
- 5.3.4 Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects, as well as the timeframe and likelihood of the effects are identified within the commentary.
- 5.3.5 Geographical effects will be noted where the effect is felt differentially within, for example different Quarters of Birmingham City Centre.

**Table 5.3 Draft SA Matrix**

Option or Policy						
SA Objectives	Appraisal Questions	Timescale			Reversible	Commentary / Explanation
		Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term		
1.		++	++	+	x	
2.		0	-	--	√	
3.		?	?	?	?	

- 5.3.6 Each option or policy that comes forward from the City Centre Master Plan DPD will be considered against each of the SA objectives. This will be undertaken by the appraisal team and will be informed by the baseline data and evidence gathered as part of the Scoping Report. It will also be informed by expert judgement from various technical specialists including key stakeholders and consultees.
- 5.3.7 There will be a number of scores awarded to each policy or option that is assessed. The scores will be chosen from the following.

**Table 5.4 Assessment Scores**

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

## 6 Conclusions and Next Steps

- 6.1.1 This Scoping Report presents the findings of the initial tasks (Stage A) undertaken for the SA of the Birmingham City Centre Master Plan DPD. It follows closely the advice and guidance provided by the UK Government and has been prepared to meet the requirements outlined within the Quality Assurance Checklist within the ODPM (2005) SA Guidance (see section 6.1).
- 6.1.2 Following the five week consultation period, comments from consultees will be considered and the information in this report will be amended, as appropriate, in advance of its use during the next stages of the SA process.
- 6.1.3 The next stage of the SA process (Stage B) involves considering and assessing options for the Master Plan DPD, and then predicting and evaluating the effects of policies of the Plan as they emerge. This appraisal will seek to demonstrate the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of the policies reviewed and, based on this appraisal, will consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects. The appraisal process will be reported within the SA Report which will be published for consultation at the same time as the Preferred Options City Centre Master Plan DPD.

### 6.2 Quality Assurance

- 6.2.1 The ODPM SA Guidance contains a Quality Assurance checklist to help ensure that the requirements of the SEA Directive are met. Those relevant to this stage have been highlighted in Table 6.1 below.

**Table 6.1 Quality Assurance Checklist**

Quality Assurance Checklist	
Objectives and Context	
The plan's purpose and objectives are made clear	Section 1.1
Sustainability issues, including international, national, regional and local objectives are considered in developing objectives and targets	Appendix A
SA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate	Section 5
Links with other related plans, programmes and policies are identified and explained	Appendix A
Scoping	
The environmental consultation bodies are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the SA Report	This Scoping Report is to be consulted upon with the statutory environmental consultees and any other relevant consultees for a period of 5 weeks minimum
The appraisal focuses on significant issues	Significant sustainability issues have been identified in this report in Section 3. This will assist in focussing on the key issues during the appraisal process
Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit	These are made clear throughout the report where appropriate
Reasons are given for eliminating issues from further consideration	These are made clear throughout the report where appropriate.

Baseline Information	
Relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and their likely evolution without the plan are described	Section 2
Characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the plan area where it is likely to be affected by the plan where practicable	Section 2
Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained	These are made clear throughout the report where appropriate

## Appendix A: Links with other Plans and Programmes

The purpose of reviewing plans and programmes as part of the SA is to ensure that the relationship with these other documents is fully explored and to ensure that the relevant environmental protection and sustainability objectives are taken on board throughout the SA and the plan-making process. Reviewing plans and programmes can also provide appropriate information on the baseline for the plan area and the key sustainability issues.

The SA of the Birmingham Core Strategy provides a review of plans and programmes relevant to Birmingham City Centre, including regional guidance. The review identifies objectives and targets which will have implications for this SA and illustrates how they have been taken on board.

**Table A.1 Plans and Programmes**

Plan, Programme or Strategy	Objectives and Targets Identified in the Document	Commentary (how the SA objectives incorporate the document's requirements)
<b>International</b>		
EU (2006) Directive on Waste (2006/12/EC, Waste Framework Directive)	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 4
EU (2001) Directive on Electricity Production from Renewable Energy Source (2001/77/EC)	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 2
EU (2000) Directive on Establishing a Framework for Community Action in the Field of Water Policy (200/60/EC, Water Framework Directive)	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 10
EU (1998) European Biodiversity Strategy	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 7
UNFCCC (1997) Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objectives 2
EU (1996) Ambient Air Quality Assessment and Management (1996/62/EC, Air Quality Framework Directive)	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objectives 9 and 3
EU (1992) Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (1992/43/EC, The Habitats Directive)	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 7
Urban Waste Water Treatment	Reviewed in SA of Core	Incorporated in SA objective 10

Directive (1991/271/EEC)	Strategy	
National		
Defra (2007) Waste Strategy for England 2007	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 4
Defra (2007) The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 9 and 3
CLG (2006) Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 6
CLG (2006) Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objectives 5 and 19
Defra (2006) UK Climate Change Programme	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6
Defra (2005) UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in all SA objectives
ODPM (2005) Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in all SA objectives
ODPM (2005) Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres	Reviewed in SA of Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 12
ODPM (2005) Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 7
ODPM (2005) Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 4
Department of Health (2004) White Paper: Choosing Health	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 17
Department for Transport (2004) Transport White Paper: The Future of Transport – A Network for 2030	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 3
ODPM (2004) Planning Policy Statement 22: Renewable Energy	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 2
ODPM (2004) Planning Policy Statement 23: Planning and	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objectives 2 and 3

Pollution Control		
ODPM (2003) Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in all SA objectives
Department of Health (2003) Tackling Inequalities: A Programme for Action	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 17
DfES (2002) Education and Skills: Delivering Results, A Strategy to 2006	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 13
Defra (2002) Working with the Grain of Nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for England	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 7
ODPM (2002) Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objectives 7 and 17
Environment Agency (2001) Water Resources for the Future – A Strategy for England and Wales	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 1
DCMS (2001) The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 8
ODPM (2001) Planning Policy Guidance 13: Transport	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 3
Department of Environment and Department of National Heritage (1994) Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the Historic Environment	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 8
ODPM (1994) Planning Policy Guidance 24: Planning and Noise	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 11
ODPM (1992) Planning Policy Guidance 4: Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 12
ODPM (1990) Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 8
Regional		

Sustainability West Midlands (2006) Regional Sustainable Development Framework	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in all SA objectives
The 7 Authorities of the West Midlands Metropolitan Area (2006) West Midlands Local Transport Plan	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 3
Regional Skills Partnership (2005) Regional Skills Partnership Introduction and Priorities	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 13
West Midlands Regional Assembly (2005) West Midlands Regional Housing Strategy	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objectives 5 and 19
West Midlands Regional Sustainability Forum (2005) Enriching Our Region, An Environmental Manifesto for the West Midlands	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objectives 2, 6, 7, 9 and 10
Environment Agency (2005) A Water Resources Strategy for the West Midlands	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 1
West Midlands Regional Assembly and West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership (2005) Restoring the Region's Wildlife: Regional Biodiversity Strategy for the West Midlands	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 7
Energy West Midlands (2004) West Midlands Regional Energy Strategy	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objective 2
Advantage West Midlands and West Midlands Regional Assembly (2004) Delivering Advantage: The West Midlands Economic Strategy and Action Plan 2004-2010	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objectives 12, 13, 15 and 16
Government Office for the West Midlands (2004) Regional Planning Guidance for the West Midlands, RPG11	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in all SA objectives
Advantage West Midlands (2003) West Midlands Regional	Reviewed in SA for RSS	Incorporated in SA objectives 13,

Language Strategy		14, 15 and 16
West Midlands Regional Transport Strategy (RTS)	The Regional Transport Strategy provides the long-term context for integrating land use and transport policy and identifies transport investment priorities for the region. The WMRTS acknowledges that the West Midlands is at the centre of the national rail and road network, giving rise to competing regional, national, international and local travel demands. In particular it notes increasing congestion on the M6, M5 and M42 due to excessive demand for car travel. The key priorities outlined within the strategy are to (i) encourage significant behaviour change across the region, (ii) encourage changes to the cost of travel, and (iii) the construction of new infrastructure.	Incorporated in SA objective 3
<b>Local</b>		
Birmingham City Council (2007) Religion and Belief Equality Scheme 2007-2010	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objectives 14 and 15
Birmingham City Council (2007) Lesbian, Gay and Bi-Sexual People Equality Scheme 2007-2010	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objectives 14 and 15
Birmingham City Council (2007) Race Equality Scheme 2007-2010	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objectives 14 and 15
Birmingham City Council (2007) Gender Equality Scheme 2007-2010	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objectives 14 and 15
Birmingham City Council (2006) Air Quality Action Plan	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objectives 2 and 9
Birmingham City Council (2006) Municipal Waste Management Strategy	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 4

Birmingham Community Safety Partnership (2005) Birmingham's Community Safety Strategy 2005-2008	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 18
Birmingham City Council (2005) Developing Birmingham – an Economic Strategy for the City 2005 – 2015	This document provides a framework for the future economic well-being of Birmingham which will benefit all of the City's communities. The strategy is structured around four key areas which include development and investment, creating a skilled workforce, fostering business development and diversification, and creating sustainable communities and vibrant urban villages.	Incorporated in SA objectives 12 and 13
Birmingham City Council (2005) Housing Strategy	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 5 and 19
Birmingham City Council (2004) Archaeology Strategy	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 8
Birmingham City Council and Birmingham Health Services (2003) Plan for Birmingham's Older People	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 17
Birmingham City Council (2000) Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan 2000-2005	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in all SA objectives
Birmingham City Council (2000) Transport Strategy for Birmingham	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 3
Birmingham City Council (1999) Regeneration Through Conservation: Birmingham Conservation Strategy	Reviewed in SA for Core Strategy	Incorporated in SA objective 8
Birmingham City Council/Birmingham strategic Partnership (2007) Birmingham Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan Consultation	This strategy seeks to address the issues relating to both the reduction in emissions and the impact of our changing climate through seven key areas. These thematic areas are: procurement, transport, buildings, planning/land use, energy, waste and water. The	Incorporated in SA objective 2

	<p>strategy sets out targets and actions for each of these. This strategy seeks to change the way people live and do business in Birmingham through reducing demand for energy, increasing efficiency of energy supply, maximising use of renewable energy, and being prepared for the impacts of climate change.</p>	
<p>Ludi Simpson (2007), University of Manchester, Population Forecast for Birmingham with an ethnic group dimension</p>	<p>This report was commissioned by Birmingham City Council. It provides forecasts of the number of households in Birmingham, disaggregated by ethnic group. The forecast has been completed for eight ethnic group categories, White, Caribbean, African, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese and Other, and extends to 2028.</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 15</p>
<p>Professor Michael Parkinson CBE (2007), The Birmingham City Centre masterplan: the visioning study</p>	<p>The Parkinson Report and its detailed appendices reviewed the performance and prospects of Birmingham City Centre. It shows why cities and city centres matter more, not less, in a global economy and why Birmingham needs to focus upon the development of its city centre.</p> <p>It shows that a masterplan will be helpful in delivering the ambitions of the city. It identifies a series of principles that should inform the Masterplanning process and identifies some places that the Masterplan might wish to focus upon.</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>
<p>Birmingham and the Black Country's Biodiversity Action Plan (2000)</p>	<p>The aim of this plan is to coordinate the identification, monitoring and improvement of biodiversity in the region. It identifies 9 main habitat types and 22 species which are rare</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 7</p>

	either locally or nationally, and sets out a course of action with targets for their conservation and improvement.	
Birmingham City Council (2005), Unitary Development Plan	The UDP sets out the planning framework for Birmingham. It will be replaced in due course by the Core Strategy.	Incorporated in all SA objectives
Birmingham City Council (1990) City Centre Design Strategy	This report aims to present a robust, coherent, apolitical vision of how the physical environment of Birmingham's Central Area can be gradually improved over the next 30 years. It sets out a series of guidelines against which new development can be assessed. The document essentially sets out a long-term vision about how to make the centre of Birmingham a more "user-friendly" place, while retaining good accessibility and the potential to increase prosperity".	Incorporated in SA objectives 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 18 and 19
Birmingham City Council (1995) City Centre Strategy	This document sets out guidance for development in the City Centre relating to transportation, land uses, the environment and city management. The overall aim of this document is a City Centre which is economically sound, respects its own history, is easy to get to, is a pleasant and safe place in which to move around once there, and has a wide variety of activities and land uses which reflect the characteristics of a major metropolitan centre.	Incorporated in all SA objectives
Birmingham City Council (1999) Regeneration through Conservation, Supplementary Planning Guidance	This document highlights the opportunities provided by Birmingham's historic environment, and in particular its rich industrial heritage, to promote urban regeneration	Incorporated in SA objective 8

	<p>both in the inner city and declining suburban areas. The priority objectives include placing regeneration at the heart of regeneration, to relate conservation to sustainability, to maximise financial support, to reduce the number of listed buildings at risk, to produce additional conservation area appraisals, to continue improvements to the Key Hill and Soho Hill Conservation Areas, to ensure that conservation is a major element in the Jewellery Quarter Urban Village, and to promote the economic regeneration of Digbeth through conservation.</p>	
<p>Birmingham City Council (2002) City Centre Canal Corridor Strategy</p>	<p>The strategy sets out a framework to build on Birmingham's canals historic importance and using them as a focus to help generate positive development.</p> <p>The framework provides detailed planning and urban design guidance for development along the canal corridor.</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 7</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (2003) SPG, High Places: A planning Policy Framework for Tall Buildings</p>	<p>This document provides policy and design guidance for tall buildings in Birmingham. It provides guidance on the location, form and appearance of tall buildings.</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 8</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (2000), VISIONS Transport Strategy</p>	<p>This document outlines the Transport Strategy that the City Council wishes to pursue for the next 20 years and provides a framework for making future decisions and choices in respect of transport policies. In summary this document is designed to promote economic activity,</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 3</p>

	<p>improve environmental quality, improve accessibility for all forms of transport, to provide a wider choice of transport modes, to provide a high quality service in all aspects of transport delivery, to improve personal safety and security and to promote the efficient use of scarce resources.</p>	
<p>Birmingham City Council (1994) SPG, Convention Centre Quarter Planning and Urban design Framework</p>	<p>This document provides guidance on the future development of the Convention Centre Quarter. More specifically the document provides guidance on land uses, character, the canals, access and transport, and individual sub areas.</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (1996) SPG, Digbeth Millennium Quarter Planning and Urban Design for the Future</p>	<p>The SPG sets out a new vision for Digbeth based on a range of urban design principles. It promotes a balanced mix of uses and successful amalgamation of the new with the old. It seeks to stimulate new employment opportunities and activity in a good quality environment.</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (1998) SPG, Bull Ring, Markets Quarter Planning and Urban Design Framework</p>	<p>This document provides guidance for the development of the Bull Ring/Markets Quarter for the period 1998 to 2006. The objectives of the plan are to develop a vision for the Quarter, identify and express the unique role and special character of the Quarter, provide clear planning and urban design guidance, promote a mixture of land uses at an appropriate density and scale, highlight and foster opportunities for future development and investment, and protect the existing historic context.</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>

<p>Birmingham City Council (2001) SPG, Eastside Development Framework</p>	<p>This document aims to build upon previous guidance set out in the Digbeth Millennium Quarter Plan (SPG, 1996) and the Bull Rings and Markets Quarter Plan (1998), taking stock of more recent developments. It aims to set out an ambitious vision for the East side of Birmingham City Centre. The principles of both quarter plans are still valid, namely to break the concrete collar, improve the quality of the public realm and public spaces, the inclusion of significant amounts of City Living, to maximise the opportunities presented by larger sites, and to respect the history and character of the Digbeth area.</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (2003) SPG, Eastside Design and Movement Framework</p>	<p>This document seeks to manage change in Eastside as further infrastructure changes and new development gathers pace. The document aims to create a sense of place, through the creation of a high quality sustainable environment, the introduction of new activities, the development of pedestrian and cycle networks, and the development of strong public transport routes to support and enhance the anticipated level of commercial activity</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (1998) SPG, Jewellery Quarter Urban Village Urban Framework Plan</p>	<p>This document sets out the aspiration to develop the Jewellery Quarter as an Urban Village. The Framework Plan is based on five key principles, namely to (i) continue building on the investment and activities already underway, (ii) develop an integrated approach, including housing, employment, environment and</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>

	<p>transportation proposals, (iii) create a strong and positive framework for investment, (iv) involve the community in shaping its own future, and (v) develop an independent and compelling justification for investment.</p>	
<p>Birmingham City Council (2004) SPG, Bath Row &amp; Holloway Head Development Framework</p>	<p>This document provides planning and urban design guidance to realise opportunities for the development and improvement of the area around Bath Row and Holloway Head. It seeks to illustrate the potential for change and provides specific guidance for key sites. The key objectives relate to strengthening pedestrian links, promoting mixed-use development, protecting and supporting employment uses, ensuring high quality design, to create quality public spaces and transform Bath Row and Holloway Head into a major city centre "urban boulevard".</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (1999) Central Area Estates Development Framework</p>	<p>This document sets out a vision for the regeneration of the three Central Area Estates and identifies new development opportunities and provides guidance for managing change. The vision outlined is for a new and unique place which will be urban in character, high quality, safe and attractive to walk around and accessible.</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council Bristol Street South Development Brief (Bull Ring / Markets, 2003)</p>	<p>This document provides planning and urban design guidance for the development of land at Bristol Street/Belgrave Middleway. Guidance is provided on appropriate land uses, the</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>

	<p>layout and built forms the development should take, the relationship of the development to adjacent uses, transportation access and servicing, and landscaping. The document identifies the potential of the site as a gateway into the City Centre, and for comprehensive clearance and redevelopment for a mixture of uses (including residential, commercial offices, bulky good retailing and showrooms).</p>	
<p>Birmingham City Council Former Museum of Science and Technology Development Brief (Jewellery, 2002)</p>	<p>This document provides planning, urban design and marketing guidance for the use and development of the Museum of Science and Industry site and adjoining car park. Guidance is provided on appropriate land uses, detailed design, the layout and built form that the development should take, the conversion and redevelopment potential of the 19th century offices of the former Elkington Works and associated warehouses, the relationship of the development with the Birmingham &amp; Fazeley Canal and adjacent development within the immediate area, and transportation access and servicing arrangements.</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council Great Charles Street Draft Planning Guidelines (Jewellery, 2005)</p>	<p>This document provides planning and urban design guidance for the development of two sites fronting Great Charles Street, and further site at Lionel Street/St Chad's Circus. Guidance for the sites includes appropriate land uses, the retention of existing buildings/redevelopment opportunities, the layout scale</p>	<p>Incorporated in all SA objectives</p>

	and massing the development should take, the relationship of the development with adjacent uses and buildings, transportation access and servicing arrangements, and landscaping and design advice.	
Birmingham City Council Post & Mail Site Urban Design Brief (City Core, 2004)	This document provides planning guidance for the development of the Post and Mail site. The document identifies significant potential for new commercial uses, including the new Magistrates' Courts.	Incorporated in all SA objectives
Birmingham City Council Snow Hill Development Brief (City Core, 2002)	This document provides planning and urban design guidance for the development of the site on Snow Hill Queensway. It provides guidance on the appropriate land uses, the line of the Midland Metro extension, the layout and built form the development should take, the relationship of the development with adjacent uses, transportation access and servicing arrangements, and landscaping and design advice.	Incorporated in all SA objectives
Birmingham City Council (2001) Places for Living – Housing Design Guidance	This document aims to encourage quality residential development across Birmingham, with a focus on quantitative as well as qualitative issues. The five main principles set out in the document are (i) places not estates, (ii) moving around easily, (iii) safe places, private spaces, (iv) building for the future, and (v) build on local character.	Incorporated in SA objective 19
Birmingham City Council (2001) Places for All – General Urban Design Guidance	This document provides general design guidance relating to all types of development throughout the	Incorporated in SA objectives 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 18 and 19

	<p>city. This is a sister document to 'Places for Living' and the two documents should be used in conjunction. The five main principles set out in the document are (i) creating diversity, (ii) moving around easily, (iii) safe places, private spaces, (iv) building for the future, and (v) build on local character.</p>	
<p>Birmingham City Council (2007) Public Open Space and New Residential Development</p>	<p>This document seeks to ensure that adequate public open space, children's play and sports pitches are provided to serve all new residential development in the City.</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 7</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (2006) Lighting Places – Draft Lighting Strategy for the City Centre &amp; Local Centres</p>	<p>This document provides guidance aimed at enhancing the functional and aesthetic quality of lighting in all its forms as they relate to amenity and safety in the external public places within the city centre and local centres. The aims of this document are to (i) create an exciting and dynamic night time city environment, (ii) develop an iconic city skyline, (iii) make public places safer, and (iv) to give greater amenity value to public places.</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objectives 7, 8, and 18</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (2006) Colmore Row and Environs Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Supplementary Planning Policies</p>	<p>This document aims to identify the special interest the Colmore Row and Environs Conservation Area and provide a definition of its character. It also aims to provide a sound basis for the development control process within the conservation area and the formulation of policies and proposals for its preservation and enhancement.</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 8</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (2002) Jewellery Quarter Conservation</p>	<p>This document aims to identify the special interest the</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 8</p>

Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan	Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area and provide a definition of its character. It also aims to provide a management plan for the preservation and enhancement of the Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area.	
Birmingham City Council (2007) Steelhouse Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Supplementary Planning Policies	This document aims to identify the special interest the Steelhouse Conservation Area and provide a definition of its character. It also aims to provide a sound basis for the development control process within the conservation area and the formulation of policies and proposals for its preservation and enhancement.	Incorporated in SA objective 8
Birmingham City Council (2007) Warwick Bar Conservation Area Draft Character Appraisal and Draft Supplementary Planning Policies	This document aims to identify the special interest the Warwick Bar Conservation Area and provide a definition of its character. It also aims to provide a sound basis for the development control process within the conservation area and the formulation of policies and proposals for its preservation and enhancement.	Incorporated in SA objective 8
Birmingham City Council (2007) Sustainable Management of Urban Rivers and Floodplains	This document provides guidance for development located within river corridors in Birmingham. It builds upon the policies contained within the UDP and provides additional proposals that will encourage land use planning to be better linked with water management, access and visual amenity.	Incorporated in SA objective 6
Birmingham City Council (2006) Loss of Industrial Land to Alternative Uses	This document provides guidance to developers on the information required by the Council where a change of use from industrial to an alternative use is being	Incorporated in SA objective 12

	<p>proposed. It expands on the policy within the UDP and provides additional detail on matters such as the definition of industrial land and the categorisation of industrial sites within the UDP Alterations portfolio of industrial land. It also outlines other factors which will be considered where a change of use is being proposed, including possible exceptions to the general presumption against the loss of industrial land.</p>	
<p>Birmingham City Council (2001) Affordable Housing SPG</p>	<p>The SPG sets out mechanisms for securing affordable housing as part of substantial new housing developments.</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 19</p>
<p>Birmingham City Council (2004) Leisure Birmingham</p>	<p>The report sets out the main findings of the 2004 leisure survey commissioned by Birmingham City Council.</p> <p>The survey meets the requirements of PPG17. The report presents the results of a quantitative and qualitative assessment of current provision together with a residents' survey and provides an understanding of a) local attitudes to open space, sports and recreation provision and b) provides specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreation facilities.</p>	<p>Incorporated in SA objective 20</p>