

OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

**SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL REPORT
FOR
DRAFT OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION
PROVISION
SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

March 2008

OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Supplementary Planning Document

The Government has reformed the system of development planning in England. Development Plans are used to control and guide the development and use of land. As part of the reformed system, Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council must prepare a “Local Development Framework”.

The Local Development Framework will be a folder of different documents, including Development Plan Documents, which set out the Council’s approach to future development in the Borough.

This document is part of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). SPDs are documents that expand on policy outlined in a Development Plan Document or provide more detail on it to help in its implementation. They are not formally part of the statutory Development Plan but are material considerations in determining planning applications.

Supplementary Planning Documents have three supporting documents:

- a Sustainability Appraisal,
- a Habitats Regulations Assessment, and
- an Equalities Impact Assessment.

Members of the public may comment on the Supplementary Planning Document and any of the three supporting documents. A document outlining who has been consulted in the preparation of the Supplementary Planning Document, and issues they raised, is also available alongside these documents. This is called a Consultation Statement.

Members of the public may comment on this document during the six-week public consultation period as indicated on the public notice and comments form.

Comments made on the document cannot be treated as confidential.

If you would like further help in interpreting this document please contact the Strategic Planning and Information section on the following telephone numbers: 0161 770 1673 / 4151.

You can also email the team on spi@oldham.gov.uk.

All documents connected with the Local Development Framework are available on the Council’s web site at www.oldham.gov.uk.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

The following is a list of abbreviations used in this document.

DPD – Development Plan Document

HMR – Housing Market Renewal

LDF – Local Development Framework

LDD – Local Development Document

MBC – Metropolitan Borough Council

ODPM – Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (now called the Department for Communities and Local Government)

RSS – Regional Spatial Strategy

SA – Sustainability Appraisal

SEA – Strategic Environmental Assessment

SPD – Supplementary Planning Document

UDP – Unitary Development Plan

NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The purpose of this non-technical summary is to provide details of key findings from a sustainability appraisal that was carried out on the possible effects of the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

What is the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Supplementary Planning Document?

The purposes of SPDs are to provide further detail to policies contained within the Oldham Metropolitan Borough Unitary Development Plan. The draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD will provide further guidance on the requirements of UDP Policies R1.1 and R2.1.

The draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD will provide specific advice on:

- The mechanisms for seeking a replacement facility and/or financial contribution where an open space, sport or recreation facility is lost as a result of development; and
- The mechanisms for seeking open space, sport and recreation provision as part of a residential development.

The intention of the SPD is not to form a greenspace Strategy. It simply sets out the process for seeking planning obligations that may be sought through policies R1.1 and R2.1 within the UDP.

The draft SPD identifies surplus and deficiency figures on a ward by ward basis. This will inform when to seek open space provision on developments of 5 to 29 dwellings and where best to direct new provision and/or financial contributions to meet the needs of the local community.

What is a Sustainability Appraisal?

As a result of the new planning system that has been introduced by the Government, local authorities must carry out a Sustainability Appraisal alongside any SPD that is produced. The Sustainability Appraisal process also incorporates the requirements of the European Commission Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.

The aim of this process is to ensure that consideration is given to social, environmental and economic impacts of the SPD.

Stages in Sustainability Appraisal

The following are the stages in the sustainability appraisal process. Consultation on this Sustainability Appraisal Report, alongside the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD, represents Stage D of the process.

Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope

Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects

Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report

Stage D: Consulting on the draft SPD and the Sustainability Appraisal Report

Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the SPD and responding to adverse effects.

STAGE A – BASELINE AND SCOPING

Stage A of the Sustainability Appraisal process is undertaken before production of the SPD. It should be integrated with the evidence gathering for the SPD. This involves the following tasks:

A1: Identification of other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives

The Scoping Report (see Appendix 1) lists the relevant higher plans and programmes identified at this stage from the international level to the local level.

A2: Collection of baseline data

This stage involves the collection of data that provides the basis for predicting and monitoring effects and can help identify sustainability problems and alternative ways of dealing with them. The information collected should give information about the current and likely future state of the planning area. This will allow the SPD's likely effects to be adequately predicted.

A3: Identification of sustainability issues and problems

The following social, environmental and economic issues were identified after analysis of the higher plans and baseline data.

Social Progress which recognises the needs of everyone

- High levels of obesity in the Borough and low levels of physical activity.
- Need to encourage greater sport and physical activity to improve physical and mental health and well-being.
- Greater levels of physical activity in and outside schools should be encouraged through improved school open spaces, sports and recreation facilities in and out of school.

Effective protection of the environment

- The importance of well maintained open spaces.
- Need to increase tree coverage.
- Need to protect and enhance existing areas of landscape, biodiversity, historic and heritage value.
- Increase number of footpaths that meet or exceed required good condition.
- More than half of public rights of way inadequately signed / inaccessible.
- Need to protect open space, sport and recreation facilities from inappropriate development.
- Need to monitor net change in the extent of protected open space.
- Need to maintain the quality, range and accessibility of open space.

A4: Development of the Sustainability Appraisal framework

The following Plan objectives and Sustainability Objectives were identified:

Plan Objectives

1. To ensure that land is provided for a wide range of open space, sport and recreation facilities, which meet the needs and expectations of all residents of the Borough and are accessible to all residents, workers and visitors.
2. To protect from inappropriate development existing open spaces, sport and recreational facilities that are of public value to residents.
3. To maintain and enhance the quantity, range and quality of open spaces, sport and recreational facilities throughout the Borough.
4. To protect and maximise opportunities for a network of open spaces and recreation routes across the Borough that contribute to sustainable transport.
5. To support suitable recreation activity in the urban fringe.
6. Increase the amount of sport and recreational provision in the Borough by providing new sites where resources and opportunities permit.
7. To encourage a more efficient use of land by promoting sites that cannot be used for other purposes to be developed as open space and/or for sport and recreational purposes, and using brownfield sites in preference to Greenfield sites.

Sustainability Objectives

- A. To protect and improve the Borough's green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity.
- B. To ensure the effective and efficient use of all types of land and buildings in the most sustainable locations.
- C. To maintain and improve open space, sport and recreational facilities.
- D. To improve the health of the Borough's population.

A5: Consultation on the scope of the sustainability appraisal

The Scoping Report (see Appendix 1) was subject to a five-week period of targeted consultation to key stakeholders between 16th April and 21st May 2007.

STAGE B – APPRAISAL OF PLAN OPTIONS

It is essential that the objectives of the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD are sustainable. To ensure that this is the case the Plan Objectives were tested against the Sustainability Objectives. It was considered that these objectives are in agreement (See Appendix 3).

The next stage was to test the sustainability of the options identified for the draft SPD. The options identified for this draft SPD were:

Option 1: Rely solely on UDP policies, alongside any relevant policies in Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)

Option 2: Implement the draft SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision.

A Sustainability Appraisal of the options was carried out on 19th July 2007. The outcome of this appraisal was that Option 2 would bring the most positive benefits.

Whilst it was considered that Option 1 could bring positive benefits, Option 2 was considered likely to bring greater benefit and protect and improve open space, sport and recreation provision more effectively. Often this was thought to be as a result of more detailed guidance and clarity in the implementation of policy regarding Section 106 planning obligations. The SPD will provide more detailed information on the identification of surpluses and deficiencies of open space, sport and recreation provision, thus enabling Section 106 agreements to be obtained and directed more effectively.

STAGE E - MONITORING

Monitoring has an increased importance in the new planning system. This is also reflected in a Sustainability Appraisal. Such monitoring can help to identify unforeseen adverse effects and enable appropriate remedial action.

Once the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD is adopted, the Council will include the indicators identified through this process in the Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report. This will ensure that the progress of the SPD can be monitored.

INTRODUCTION

- i In September 2004, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 came into effect. This legislation reforms the system of development planning in England. Development Plans are used to control and guide the development and use of land in the area they cover. As a consequence of the new legislation, Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council (MBC) must prepare a Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF will replace the Oldham Metropolitan Borough Unitary Development Plan that was adopted in July 2006 and along with Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West will form the Development Plan for the Borough.
- ii The LDF is a folder of different documents including the Statement of Community Involvement, Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD). The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act requires a Sustainability Appraisal to be undertaken during the preparation of SPDs.
- iii The Sustainability Appraisal process ensures that the social, environmental and economic effects of the SPD are considered during its preparation, so allowing for changes to be made to the document during the preparation process or to identify mitigation for these effects.
- iv This document is the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report for the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD. It should be read in conjunction with the draft SPD. The draft SPD expands on UDP policies R1.1 and R2.1 to provide further information on:
 - The mechanisms for seeking replacement facilities and/or financial contributions where an open space, sport or recreation facility is lost as a result of development; and
 - The mechanisms for seeking open space, sport and recreation provision as part of a residential development.
- v This document has been prepared to meet the requirements of the European Commission Directive 2001/42/EEC, which requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment of Sustainability and SPDs.
- vi The structure of this SA Report is based on advice contained in Government guidance on sustainability appraisals (*Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents*, ODPM 2005).
- vii The SA Report sets out the appraisal methodology, relevant baseline information, the Sustainability Objectives and key sustainability issues and problems. The SA Report considers any significant social, environmental and economic effects and any mitigation methods. It also sets out the indicators for monitoring the SPD.

viii This SA Report is available for consultation at the same time as the draft SPD. However, any comments that are submitted with regard to the SA Report must relate to the effects of the draft SPD **and not** the saved UDP policies that the draft SPD will be helping to implement.

1.0 SUMMARY AND OUTCOMES

1.0.1 This section of the SA report provides an overview of the processes and outcomes of the sustainability appraisal of the draft SPD.

1.1 Non-Technical Summary

1.1.1 A non-technical summary of the Sustainability Appraisal of the draft SPD is included at the front of this SA Report.

1.2 Likely significant effects of the SPD

1.2.1 The draft SPD is a document that assists with the implementation of the UDP policies on the Maintaining of Supply through the Protection and Improvement of Existing Open Space, and Outdoor Sport or Recreation Facilities (Policy R1.1) and the Requirement for New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities and Residential Developments (Policy R2.1). The draft SPD identifies surplus and deficiency figures on a ward by ward basis. This will inform when to seek open space provision on developments of 5 to 29 dwellings and where best to direct new provision and/or financial contributions to meet the needs of the local community. The draft SPD will lead to better implementation of the UDP policies and hence contribute towards social, environmental and economic objectives.

1.3 Difference the process has made to date

1.3.1 The first part of the Sustainability Appraisal process was the preparation and consultation on a Scoping Report. This is known as Stage A of the process. This was an initial evidence gathering stage to inform the process and identified a series of relevant Plan and Sustainability Objectives. Between Stage A and Stage B of the Sustainability Appraisal the Sustainability Objectives were changed to include the relevant objectives identified through the preparation of the Issues and Options for the Core Strategy Development Plan Document. Notwithstanding this it is felt that these objectives reflect the issues covered in the initial objectives. The Plan Objectives were also reduced to better reflect the scope and content of the draft SPD. Appendix 1 includes the Scoping Report, and incorporates any amendments resulting from the consultation exercise. Appendix 2 summarises the comments received to the consultation on the Scoping Report, and the Council's Responses.

1.3.2 Stage B of the process involved assessing the compatibility of the Plan and Sustainability Objectives (see Appendix 3). This was followed by an appraisal of the Sustainability Objectives. For this part of the process the Council made use of the "*Implementing Action for Sustainability: An Integrated Appraisal Toolkit for the North West*" (revised 2006) published by the North West Regional Assembly. This toolkit was then amended to better reflect Oldham specifically. The

toolkit contains 14 checklist questions against which the objectives were assessed (see Appendix 4). The objectives were assessed against two options: Option 1 to rely solely on the UDP policies and Option 2 to implement the draft SPD. Appendix 5 summarises the findings of this stage.

1.3.3 The Sustainability Appraisal allowed the draft SPD to be evaluated with regard to economic, environmental and social objectives. The appraisal process indicated potential positive impacts and negative impacts in relation to both Options 1 and 2, but has highlighted that Option 2 (to implement the SPD) is the preferred option as this should lead to greater benefits in comparison to Option 1, i.e. having an SPD that will assist with the implementation of the UDP policies will result in better outcomes than relying solely on the UDP policies themselves.

1.4 How to comment

1.4.1 Members of the public may comment on the Sustainability Appraisal during the six week public consultation period as indicated on the public notice and comments form.

2.0 APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY

2.0.1 This section details the approach that was used in undertaking the Sustainability Appraisal of the draft SPD.

2.1 Approach adopted to the Sustainability Appraisal

2.1.1 The Sustainability Appraisal of the draft SPD has been undertaken in accordance with Government guidance on Sustainability Appraisal (*Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents*, ODPM 2005). Table 1 outlines the key stages in the Sustainability Appraisal process, so far, and indicates which section/appendix of this SA Report relates to each stage of the sustainability appraisal process.

Table 1 Key stages in the Sustainability Appraisal Process

Stage	Task	Relevant section in this Sustainability Appraisal Report
A1	Identification of other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives	Section 4.1
A2	Collection of baseline data	Section 4.2
A3	Identification of sustainability issues and problems.	Section 4.3
A4	Development of the SA framework.	Section 4.5
<i>Stages A1-A4 form the Scoping Report</i>		<i>Appendix 1</i>
B1	Testing the SPD objectives against the	Appendix 3

	SA framework.	
B2	Developing the SPD options.	Section 5
B3	Predicting the effects of the draft SPD.	Appendix 5
B4	Evaluating the effects of the draft SPD.	Section 6.1
B5	Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.	Section 6.3
B6	Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the SPD.	Section 7.2

2.1.2 The requirements of the SEA Directive have been incorporated into the Sustainability Appraisal process. Each SEA Directive requirement has been signposted (like this **I**) throughout this SA Report. For ease of use Appendix 6 brings together all the points in the SA Report, in which the SEA Directive requirement is met.

2.1.3 The appraisal methodology had regard to the Action for Sustainability toolkit, *Implementing Action For Sustainability: An Integrated Appraisal Toolkit for the North West 2003* (revised 2006), published by the North West Regional Assembly. The sustainability appraisal framework incorporated a list of questions adapted from the toolkit, which are relevant to Oldham. The questions cover a range of social, environmental and economic issues relevant to the SPD.

2.1.4 Appendix 4 has details of the full list of 14 questions and Appendix 5 contains the results of the appraisal against the relevant toolkit checklist questions.

2.2 When was the Sustainability Appraisal carried out?

2.2.1 Stage A (Scoping Report) of the sustainability appraisal was consulted on between 16th April and 21st May 2007.

2.2.2 Stage B of the Sustainability Appraisal was undertaken on 19th July 2007.

2.3 Who carried out the Sustainability Appraisal?

2.3.1 Stage A of the Sustainability Appraisal was prepared by the Council's Strategic Planning and Information section.

2.3.2 The following Oldham MBC officers undertook Stage B of the Sustainability Appraisal:

- Pauline Goodhall (Strategic Planning and Information)
- Imogen Fuller (Boroughwide Strategy)
- Elizabeth Dryden-Stuart (Strategic Planning and Information)
- Paul McGrath (Strategic Planning and Information)
- Sarah Stansfield (Strategic Planning and Information)

2.4 Who was consulted when and how?

2.4.1 The following statutory bodies were consulted by letter on the Stage A Scoping Report:

- Natural England (formerly the Countryside Agency and English Nature)
- English Heritage
- Environment Agency

2.4.2 Although not statutory the following stakeholders were also consulted:

- The Government Office for the North West
- North West Regional Assembly
- North West Regional Development Agency
- Oldham Partnership
- Sport England
- Greater Manchester Ecology Unit
- National Playing Fields Association
- Regional Sports Board
- Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive
- Groundwork Oldham and Rochdale
- Mersey Basin Campaign
- The Government Office for Yorkshire and Humberside
- Yorkshire Forward

2.5 Difficulties encountered in compiling information or carrying out the assessment

2.5.1 There are currently data gaps in the baseline data, which will need to be collected in the future in order to be able to monitor the effects of the SPD effectively.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.0.1 This section provides relevant background information about the Sustainability Appraisal.

3.1 Purpose of the SA and the SA Report



“The environmental report shall include information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, (and) its stage in the decision-making process” (Article 5.2).

Information to be provided in the Environmental Report includes:
“the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects” (Annex I (f) and footnote).

“an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with” (Annex I (h))

“the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme” (Annex I (g))

3.1.1 The European Commission Directive 2001/42/EC requires a “Strategic Environmental Assessment” (SEA) to be undertaken of any SPDs.

3.1.2 The Directive requires the preparation of an Environmental Report on the likely significant effects of the draft document; consultation on the draft document and the accompanying Environmental Report; consideration of the Environmental Report and consultation comments and demonstration of how the results of the environmental assessment were taken into account.

3.1.3 This document is the SA Report for the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD. Sustainability Appraisal is a requirement of the new planning system and Government guidance has been issued on how local authorities should address this matter and on implementing the SEA Directive.

3.1.4 This SA report sets out the Sustainability Appraisal processes. It includes the appraisal methodology, sustainability objectives, baseline and context information, assessment of the draft SPD options and details for the monitoring of the draft SPD.

3.2 Plan objectives and outline of contents

3.2.1 The Plan Objectives that have been identified for this draft SPD have been taken from the objectives identified within the Open Space, Sport and Recreation chapter of the Oldham Metropolitan Borough UDP. This is to ensure that the objectives of the SPD are in accordance with the parent policies in the UDP.

3.2.2 The Plan Objectives are:

1. To ensure that land is provided for a wide range of open space, sport and recreation facilities, which meet the needs and expectations of all residents of the Borough and are accessible to all residents, workers and visitors.
2. To protect from inappropriate development existing open spaces, sport and recreational facilities that are of public value to residents.
3. To maintain and enhance the quantity, range and quality of open spaces and sport and recreational facilities throughout the Borough.
4. To protect and maximise opportunities for a network of open spaces and recreation routes across the Borough that contribute to sustainable transport.
5. To support suitable recreation activity in the urban fringe.
6. Increase the amount of sport and recreational provision in the Borough by providing new sites where resources and opportunities permit.
7. To encourage a more efficient use of land by promoting sites that cannot be used for other purposes to be developed as open space and/or for sport and recreational purposes, and using brownfield sites in preference to greenfield sites.

3.3 Compliance with the SEA Directive/Regulations

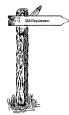
3.3.1 This SA Report incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive. Appendix 6 indicates how the requirements of the SEA Directive have been met through the sustainability appraisal.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES, BASELINE AND CONTEXT

4.0.1 This section provides details about the links with other plans and the baseline information relating to the sustainability appraisal.

4.1 Links to other policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives

4.1.1 The SEA Directive requires that the Sustainability Appraisal takes account of the relationships between the SPD and other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives at the international, European, national and local levels. This enables relationships and synergies to be identified and exploited and ensures that any inconsistencies can be addressed/mitigated.



The Environmental Report should provide information on [inter alia]:

- the “relationship [of the plan or programme] with other relevant plans or programmes” (Annex I(a))
- “the environmental protection objectives, established at international, [European] Community or [national] level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation” (annex I (e))
- “relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme” and “the environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected” (Annex I (b), (c))
- “any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC” (Annex I(d))

“...the authorities ...which, by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the environmental effects of implementing plans and programmes...shall be consulted when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report” (Article 5.4 and 6.3)

4.1.2 The Scoping Report highlighted the main aims and objectives of other relevant documents, which were considered in the sustainability appraisal (see Appendix 1).

4.2 Description of the social, environmental and economic baseline characteristics and the predicted future baseline.

4.2.1 The Scoping Report (see Appendix 1) provides an overview of the social, environmental and economic characteristics of the Borough. It then presents a summary of the statistical baseline information currently available in relation to the SPD. The information is used to help predict and monitor possible effects. It also helps to identify sustainability problems and alternative ways of dealing with them. Baseline information consists mainly of indicators although both quantitative and qualitative information can be used.

4.3 Identifying sustainability issues and problems

4.3.1 The Scoping Report (see Appendix 1) outlines the key sustainability issues in the Borough in relation to the SPD as required by the SEA Directive.

4.4 Limitations of the information and difficulties in collecting information

4.4.1 At present, there are data gaps where information is required to enable the indicators to be monitored. This information will need to be collected in the future for monitoring purposes.

4.5 The SA Framework, including objectives, targets and indicators

4.5.1 The Sustainability Appraisal framework is used as a tool to appraise the SPD. The process of developing the SA framework involves the formation of sustainability objectives. The objectives help identify any problems and issues and potential beneficial impacts of the SPD.

4.5.2 The Sustainability Objectives below have been drawn from work undertaken for the Local Development Framework Core Strategy Development Plan Document, and reflect key issues and problems that developed from the baseline data (Table 2) and the objectives drawn from national and regional sources (Table 3) set out in the Scoping Report (see Appendix 1).

4.5.3 The resultant proposed Sustainability Objectives are:

- A To protect and improve the Borough's green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity.
- B To ensure the effective and efficient use of all types of land and buildings in the most sustainable of locations.

C To maintain and improve open space, sport and recreational facilities.

D To improve the health of the Borough's population

4.5.4 Following the sustainability appraisal (stage B) of the above objectives, the sustainability objectives for the Core Strategy have been emerging and over time are becoming more refined. It was considered that the SPD sustainability objectives should be in line with the forthcoming LDF sustainability objectives. The SA objectives were amended slightly to reflect this, which has resulted in a change to the sustainability objectives.

4.5.5 Objective C (above) has been replaced by the following objective:

C. To promote quality and accessible open space, sport and recreational facilities.

5.0 ISSUES AND OPTIONS

5.0.1 This section provides details about the options that were assessed as part of the Sustainability Appraisal.

5.1 Main strategic options considered and how they were identified

5.1.1 Government guidance on Sustainability Appraisal requires that options are developed and considered to ensure that the identified objectives for the document can be met. The Sustainability Appraisal considered two options for the SPD. These were:

- **Option 1 – Rely solely on UDP policies**

This option relies solely on the Oldham Metropolitan Borough UDP policies, alongside any relevant policies in RSS.

- **Option 2 – Implement the draft SPD on Assessment of Employment Sites**

This option involves the preparation and adoption of an SPD to provide further assistance on the implementation of the UDP policies.

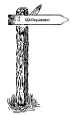
5.1.2 Given the specific nature of the subject topic of the draft SPD, the options were limited to these two only.

5.1.3 Adopting the SPD would supplement the Oldham Metropolitan Borough UDP and the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West.

5.2 Comparison of the social, environmental and economic effects of the options.

- 5.2.1 Both options are considered to have positive social, environmental and economic effects on the provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities throughout the Borough. However, it was considered that Option 2 would offer greater clarity and explanation on the interpretation of the UDP policies, providing more detailed information on surpluses and deficiencies of open space, sport and recreation provision, laying out costs and maintenance costs, thus enabling Section 106 agreements to be obtained and directed more effectively. It will help to ensure that the provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities meets the needs of the local community, by providing greater quality, range and accessible open spaces, therefore ensuring positive social, environmental and economic effects for the Borough. Appendix 5 provides the results of the appraisal of the two options against the sustainability toolkit.
- 5.2.3 The Sustainability Appraisal (Stage B) indicated that Option 2 scored more positively against economic, environmental and social objectives than Option 1.

5.3 How social, environmental and economic issues were considered in choosing the preferred option



“...an environmental report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated” (Article 5.1). Information to be provided in the Environmental Report includes “an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with” (Annex I (h))

- 5.3.2 To ensure that social, environment and economic issues were considered when choosing the preferred option the appraisal methodology had regard to the Action for Sustainability toolkit, *Implementing Action For Sustainability: An Integrated Appraisal Toolkit for the North West 2003* (revised 2006) published by North West Regional Assembly.

Testing the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD options

- 5.3.4 When formulating the SPD it is necessary to develop options to ensure that the identified objectives can be met. The options that were devised for the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD reflect its specific nature. The options chosen are:

Option 1: Rely solely on UDP Policy

5.3.5 Under this approach decisions relating to applications that may affect open space, sport and recreation provision will rely solely on policies the Oldham Metropolitan Borough UDP, alongside any relevant policies within RSS.

Option 2: Adopt draft SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision

5.3.6 Under this approach a draft SPD relating to open space, sport and recreation provision would be adopted. This would supplement existing development plan policies and provide further, more detailed advice. The open space, sport and recreation provision SPD will provide specific advice on:

- The mechanisms for seeking a replacement facility and/or financial contribution where an open space, sport or recreation facility is lost as a result of development; and
- The mechanisms for seeking open space, sport and recreation provision as part of a residential development.

5.3.7 The intention of the SPD is not to form a greenspace strategy. It simply sets out the process for seeking planning obligations that may be sought through policies R1.1 and R2.1 within the UDP.

5.3.8 The draft SPD identifies surplus and deficiency figures on a ward by ward basis. This will inform when to seek open space provision on developments of 5 – 29 dwellings and where best to direct new provision and/or financial contributions to meet the needs of the local community.

5.3.9 Option 2 (implementing the draft SPD) overall resulted in a higher contribution to moving towards the Sustainability Objectives. Appendix 5 sets out the Sustainability Appraisal framework outlining the appraisal of both options and the supporting evidence/justification.

5.4 Other options considered and why these were rejected

5.4.1 As explained above, the two options were to either rely solely on the UDP policies alone or to implement the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD, as the SPD is a specialist document that seeks to assist with the implementation of the UDP policies rather than making policy in its own right.

5.5 Proposed mitigation measures – plan issues and options

5.5.1 The appraisal indicated that no mitigation was required.

6.0 PLAN POLICIES

6.0.1 A requirement of the Sustainability Appraisal is to identify any possible negative impacts of implementing the preferred option. Where these are identified the report should set out measures to prevent, reduce or offset the adverse effects.

6.1 Significant social, environmental and economic effects of the preferred policies.

6.1.1 The Sustainability Appraisal process did not identify any significant negative impacts of implementing the chosen option i.e. implementing the SPD.

6.2 How social, environmental and economic problems were considered in developing the policies.

6.2.1 Sustainability Appraisal was undertaken at the key stages of the UDP review that was adopted in July 2006. This considered social, economic and environmental issues when preparing the SPD's parent UDP policies, Policies R1.1 and R2.1.

6.2.2 The SPD offers further interpretation on UDP Policies R1.1 and R2.1 on Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision in order to assist with their implementation.

6.3 Proposed mitigation methods – plan policies

6.3.1 The Sustainability Appraisal (Stage B) indicated that it was not necessary for any changes to be made to the draft SPD. The SPD assists with the interpretation and implementation of the adopted UDP policies on Maintaining Supply through the Protection and Improvement of Existing Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities (Policy R1.1) and the Requirement for New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities and Residential Developments (Policy R2.1).

6.4 Uncertainties and risks

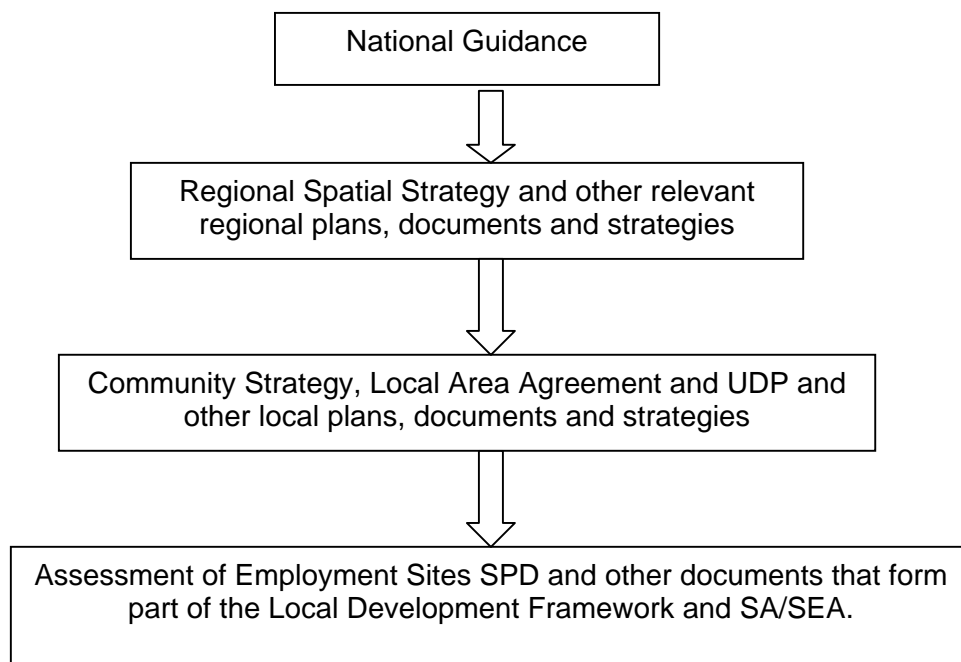
6.4.1 A risk, which could occur, is if the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD is not adopted. The consequence of this would be less certainty for developers and council officers in interpreting UDP policies R1.1 and R2.1 and the risk of new provision and financial contributions provided by developers not meeting the needs of the local community as effectively.

7.0 IMPLEMENTATION

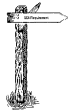
7.0.1 This section provides details relating to how the SPD will be implemented and monitored, including details of the proposed indicators.

7.1 Links to other tiers of plans and programmes and the project level

7.1.1 The Scoping Report (see Appendix 1) identified the range of national, regional and local planning guidance, strategies and plans and other documents that are relevant to employment sites. The diagram below shows the relationship between other plans and programmes and the LDF.



7.2 Monitoring



Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plans and programmes in order, *inter alia*, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action” (Article 10.1)

The Environmental Report shall include “a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring”

7.2.1 Monitoring is considered to be an important part of the new planning system and indeed of Sustainability Appraisal. Such monitoring will

allow any unforeseen impacts of implementing the chosen option to be identified and quantified at the earliest possible opportunity. This should allow any remedial action that is considered appropriate to be carried out.

7.2.2 The collection of such information will also be a useful source of future baseline data for future documents and projects.

7.2.3 The relevant indicators were identified through the Scoping Report (see Appendix 1). They are reproduced below:

- Percentage of primary school age children in Reception Year and Year 6 with height and weight recorded who are obese.
- Number of new/ and improved sports facilities and playing fields completed.
- Proportion of Borough's population taking part in 30mins or more of physical activity on at least 3 days per week.
- Amount of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag award standard.
- Tree coverage
- Number of woodland sites managed to UK woodland assurance standard (FSC)
- Change in area and populations of biodiversity importance, including priority habitats and species, and designated sites (international through to local).
- No. of Local Nature Reserves (LNR) and Country Parks
- Extent of urban/rural footpaths in good condition
- Number and extent of Conservation Areas
- Percentage of new and converted dwellings on Previously Developed Land (PDL)
- Net change in the extent of protected open space

7.2.4 These indicators differ slightly from those contained in the original Scoping Report. The indicators have been amended to reflect those identified as part of preparing the Core Strategy Development Plan Document.

7.2.5 Once the Council has formally adopted the draft SPD, the indicators will be included within the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the LDF. The AMR is produced in the December of each year and includes information relating to the previous financial year.

GLOSSARY

Community Strategy – This sets out a vision, strategic objectives and targets for the long-term future of the Borough.

Core Strategy - A Development Plan Document that sets out a long-term spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Borough. It also contains a spatial strategy, core policies and a monitoring and implementation framework.

Development Plan – The Development Plan for the Borough consists of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West, saved policies in the Oldham Unitary Development Plan, and/or Development Plan Documents that replace the saved policies.

Development Plan Document - A spatial planning document that is subject to Independent Examination and forms part of the Development Plan. They can include Core Strategy, Site Specific Allocations of Land and Area Action Plans.

Local Area Agreement - A Local Area Agreement is a three year agreement that sets out the priorities for a local area agreed between central government, represented by the Government Office, and a local area, represented by the local authority and Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and other key partners at a local level.

Local Development Document (LDD) – The generic term given to all constituent documents of the Local Development Framework.

Local Development Framework (LDF) – A folder of Local Development Documents, some of which form part of the Development Plan for the Borough.

Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) – This sets out the region’s policies in relation to the development and use of land and forms part of the Development Plan for the Borough. The North West Regional Assembly prepares the RSS.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) – This sets out the standards that the Council will achieve in terms of engaging communities in the preparation of the Local Development Framework and development control decisions. It is subject to Independent Examination.

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) – A Supplementary Planning Document provides additional information in respect of policies contained in the Development Plan Documents. It is not subject to Independent Examination and does not form part of the Development Plan, although it can be a material consideration when determining planning applications.

Saved policies or plans – Existing adopted plans that are saved for three years until replaced by a more up-to-date replacement plan.

Unitary Development Plan (UDP) – sets out policies and proposals for the development and use of land in the Borough over a fifteen-year period. The Unitary Development Plan identifies sites in the Borough where is proposed to permit housing, employment and shopping developments, amongst others, to take place.

OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION PROVISION SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

DRAFT SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

SCOPING REPORT

**Strategic Planning & Information
Regeneration Directorate
PO BOX 452
Oldham Business Centre
Cromwell Street
Oldham
OL1 1WR**

OLDHAM 
Metropolitan Borough 

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SA Scoping Report Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Scoping Report is the first element of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The SPD will expand on policies R1.1 and R2.1 of the adopted Oldham Metropolitan Borough Unitary Development Plan, which relate to the protection and provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities (see appendix i for full policy wording). The SPD will set out:
- The mechanisms for seeking a replacement facility and/or financial contribution where an open space, sport or recreation facility is lost as a result of development; and
 - The mechanisms for seeking open space, sport and recreation provision as part of a residential development.

What is a Sustainability Appraisal?

- 1.2 As a result of the commencement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 a Sustainability Appraisal is mandatory for Supplementary Planning Documents. The Sustainability Appraisal helps planning authorities to fulfil the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in the preparation of their plans.
- 1.3 The purpose of a Sustainability Appraisal is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations in the preparation and adoption of plans. Sustainability Appraisal is the process that identifies and reports on the likely significant effects of the plan and the extent to which implementation of the plan will achieve the social, environmental and economic objectives by which sustainable development can be defined.

The Role of the Scoping Report

- 1.4 This report is intended to compile the background information that is needed and to determine the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal. It is also intended to be a consultation document, the purpose of which is to allow key stakeholders to comment on the proposed scope. It is intended that consultation at this stage will help to ensure that the Sustainability Appraisal is

comprehensive and robust to support the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Supplementary Planning Document during the later stages of full public consultation.

- 1.5 This Scoping Report is the result of work carried out on the first stage (Stage A) of the Sustainability Appraisal process for the Supplementary Planning Document. The Report covers:
- A1 - The key sustainability objectives of other relevant plans and programmes;
 - A2 - The relevant open space, sport and recreation baseline data for Oldham Borough;
 - A3 - The key sustainability issues and problems for Oldham Borough in terms of open space, sport and recreation; and
 - A4 - The Sustainability Framework (i.e. objectives and indicators).

Requirements of the SEA Directive

- 1.6 Sustainability Appraisal must also meet the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive 2001/42/EC. The Council will ensure that the requirements of this directive are met. The requirements of the SEA Directive and at what stages they are met throughout this process will be signposted as follows:



Consultation Requirements

- 1.7 The Government has stated that the three consultation bodies as required by the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive should be consulted at this stage. These bodies are Natural England (formerly the Countryside Agency and English Nature), English Heritage and the Environment Agency. Although not statutory consultees the Council will also consult with the following bodies on this Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.

- The Government Office for the North West
- North West Regional Assembly
- North West Regional Development Agency
- Oldham Partnership
- Sport England
- Greater Manchester Ecology Unit
- National Playing Fields Association
- Regional Sports Board
- Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive
- Groundwork Oldham and Rochdale
- Oldham Play Partnership
- Mersey Basin Campaign
- The Government Office for Yorkshire and Humberside
- Yorkshire Forward

1.8 This consultation period will last for 5 weeks as required by *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* paper produced by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in November 2005.

Questions to Aid Consultation

1.9 Throughout this Scoping Report specific questions have been provided to aid the consultation process. They are located in a text box at the end of each section. The questions have been devised to aid and focus discussion on outputs that will be beneficial to the Sustainability Appraisal.

The Layout of the Scoping Report

1.10 This Scoping Report will follow the guidance set out in *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* produced by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, November 2005.

1.11 This report will therefore include the following sections:

- A1 – Identifying other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives
- A2 – Collecting baseline information
- A3 - Identifying key sustainability issues
- A4 – Developing the Sustainability Appraisal framework

2. Stage 1 – Other Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (A1)



An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes

- 2.1 The first stage in the scoping process is to identify other relevant plans and programmes. The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Supplementary Planning Document will not be produced in a vacuum and therefore this initial stage is important to ensure that all relevant policies, plans and programmes are taken into account, documented and key themes carried through into the Supplementary Planning Document.
- 2.2 The Supplementary Planning Document may be influenced in a variety of ways by other plans and programmes. It can also be influenced by external sustainability objectives such as those encompassed in policies or legislation. As part of the review, relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives have been listed. Where indicators, targets and objectives have been identified at this stage, they will facilitate the creation of the Sustainability Appraisal targets and indicators further on in the process.
- 2.3 The guidance on Sustainability Appraisal by Office of the Deputy Prime Minister indicates that scoping reports for documents such as Supplementary Planning Documents should consider the relationship of the document to plans and programmes from international level to the local level. However for the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Supplementary Planning Document it is acknowledged that the higher level plans will have already been fed into national and local plans and strategies. The following is therefore intended only to be an overview of the most relevant higher level policy documents with the more detailed implications and links of policies and programmes beginning at the national level, as there are more likely to be direct links with Planning Policy Guidance and Statements. These issues are considered more fully within Table 1.
- 2.4 In essence, by assessing how the Supplementary Planning Document may link with and be influenced by other strategies this will enable potential synergies to be exploited and any inconsistencies and constraints to be identified and addressed.

International/EU documents

The Renewed Sustainable Strategy (SDS) for an Enlarged European Union (2006)

- 2.5 This strategy built on the Gothenburg 2001 Sustainable Development Strategy. The Renewed SDS highlights the following key priority challenges for the coming period until 2010: -
- Climate change and clean energy
 - Sustainable transport
 - Sustainable production and consumption
 - Public health threads
 - Better management of natural resources
 - Social inclusion, demography and migration
 - Fighting global poverty

The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development 2002

- 2.6 The declaration was prepared in Johannesburg, South Africa between the 2nd and 4th of September 2002 at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. Representatives of people of the World assembled to prepare the Declaration so as to reinforce the pillars of sustainable development – economic development, social development and environmental development – at the local, national, regional and global level

The World Summit (August 26th – September 4th 2002)

- 2.7 Held in Johannesburg between August 26th and September 4th 2002, the role of the World Summit was to identify new global sustainability issues that had arisen since 1992 and develop a plan to improve sustainable development in the coming decade.

The Earth Summit

- 2.8 In June 1992 the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development called 'The Earth Summit' was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. An important achievement of this summit was a set of agreements between governments to mark future international cooperation on environmental and development issues.

United Kingdom

Securing the Future - Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)

- 2.9 The following aims, principles and priorities are noted:

Four main aims:

- Social progress, which recognises the needs of everyone;
- Effective protection of the environment;
- Prudent use of natural resources; and
- Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

Five guiding principles:

- Living within environmental limits;
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;

- Achieving a sustainable economy;
- Promoting good governance; and
- Using sound science responsibly.

Four main priorities for UK action:

- Sustainable consumption and production;
- Climate change and energy;
- Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement; and
- Sustainable communities.

The Northern Way (2004)

- 2.10 The Northern Way is a multi-million pound package for urban renaissance that aims to create jobs, sustainable communities, growth in the economy across the North, and to reduce disparities between the North and South. The Northern Way is the northern element of the Sustainable Communities Plan, influencing the Sustainable Communities Plan Vision across the northern region

Creating Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future (ODPM 2003)

- 2.11 The Plan was launched in February 2003 as part of the Government's aim to improve quality of life across communities through increased prosperity and to reduce inequalities. The Plan has hopes to achieve various economic, social and environmental objectives such as the following:
- Higher quality local authority service delivery of local environment, public spaces and parks. It is the aim that every local authority should have parks within it that achieve Green Flag standard;
 - National quality standards and measurable targets developed for urban parks and green spaces; and
 - 1,500 hectares of brownfield land restored and managed as public green space through the land restoration trust.

Our Towns and Cities: The Future – Delivering an Urban Renaissance Urban White Paper (DETR 2000)

- 2.12 The White Paper was written in 2000 to set the Government's commitments to taking action to reduce inequalities in society and to achieve an urban renaissance. The paper highlights the following as key steps towards an urban renaissance:
- Providing plentiful good quality public spaces in which people feel safe;
 - Allowing easy access to local shops, schools, health and leisure facilities on foot or bike;
 - Looking after the existing urban environment: tackling litter, graffiti, vandalism and noise; and
 - Ensuring parks, playgrounds and other public spaces are safe and attractive places to be.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act)

- 2.13 The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (the CroW Act) extends the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst also providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers. The CroW Act will create a statutory right of access to open country and registered common land, modernise the rights of way system, give greater protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), provide better management arrangements for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), and strengthen wildlife enforcement legislation.

Choosing Health: Making Healthier Choices Easier, White Paper (DoH, 2005)

- 2.14 The White Paper, produced by the Department of Health in 2005, sets out the key principles for supporting the public to make healthier and more informed choices with regards to their health. The White Paper aims to provide information that will ensure that the public have improved access to health related services.

Broad Sustainability Objectives

- 2.15 The broad sustainability objectives included here and in the baseline data tables are taken from the main aims set out in '*Securing the Future, Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy*', which is the Government's sustainable development strategy produced in 2005. Including these broad sustainability objectives in the early stages ensures that the evolution of the distinct local sustainability objectives can be followed from stage to stage and indeed that they are compatible with what is trying to be achieved at the national level.

Table 1: National Planning Guidance, Regional and Local Plans

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development (ODPM, 2005)			
The local environment should be protected, maintained and improved through positive policies on issues such as design, conservation and the provision of open space.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment
The promotion of health and well being should be supported through the provision of physical activity.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space, sport and recreation within the Borough, enabling/encouraging physical activity.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Planning Policy Guidance 2: Green Belt (DOE, 1995)			
To provide opportunities for access to the open countryside for the urban population.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To retain attractive landscapes and enhance landscapes, near to where people live.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new.	Effective protection of the environment
To provide opportunities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation near urban areas.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing (DCLG 2006)			
Create places, streets and spaces which are visually attractive, safe, accessible, functional, inclusive, have their own distinctive identity and maintain and improve local character.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment
Local Authorities should have clear policies for the protection and creation of open space and playing fields and should ensure that new housing developments provide sufficient open space provision where existing provision would be inadequate.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres (2005)			
To improve high quality public realm and open spaces, providing a focus for civic activity in an attractive, accessible and safe environment.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (ODPM 2004)			
Local Authorities should ensure that environmental improvements to countryside allow for a range of beneficial uses, whilst reducing potential conflicts between neighbouring land uses. This should include the improvement of public accessibility and the provision of sport and recreation facilities.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (ODPM 2005)			
To enhance biodiversity in green spaces and among developments so that they are used by wildlife and valued by people, recognising that healthy functional ecosystems can contribute to a better quality of life and to people's sense of well-being.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To ensure that new developments consider the role and value of biodiversity in contributing to a high quality environment.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (ODPM 2002)			
To provide local networks of high quality and well managed and maintained open spaces and sports and recreational facilities that help create urban environments that are clean, attractive and safe.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p>
To support a rural renewal through the provision of recreation for visitors thus playing an important role in the regeneration of the economies of rural areas.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	<p>Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment</p> <p>Effective protection of the environment</p>

Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation, ODPM 2002 (Continued).			
To provide accessibility to open spaces and local sports and recreational facilities within rural settlements, contributing to quality of life and well-being.	No targets	The SPD will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new in a co-ordinated manner.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To promote social inclusion and community cohesion through well planned and maintained open spaces and good quality sports and recreational facilities.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To promote health and well being. Open spaces, sports and recreational facilities have a vital role to play in promoting healthy living and preventing illness, and in the social development of children of all ages through play, sporting activities and interaction with others.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Green Spaces, Better Places, Final Report The Urban Green Spaces Taskforce, 2002			
To improve the quality of urban regeneration and neighbourhood renewal projects and the attractiveness of locations for business.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough.	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p> <p>Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment</p>
To promote healthy living and prevent illness by providing places for physical activity.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space, sport and recreation within the Borough, enabling and encouraging physical activity.	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p>

Green Spaces, Better Places, Final report The Urban Green Spaces Taskforce, 2002 (Continued)			
To provide a valuable resource for learning about the natural world and local environment.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough.	Effective protection of the environment
To support environmental sustainability by countering pollution.	No targets	The SPD will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate new, contributing to environmental sustainability and helping to counter pollution.	Effective protection of the environment
To contribute to heritage and culture by providing venues for local festivals and celebrations.	No targets	The SPD will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Living Places: Cleaner, Safer, Greener (ODPM 2002)			
To ensure that good parks and green spaces are an integral part of the wider public space network and are as much a part of the urban fabric as buildings.	Better planning, design, management and maintenance of parks and green space services	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities	Effective protection of the environment
To maintain the right for everyone to have access to good quality parks and greenspaces that serve the diverse needs of all members of the community	Better information on the quantity, condition and use of urban green spaces and sharing of good practice	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
National Level			
Choosing Health: Making Healthier Choices Easier, White Paper, DoH, 2005			
To reduce obesity and improve diet and nutrition	Halt by 2010 the year on year increase in childhood obesity.	The SPD will facilitate and promote a co-ordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space, sport and recreation within the Borough, enabling and encouraging physical activity.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To increase exercise	Increase the percentage of children spending 2 hours or more on high quality PE and school sport to 85% by 2008.	The SPD will facilitate and promote a co-ordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space, sport and recreation within the Borough, enabling and encouraging physical activity.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Choosing Health: Making Healthier Choices Easier, White Paper, DoH, 2005 (Continued)			
To increase exercise	All schools reaching healthy school status by 2009, through facilities for physical activities and sport.	The SPD will facilitate and promote a co-ordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space, sport and recreation within the Borough, enabling and encouraging physical activity.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To improve mental health	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a co-ordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space, sport and recreation within the Borough, enabling and encouraging physical activity, relaxation and wellbieng.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Regional Level			
Regional Planning Guidance for the North West (RPG13) (NWRA), 2003			
To secure a better image for the Region and high environmental and design quality	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Regional Planning Guidance for the North West (RPG13) (Continued)			
To ensure active management of the Region's environmental and cultural assets	No loss in area of SSSIs and ensure that 95% of the areas of SSSIs in the region is maintained in or recovering towards favourable condition by 2010	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Regional Planning Guidance for the North West (RPG13) (Continued)

	<p>Maintain an upward trend in all native species and woodland and farmland bird indicators</p> <p>Deliver the North West Regional Biodiversity targets</p>		
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Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Regional Level			
Submitted Draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West Of England, January 2006 (NWRA)			
Promote environmental excellence, green infrastructure and good environmental management, including the enhancement of the historic environment.	Protect and enhance the most significant biodiversity, landscape heritage and woodlands assets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Integrate green infrastructure provision within existing and new development particularly within major development and regeneration schemes.	Reduce economic, environmental, educational and other social inequalities between North West Communities	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Submitted Draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West Of England, 2006 (Continued)			
Identify, promote and deliver multi-purpose networks of greenspace, particularly where there is currently limited access to natural greenspace or where connectivity between these places is poor.	Reduce economic, environmental, educational and other social inequalities between North West Communities	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Regional Level			
Regional Economic Strategy (RES) NWDA, April 2006			
The Regional Economic Strategy is based on 5 priorities for the promotion of sustainable economic development in the North West including: - Quality of Life – Nurturing the North West as an attractive place to live, work, visit and invest	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a co-ordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough, supporting the delivery of urban and economic regeneration projects.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment
Key Action 119 of the RES highlights the need to 'Invest in quality public realm, green space and environmental quality', focusing on key areas including HMR areas.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a co-ordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough, supporting the delivery of urban and economic regeneration projects.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Regional Level			
North West On The Move: The North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004-2008, Sport England North West			
Make the best use of resources, both natural and physical, to increase participation in sport and physical activity while recognising the need to protect the environment for future generations.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To use sport and physical activity to improve the physical activity to improve the physical, social and mental health and well-being of people in the North West focussing on those areas with the greatest health needs and inequalities.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Regional Level			
Action for Sustainability: Regional Sustainable Development Framework (2005), NWRA			
Value and conserve biodiversity and landscapes and encourage their contribution to the region's economy and quality of life.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new.	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p> <p>Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment</p>
Promote healthy communities where people enjoy life, work and leisure and take care of themselves and others.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Regional Level			
Greater Manchester Derelict Land Strategy, AGMA, 2002			
To encourage sustainable reclamation programmes for derelict, underused and neglected land to improve the image of the conurbation and provide new urban greenspaces for biodiversity, community forestry and recreation.	No current target but the Pennine Edge Forest Plan has a target of reclaiming 50 hectares by 2013	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Regional Level			
Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan, GMEU and Partners (2003)			
To promote the conservation, protection and enhancement of biological diversity in Greater Manchester for current or future generations.	By 2008 establish demonstration sites to show good conservation and management practice for BAP habitats and species.	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new.	Effective protection of the environment
Regional Level			
Sharing the Vision: A Strategy for Greater Manchester, AGMA (2003)			
To enhance biodiversity, forestry initiatives and recreational facilities.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Regional Level			
Greater Manchester Economic Development Plan, Manchester Enterprises, (2004/05 – 2006/07)			
<p>The Plan aims to set out a way forward for Greater Manchester that maximises its wealth creation and simultaneously raises the quality of life of all its residents.</p> <p>Actions include environmental regeneration improvements such as New Leaf and Newlands, Pennine Edge Forest and Red Rose Forest programmes for the reclamation of derelict and underused land</p>	<p>Attract new and retain successful businesses, particularly those in key growth sectors</p>	<p>The SPD will facilitate and promote a co-ordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough, supporting the delivery of urban and economic regeneration projects.</p>	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p> <p>Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
Corporate Plan 2006 – 2009, OMBC			
Better quality public spaces and facilities	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Regional Level			
Oldham Community Strategy, Oldham Partnership, 2005 - 2020			
Strategy Topic: Children and Young People			
Ensure children have healthy lifestyles through improved nutritional habits, increased levels of physical activity and maintaining normal weight ranges.	<p>Halt the year on year rise in obesity among children under 11 by 2010</p> <p>Increase the number of young people involved in sport and physical activity</p>	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, enabling and encouraging play, sport and physical activity.	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p>

Oldham Community Strategy 2005 – 2020 (Continued)			
<i>Strategy Topic: Improved and Valued Environment</i>			
<p>To develop high quality living environments through the maintenance and improvement of our buildings, streets, parks, open spaces, woodland, wider countryside and rivers through environmentally sensitive regeneration.</p>	<p>Increase number of parks with Green Flag status from 4 in 2004 to 7 by 2007</p> <p>Increase tree cover from 3% in 2001 to 5% in 2010</p> <p>Achieve Community Forest Status for Pennine Edge Forest</p>	<p>The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.</p>	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p>

Oldham Community Strategy 2005 – 2020 (Continued)			
Strategy Topic: A Place of Culture			
Increase the number of young people involved in sports and physical activities	Increase young people's (aged 9-16) involvement in sport and physical activity by 25% by 2006	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Invest in cultural assets including built heritage, cultural venues, sporting facilities and collections	No Targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
Local Area Agreement 2006 – 2009, Oldham Partnership			
To ensure all communities have a cleaner, greener and safer and public spaces in which people can take pride.	Ensure a greater number of green flag parks in the Borough (2007/8 – 8, 2008/9 – 9)	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Local Area Agreement 2006-2009 Oldham Partnership (Continued)			
Create more opportunities to enable citizens to lead healthy, active and longer lives.	Reduce gap in life expectancy between most deprived wards in Oldham and Borough average from a baseline of 3.5% to 2.5% as measured by life expectancy at birth	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities and enabling/encouraging sport and physical activity.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Local Area Agreement 2006-2009 Oldham Partnership (Continued)			
Encourage participation in sport and physical activity	Increase the proportion of the surveyed population reporting participation in 30mins or more of physical activity on at least 3 days per week from 3% to 12% in 2008/09	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities and enabling/encouraging sport and physical activity.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Local Area Agreement 2006-2009 Oldham Partnership (Continued)			
<p>Enable children and young people to lead healthy, active lives and be highly skilled, educated and socially responsible.</p>	<p>By the end of the third year of the LAA, increase the % of children and young people aged 5 – 16 inclusive who take part in high quality PE or school sport for more than 2hours per week to 88%</p>	<p>The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.</p>	<p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Unitary Development Plan, Oldham MBC, July 2006			
To ensure that land is provided for a wide range of open space, sport and recreation facilities which meet the needs and expectations of all residents of the Borough and are accessible to all residents, workers and visitors.	Net change in the extent of protected open space	The SPD will provide technical advice to support UDP policies R1.1 and R2.1 which relate to the protection and provision of open space.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Support suitable recreation activity in the urban fringe.	Net change in the extent of protected open space	The SPD will provide technical advice to support UDP policies R1.1 and R2.1 which relate to the protection and provision of open space.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Unitary Development Plan (Continued)			
To protect existing open spaces, sport and recreational facilities that are of public value from inappropriate development.	Net change in the extent of protected open space	The SPD will provide technical advice to support UDP policies R1.1 and R2.1 which relate to the protection and provision of open space.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
Increase the amount of sport and recreational provision in the Borough by providing new sites where resources and opportunities permit.	Net change in the extent of protected open space	The SPD will provide technical advice to support UDP policies R1.1 and R2.1 which relate to the protection and provision of open space.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To maintain and enhance the quantity, range and quality of open spaces and sport and recreational facilities throughout the Borough.	The development of monitors to indicate quality and accessibility	The SPD will provide technical advice to support UDP policies R1.1 and R2.1 which relate to the protection and provision of open space.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To protect and maximise opportunities for a network of open spaces and recreational routes across the Borough that contribute to sustainable transport.	Net change in the extent of protected open space	The SPD will provide technical advice to support UDP policies R1.1 and R2.1 which relate to the protection and provision of open space.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
Oldham Beyond: A Vision for the Borough of Oldham. May 2004 Urbed, Comedia, S333, King Sturge and WSP for Oldham LSP and NWDA			
Series of corridors proposed including Green Walk which will run from Oldham Edge to Alexandra Park.	No Targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
Pennine Edge Forrest Business Action Plan, 2004 – 2013, Pennine Edge Forest			
The Pennine Edge Forest will be an investment in the landscape to benefit all who live, work and play in the area.	475ha of new woodland by 2013 1,000,000 locally native trees planted by 2013	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone Effective protection of the environment
To create a high quality sustainable landscape, providing a green gateway to the region, rich in recreational opportunity, visual attraction and biodiversity.	25km of new and improved recreational access and green community routes by 2013	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone Effective protection of the environment

Pennine Edge Forrest Business Action Plan, 2004 – 2013 (Continued)			
To support local communities, their quality of life and opportunity and their aspirations for their environment.	400 hectares of under managed and neglected woodland transformed into community woodland by 2013	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone Effective protection of the environment
To connect communities with their surrounding natural environment.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
Oldham's Greenspace Strategy (April 2004), OMBC			
To develop and promote comprehensive networks of accessible, high quality and sustainable green spaces which contribute to the image and overall strategic framework for development of their area.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment
Deliver important secondary benefits, where appropriate for local people, biodiversity and wildlife.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
Oldham's Greenspace Strategy. Adoptable Standards for the design of landscape and open space projects, (2004) OMBC			
To ensure that the aspirations and needs of local communities can be matched to the opportunities available and the resources needed, to ensure long term sustainable management of Oldham's parks, countryside and Greenspace	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
A Cultural Strategy for Oldham, OMBC, 2003 – 2006			
To contribute to an improving environment for future generations through promoting sustainability, creating and developing public open space in town and country and maintaining, protecting and enhancing the quality of that space for the community.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment
To widen participation in cultural, creative and sport activities by making them accessible.	Develop a recreation and facilities strategy for the Borough	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

A Cultural Strategy for Oldham, 2003 – 2006 (Continued)			
To improve the Borough's Greenspace and access to countryside areas to attract business and visitors.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment
To improve the health of Oldham residents and those who work in the Borough by providing affordable access to sporting and recreational activities.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To improve access to and interpretation of countryside areas, parks and open spaces and promote their benefit for health, fitness and well being.	Promote parks and open spaces to the local community as a green gym where a fit and healthy lifestyle can begin	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

A Cultural Strategy for Oldham, 2003 – 2006 (Continued)			
To rationalise and improve the quality of safe play provision in communities across the Borough.	No Targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
To bring derelict and contaminated land back into use for cultural creative and recreational purposes.	No Targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment
To protect the provision of playing fields and enhance the provision of sports facilities wherever possible.	Develop the lottery funded sports facilities at Hathershaw Technology College	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone

A Cultural Strategy for Oldham, 2003 – 2006 (Continued)			
To promote and enhance the quality of river valleys, moorland and urban fringe countryside across the Borough.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment
To manage and maintain the Council's green estate to a high quality level.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
A Woodland Strategy for Oldham, OMBC, (2001)			
Promote a significant increase in tree cover in the Borough.	Increase the level of tree cover in the Borough from 3% to 5% by the year 2010	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Effective protection of the environment
Promote the importance of trees and woodland, encourage community involvement and foster a caring attitude and appreciation of their value.	No targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone Effective protection of the environment

A Woodland Strategy for Oldham (Continued)			
Create a network of multi-purpose Community Woodlands which will provide leisure and recreational opportunities for local people, enhance provision for environmental education and provide additional habitats for wildlife.	No Targets	The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to SA	Commentary/Implications for Plan/SA	Broad Sustainability Objectives
Local Level			
Transformation and Cohesion: The Housing Market Renewal Prospectus for the Oldham and Rochdale Pathfinder, December 2003			
<p>The Pathfinder aims to create 'thriving' sustainable communities in Oldham and Rochdale that people will want to live in.</p> <p>In the Werneth area of Oldham one of the key objectives of the Pathfinder is to create an attractive public realm, a variety of parks and recreational space and excellent links to Werneth Park</p>	<p>Targets for Werneth area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve existing open space - Create new areas of open space - Increase environmental maintenance - Develop linkages between open space 	<p>The SPD will facilitate and promote a coordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough. It will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.</p>	<p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p>

3. Stage 2 - Baseline Information (A2)



The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme



The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected

- 3.1 This stage involves the collection of data, which will be of particular relevance to the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Supplementary Planning Document. It is baseline data that provides the basis for predicting and monitoring effects and can help to identify sustainability problems and alternative ways of dealing with them. The information collected at this stage should give information about the current and likely future state of the plan area. This will allow the plan's likely effects to be adequately predicted.

Oldham Borough Characterisation

- 3.2 Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council is located to the East of the Greater Manchester conurbation. It covers an area of approximately 55 square miles, stretching from the boundary with Manchester City Council to the western edge of the Pennines and the boundary with Yorkshire. It has a population of around 219,273 (Census, 2001), of which the majority lives in the western half of the borough. The Peak District National Park expands into the eastern edge of the Borough. In the past, employment in Oldham was heavily dependent on the textile and mechanical engineering industries. The manufacturing sector is still important, but employment has diversified in recent years. Distribution, retail and other service sectors are now also significant employers in the Borough. Oldham Town Centre is the main shopping and commercial area and there are a number of smaller district centres located in the borough. There are a number of busy roads in the area,

including two motorways: the A627 (M), which feeds into the nearby M62, the recently opened extension to the M60 and the A663 Broadway Trunk Road.

- 3.3 Across Oldham there are a variety of open space typologies, reflective of the diverse urban and rural landscape of the Borough, ranging from countryside parks in the Pennine hills to restored Victorian parks in urban areas. Of equal importance to these formal open spaces are the many less formal spaces found amidst housing areas, in town and district centres.
- 3.4 An accessible provision of open spaces and sports and recreation facilities, whether outdoor or indoor, is an essential component of a quality standard of living. Open spaces and sports and recreation facilities can improve the health and well being of a community, providing an antidote to stress and an opportunity for a variety of 'health orientated' activities. They have a key role to play in the deliverance of a variety of Government objectives including urban renaissance, sustainable development, social inclusion and community cohesion. They are also valued for their ability to support economic growth, combat the effects of pollution, enhance the image and appeal of the Borough for residents, workers, investors and visitors, and provide an educational resource across all sectors of the community. Through the encouragement of increased participation in sports and recreation, open spaces and sports and recreation facilities are thought to help reduce crime. It is thought that open spaces are key to the encouragement of wider community initiatives, thus enhancing community cohesion. Open spaces can also increase opportunities for nature conservation and appreciation and can increase biodiversity and educational opportunities.
- 3.5 Oldham MBC commissioned consultants PMP to undertake a Local Needs Assessment and Audit in accordance with the requirements of Planning Policy Guidance note 17 Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation. The Local Needs Assessment and Audit examined the quantity, quality and accessibility of: parks and gardens; natural and semi-natural greenspaces; green corridors; outdoor sports provision; amenity greenspace; provision for children and teenagers; allotments and community gardens; cemeteries and churchyards and civic spaces. The work provides baseline information regarding existing provision and the needs of the local community. It has been used to inform the application of the current UDP standards through the preparation of an Interim Planning Position Paper. This paper will inform the preparation of the SPD. The work completed by PMP also be used to inform the preparation of the Local Development Framework and will help to identify surpluses and deficiencies in the quantity of open spaces, and deficiencies in quality and accessibility, thus

enabling the effective planning and management of open spaces, sports and recreation to meet the needs of the local community.

Table 2: Baseline data

Broad Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Data	Comparators/Targets	Trend	Issue Identified	Source of Data
Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone	Percentage incidence of obesity amongst children aged 11	25% (/October 2005)	25% (October 2007) 24% (October 2008)	Proposed increase	Need to encourage greater sport and physical activity to improve physical and mental health and well-being	(Local Area Agreement, 2006-2009)

Broad Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Data	Comparators/Targets	Trend	Issue Identified	Source of Data
	Of those taking part in 2 hours of high quality PE and sport in school, the number also taking part in sport or moderate physical activity in the community for 1 or more hours a week	78% (December 2005)	80% (2006/7) 82% (2007/8) 83% (2008/9)	Proposed increase	Greater levels of physical activity in and outside schools should be encouraged through improved school open spaces, sports and recreation facilities in and out of school	(Local Area Agreement, 2006-2009)
	Percentage of people (aged 16 – 74) who usually travel to work by bicycle	2.27% (April 2001)	North West - 1.08% (April 2001)		Need to encourage travel by bicycle	Oldham MBC

Broad Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Data	Comparators/Targets	Trend	Issue Identified	Source of Data
	Percentage of people (aged 16 – 74) who usually travel to work on foot	10.27% (April 2001)	North West - 10.90% (April 2001)		Need to encourage travel by foot.	Oldham MBC
Effective Protection of the Environment	Number of Green Flag Parks/Cemeteries	5 (2004/05) 6 (2005/06)	7 by 2007 8 by 2008 9 by 2009	Increasing number of sites	Need to increase number of Green Flag parks and cemeteries	(Local Area Agreement, 2006-2009)
	Tree coverage	1.9 hectares of new woodland planted through 14 funded schemes (2002 – 2004)	Increase tree cover from 3% in 2001 to 5% by 2010	Increase in tree cover	Need to increase tree coverage	(Community Strategy)

Broad Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Data	Comparators/Targets	Trend	Issue Identified	Source of Data
	Number/extent of Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs)	Oldham 34 SBIs covering a total area of 3272.8 hectares (2004)	3269 Ha in 2003 showing a gain of +3.3 Ha	Proposed increase in number of sites	Need to protect and enhance existing areas of landscape and biodiversity value.	Urban Design guide Scoping Report (Oldham MBC)
	No. of Local Nature Reserves (LNR) and Country Parks	1 LNR – Glodwick Lows 2 Country Parks – Daisy Nook and Tandle Hill	None	None	Need to protect and enhance existing areas of landscape and biodiversity value.	Oldham MBC
	Extent of urban/rural footpaths in good condition	48% of urban footpaths meet or exceed BVPI 178	Increase the length of Public Rights of Way network that is signed and accessible from 49% in 2003/04 to 59% by 2006/07.	None	Increase number of footpaths that meet or exceed required good condition	(Community Strategy)

Broad Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Data	Comparators/Targets	Trend	Issue Identified	Source of Data
	Residential development completed on brownfield sites	2005/6 - 82%	2004/5 - 92.6% 2003/4 – 84% 2002/3 – 86.5% 2001/2 – 76% RSS Target – 80% OMBC target – to maintain average of 80% of new housing development on brownfield land	OMBC has achieved the brownfield target over recent years	Need to protect open space, sport and recreation facilities from inappropriate development.	AMR
	Percentage of fatalities resulting from heart disease	Data Gap	Need to ascertain if such information is collected	None	None	N/A
	Proportion of the surveyed population reporting participation in 30mins or more of physical activity on at least 3 days per week	18% met this target (in 2006). 3% (excluding walking) (2006)	The LAA aims for 27% by 2008/9. 6% (2006/7) 9% (2007/8) 12% (2008/9)	None. Proposed increase	Need to encourage greater sport and physical activity to improve physical and mental health and well-being.	Local Area Agreement (updated September 2006)

Broad Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Data	Comparators/Targets	Trend	Issue Identified	Source of Data
	Net change in the extent of protected open space	Baseline data collected 2005/06 as part of local needs assessment and audit	N/A	N/A	Need to monitor net change in the extent of protected open space	N/A
	Percentage of residents reporting an increase in satisfaction with their neighbourhoods and in disadvantaged areas showing a narrowing of the gap between these areas and the rest	69% respondents "very or fairly satisfied" (2005) 55% respondents "very or fairly satisfied" in lowest ward.	Targets to be set.	None	To increase the percentage of residents reporting satisfaction within their neighbourhood (through cleaner, greener and safer public spaces).	(LAA, 2006)

Broad Sustainability Objective	Indicator	Data	Comparators/Targets	Trend	Issue Identified	Source of Data
Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment	A Strategy to bridge the gap between the North of England and the United Kingdom by 29bn	None	Improved planning and delivery of economic regeneration.	None	Attractive open spaces enhance the image and appeal of the Borough to workers and investors.	(Community Strategy, 2005-2020).

4. Stage 3 - Identifying Key Sustainability Issues (A3)



Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC

Key Issues and Problems

Social Progress which recognises the needs of everyone

- High levels of coronary heart disease, cancer and obesity in the Borough and low levels of physical activity.
- Need to encourage greater sport and physical activity to improve physical and mental health and well-being.
- Greater levels of physical activity in and outside schools should be encouraged through improved school open spaces, sports and recreation facilities in and out of school.
- To increase the percentage of residents reporting satisfaction within their neighbourhood (through cleaner, greener and safer public spaces).

Effective protection of the environment

- Need to increase number of Green Flag parks and cemeteries.
- Need to increase tree coverage.
- Need to protect and enhance existing areas of landscape and biodiversity value.
- Increase number of footpaths that meet or exceed required good condition.
- Need to protect open space, sport and recreation facilities from inappropriate development.
- Need to monitor net change in the extent of protected open space.
- Need to encourage travel by bicycle.
- Need to encourage travel by foot.

Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment

- Attractive open spaces and greenspaces are required to enhance the image and appeal of the Borough to workers and investors.

? Questions to aid consultation?

Are these the key sustainability issues relating to this SPD?

Are there any other sustainability issues that you consider should be raised?

5. Stage 4 - Developing the SA Framework (A4)



The environmental protection objectives, established at international, community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation

Plan Objectives

- 5.1 The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Supplementary Planning Document will supplement policy within the Oldham Metropolitan Borough Development Plan (UDP). The Supplementary Planning Document will therefore be consistent with the aims and objectives of the adopted UDP. The objectives of the Supplementary Planning Document have consequently been developed using the objectives of the relevant open space, sport and recreation policies within the adopted UDP.

Objective 1

To ensure that land is provided for a wide range of open space, sport and recreation facilities, which meet the needs and expectations of all residents of the Borough and are accessible to all residents, workers and visitors.

Objective 2

To protect from inappropriate development existing open spaces, sport and recreational facilities that are of public value to residents.

Objective 3

To maintain and enhance the quantity, range and quality of open spaces and sport and recreational facilities throughout the Borough

Objective 4

To protect and maximise opportunities for a network of open spaces and recreation routes across the Borough that contribute to sustainable transport

Objective 5

To support suitable recreation activity in the urban fringe

Objective 6

Increase the amount of sport and recreational provision in the Borough by providing new sites where resources and opportunities permit

Objective 7

To encourage a more efficient use of land by promoting sites that cannot be used for other purposes to be developed as open space and/or for sport and recreational purposes, and using brownfield sites in preference to Greenfield sites;

Objective 8

To encourage the accessibility of existing and new open space, sport and recreation facilities by public transport.

Objective 9

To ensure that the use of sport and recreational facilities does not result in loss of amenity or have a detrimental impact on residents, neighbouring uses, the character of the area, or harm nature conservation and biodiversity.

Development of Sustainability Objectives

- 5.2 The purpose of developing the Sustainability Appraisal framework is to provide a means by which the sustainability of the Supplementary Planning Document can be appraised. The process of developing the Sustainability Appraisal framework involves the development of sustainability objectives. These objectives should take into account the processes that have taken place through tasks A1 to A3 and aim to address the problems and issues raised in the previous section.
- 5.3 The Sustainability Appraisal guidance produced by the Government states that plan objectives are objectives adopted for the plan, usually through a process of expert consideration, public consultation and political approval. The plan objectives for the proposed Supplementary Planning Document have been developed through using the relevant objectives and aims of the Oldham Metropolitan Borough UDP, to ensure the Supplementary Planning Document will be consistent with the parent document.
- 5.4 The Sustainability Appraisal objectives provide a methodological yardstick against which the social, environmental and economic effects of the Open Space, Sports and Recreation Supplementary Planning Document can be tested. These objectives are distinct from the Plan Objectives, though they will often overlap with them. Sustainability objectives should also focus on outputs (or ends), not how the outcomes will be achieved. In studying the stages A1 to A3 it would appear appropriate to have the sustainability objectives identified in Table 3. Table 3 records the reasons for choosing the sustainability objectives.

Table 3. Sustainability objectives

Regional Framework	SD	SEA Directive	Other Plans and programmes	Sustainability issues and problems identified	Proposed SA Objectives
Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone					
To improve physical and mental health and reduce health inequalities		Human health	PPS1, PPG17 Community Strategy,	High levels of coronary heart disease, cancer and obesity in the Borough and low levels of physical activity. Need to encourage greater sport and physical activity to improve physical and mental health and well-being. Greater levels of physical activity in and outside schools should be encouraged through improved school open spaces, sports and recreation facilities in and out of school.	To improve the health and well being of the Borough's population.
To deliver urban renaissance Improve access to and use of basic goods, services and amenities for all groups			PPG17, Sustainable Communities Plan, Community Strategy	To increase the percentage of residents reporting satisfaction within their neighbourhood (through cleaner, greener and safer public spaces).	To improve the quality, range and accessibility of open space, sport and recreational facilities

Regional SD Framework	SEA Directive	Other Plans and programmes	Sustainability issues and problems identified	Proposed SA Objectives
Effective protection of the environment				
To deliver urban renaissance Improve access to and use of basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	Population, Human health, Biodiversity Fauna, Flora	PPG17, Community Strategy	Need to increase number of Green Flag parks and cemeteries. Need to increase tree coverage. Need to protect and enhance existing areas of landscape and biodiversity value. Need to monitor net change in the extent of protected open space.	To improve the quality, range and accessibility of open spaces, sport and recreational facilities.
Improve access to and use of basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	Human Health, Climate Change	PPG17, Community Strategy	Increase number of footpaths that meet or exceed required good condition. Need to encourage travel by bicycle. Need to encourage travel by foot.	To improve the quality, range and accessibility of open spaces, sport and recreational facilities. To promote the appropriate location of open space, sport and recreational facilities to contribute to the creation of sustainable communities and the regeneration of the Borough

		PPG17, PPS3, Oldham MB UDP	Need to protect open space, sport and recreation facilities from inappropriate development.	To protect open space, sport and recreation facilities from inappropriate development and ensure pressure is not placed upon existing provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities.
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Regional SD Framework	SEA Directive	Other Plans and programmes	Sustainability issues and problems identified	Proposed SA Objectives
Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment				
<p>To develop and market the region's image</p> <p>To deliver urban renaissance</p>	Population	North West Regional Economic Strategy, Community Strategy,	Attractive open spaces and greenspaces are required to enhance the image and appeal of the Borough to workers and investors.	<p>To improve the quality, range and accessibility of open spaces, sport and recreational facilities.</p> <p>To promote the appropriate location of open space, sport and recreational facilities to contribute to the creation of sustainable communities and the regeneration of the Borough</p>

Resultant Proposed Sustainability Objectives

Objective A

To improve the quality, range and accessibility of open spaces, sport and recreational facilities.

Objective B

To protect open space, sport and recreation facilities from inappropriate development and ensure pressure is not placed upon existing provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities.

Objective C

To improve the health and well being of the Borough's population

Objective D

To promote the appropriate location of open space, sport and recreational facilities to contribute to the creation of sustainable communities and the regeneration of the Borough

? Questions to aid consultation ?

Do you agree with the sustainability objectives, targets and indicators that have been identified?

Are there any other sustainability objectives, targets and indicators that should be added? Should any of those identified be removed?

APPENDIX 2: COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE SCOPING REPORT AND THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSES

Respondent	Reference No.	Issue	Council's Response
English Heritage	004/OS /001/SA	It is not clear from the Scoping Report exactly what the SPD will cover – whether it relates solely to the provision of new space and facilities or whether it will also look at the protection and enhancement of existing open space etc. It is useful to include a brief outline of the anticipated content of the SPD at the beginning of the Scoping Report.	<p>It is acknowledged that more detail could have been incorporated about the anticipated content of the SPD. Paragraph 1.1 of the Scoping Report does however state that the SPD will expand upon policies R1.1 and R2.1 of the adopted Oldham Metropolitan Borough Unitary Development Plan, which relate to the protection and provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities. The purpose of the SPD, as set out in the Council's Local Development Scheme is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mechanisms for seeking a replacement facility and/or financial contribution where an open space, sport or recreation facility is lost as a result of development; • The mechanisms for seeking open space, sport and recreation provision as part of a residential development.

	004/OS /002/SA	It is suggested that the Green Infrastructure concept may be useful in developing the SPD.	The Green Infrastructure Guide is a draft document at the moment. When finalised, the implications for the SPD will be considered and incorporated if appropriate.
	004/OS /003/SA	Reference should be made in the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> section to the European Landscape Convention, which aims to encourage public authorities to adopt policies and measures at local, regional, national and international level for protecting, managing and planning landscapes throughout Europe.	Reference to the European Landscape Convention has been added to the Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes section of Scoping Report.

	004/OS /004/SA	<p>Regarding section on PPS1 in the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> section reference should be made to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting and enhancing the historic environment, quality and character of the countryside (para 5); • Ensuring high quality design (para 5); • A high level of protection to the most valued townscapes and landscapes (para 17); • Enhance as well as protect the historic environment, landscape and townscape character (para 27); • Promotion of design appropriate for its context (para 34/5); and • Reinforcement of local distinctiveness (para 38). 	<p>The SPD aims to facilitate and promote a co-ordinated approach to the provision of open space, sport and recreation within the Borough to meet the needs of the local community (i.e. by focusing section 106 contributions towards those areas where there are deficiencies in provision). Through which it will help to protect and enhance existing open space and facilitate the creation of new, contributing to the development of sustainable communities.</p> <p>It is felt that those elements of PPS1, currently identified in the Table 1 of the Scoping Report, are the most relevant to the SPD. There are policies within the UDP that seek to protect the historic environment and landscape character. There is also a range of policies relating to design, which will be supplemented by the forthcoming Urban Design Guide SPD.</p>
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	004/OS /005/SA	<p>The following documents should also be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPG15: Planning for the Historic Environment; • PPG16: Archaeology and Planning; • The Historic Environment: a Force for our Future (DCMS, 2001); • Streets for All (English Heritage); and • Conservation Area Appraisals. 	<p>These documents were assessed as part of preparing the Scoping Report however due to the subject of the SPD they were not considered to be appropriate.</p> <p>Again there are policies within the UDP, which seek to protect historic environment and archaeological features.</p>
	004/OS /006/SA	<p>Local Needs Assessment and Audit will provide a strong baseline position however if not already done so it should be supplemented by information on the historic interest and significance of the spaces and their context, which should be reflected in Table 2.</p>	<p>The number / extent of conservation areas has been added to the Scoping Report, within Table 2.</p>
	004/OS /007/SA	<p>Within the <i>Key Sustainability Issues</i> section there are likely to specific issues and problems relating to the historic environment, such as the need to protect and enhance open spaces of historic value or which contribute to the setting of historic assets.</p>	<p>One of the Key Sustainability Issues now reads: “Need to protect and enhance existing areas of landscape, biodiversity, historic and heritage value.”</p>

	004/OS/008/SA	<p>Additional sustainability objectives suggested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To preserve, protect and enhance sites, features and areas of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance; and • Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place. 	<p>The Sustainability Appraisal objectives have been reworded to reflect those used in the Core Strategy Scoping Report. It is not felt appropriate therefore to included other objectives. The objective “to provide quality and accessible open space, sport and recreation facilities” would encompass sites of historic or heritage value.</p> <p>The Council are currently preparing an Urban Design Guide SPD which addresses the need to maintain and strengthen local distinctiveness and character. Any proposal would need to accord with the principles set out within this guidance.</p>
	004/OS/009/SA	<p>English Heritage advises that Oldham’s conservation and archaeological staff of Oldham and Greater Manchester are involved in the preparation of the SPD and its assessment.</p>	<p>The relevant organisations and individuals will be consulted as appropriate during the preparation of the SPD.</p>
	004/OS/010/SA	<p>The SPD objectives should be supplemented by an objective covering the need to protect and enhance open spaces of historic interest and importance, addressing the multi-functional value of open spaces.</p>	<p>The Plan Objectives have been taken from those objectives identified in Chapter 9 of the UDP, it is therefore not felt to be appropriate to amend the wording.</p>

Natural England	002/OS/001/SA	Amendments are being made to the Habitats Regulations to reflect recent clarification of the status of land-use plans as “plans or projects” under Article 6(3) and 4 of the Habitats Directive. Natural England are awaiting specific guidance on how this will need to be applied in the case of Local Development Frameworks.	A Habitat Regulations Assessment has been undertaken of the draft SPD, prepared on behalf of the Council by the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit. Any further guidance will be taken into account when published.
	002/OS/002/SA	Under the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> (UK Section) reference should be made to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act.	Reference to the NERC Act has been added in the UK section of the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> :
	002/OS/003/SA	The following documents should also be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater Manchester Geodiversity Action Plan; • Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning (Countryside Agency et al); • Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities (English Nature/Natural England); • The Countryside In and Around Towns (Countryside Agency et al); and • Rising to the Challenge: A Climate Change Action Plan for England’s Northwest (NWDA, 2006). 	Reference to the Greater Manchester Geodiversity Action Plan will be considered when the document is available and added if appropriate. Reference to these documents has been added to the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> section of Scoping Report.

	002/OS/ 004/SA	Various sources provided for further Baseline Information.	The list of suggested baseline information has been acknowledged and will be included in the Scoping Report where appropriate.
	002/OS/ 005/SA	The broad sustainability objectives “Effective Protection of the Environment” could be reworded to broaden its goal to read “Effective Protection and Enhancement of the Environment”.	The broad sustainability objectives used within the Scoping Report are taken from the main aims set out in “Securing the Future, Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy” and it is not felt to be appropriate to amend this objective.
	002/OS/ 006/SA	Wish to see reference in the Sustainability Issues and Problems section to the consideration of all landscape and biodiversity features, rather than just those elements deemed to be of existing value.	It is acknowledged that it is important to consider all biodiversity and landscape features as part of the LDF. The importance placed on non designated features will be judged on their individual merits taking into account competing interests.

	002/OS/ 007/SA	When assessing objective 7 due consideration should be taken account of the biodiversity interest of brownfield sites.	<p>The comment is noted, however it is not felt appropriate to amend the wording of objective 7 as the Plan Objectives outlined in the Scoping Report have been taken directly from those listed in Chapter 9 of the UDP.</p> <p>Any development of a site would need to be in accordance with the policies set out in the UDP, including those that address biodiversity.</p>
	002/OS/ 008/SA	An objective ought to be included to conserve and enhance the landscape and biodiversity interests that open space, sport and recreational facilities provide.	<p>The comment is noted, however it is not felt appropriate to add another objective as the Plan Objectives outlined in the Scoping Report have been taken directly from those listed in Chapter 9 of the UDP.</p> <p>Any development of a site would need to be in accordance with the policies set out in the UDP, including those that address biodiversity.</p>

North West Regional Assembly	001/OS/ 001/SA	Outlined the current situation regarding the Regional Spatial Strategy, stating that the Adopted RSS now forms an integral part of the development plan and should be given due consideration in the production of the SPD.	The Sustainability Appraisal considers the implications of both adopted RSS and draft RSS. The SPD provides further guidance on the implementation of UDP policies, therefore it is not felt to be appropriate to repeat regional planning guidance within the SPD.
	001/OS/ 002/SA	<p>The following documents should also be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWRA Sustainability Appraisal Toolkit; • North West Best Practice Design Guide; and • The Draft Green Infrastructure Guide for the North West. 	<p>The NWRA Sustainability Appraisal Toolkit forms the basis for how we undertake Sustainability Appraisal.</p> <p>Reference to the North West Best Practice Design Guide has been added to the Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes section of Scoping Report.</p> <p>The Green Infrastructure Guide is a draft document at the moment. When finalised, the implications for the SPD will be considered and incorporated if appropriate.</p>
Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive	119/OS/ 001/SA	The report several times mentions access (i.e. pg 17) and participation (i.e. pg 43). The role of public transport both in accessing facilities, and accessing a	The role of Public Transport in accessing open space, sport and recreation facilities is recognised within the

		healthy lifestyle – such as access to the countryside for outdoor recreation – should be explicitly acknowledged.	UDP (see introduction to Chapter 9 and objective h). The SPD recognised the importance of protecting and maximising opportunities for a network of open spaces and recreational routes across the Borough that contribute to sustainable transport. It cannot however directly deliver Public Transport.
Greater Manchester Ecology Unit	114/OS/001/SA	Under the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> (UK Section) reference should be made to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act.	Reference to the NERC Act has been added in the UK section of the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> :
	114/OS/002/SA	Welcome the inclusion of the “need to protect and enhance existing areas of landscape and biodiversity value” as a key issues, however the creation of new areas of biodiversity value should also be identified.	It is acknowledged that it is important to consider all biodiversity and landscape features as part of the LDF. The importance placed on non designated features will be judged on their individual merits taking into account competing interests.

	114/OS/003/SA	Quality of open space should also be monitored.	The Local Needs Assessment and Audit provides recommendation for local standards of provision. This includes standards of quality, quantity and accessibility. The recommendations will be considered through the Local Development Framework process. Future standards will therefore provide an opportunity and baseline indicator to monitor quality against. In the meantime the number of Green Flag Parks provides an indication of the quality of open space within the borough.
Yorkshire Forward	043/OS/001/SA	No comments	No change required.
Environment Agency	003/OS/001/SA	Under the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> (International Section) reference should be made to the EU Water Framework Directive.	Reference has been made to the EU Water Directive in the International section of the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> :

	003/OS/ 002/SA	Under the <i>Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</i> reference should be made to Planning Policy Statement 25, as the SPD should have regard to the dual use of open land as flood storage and recreation.	Reference to the Planning Policy Statement 25 has been added in the UK section of the Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes section of the Scoping Report.
	003/OS/ 003/SA	Environment Agency hold a database that may be of assistance during the sustainability process.	The suggested baseline information has been acknowledged and will be included in the Scoping Report where appropriate.
	003/OS/ 004/SA	Water quality and numbers of properties in flood risk should be included within Table 2 as an indicators.	The suggested baseline information has been acknowledged and has been included in the Scoping Report.

OBJECTIVE 3: PLAN OBJECTIVES AGAINST THE SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES

Plan Objectives	Sustainability Objectives			
	Objective A: To protect and improve the Borough's green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity	Objective B: To ensure the effective and efficient use of all types of land and buildings in the most sustainable of locations	Objective C: To maintain and improve open space, sport and recreational facilities	Objective D: To improve the health of the Borough's population
Objective 1: To ensure that land is provided for a wide range of open space, sport and recreation facilities, which meet the needs and expectations of all residents of the Borough and are accessible to all residents, workers and visitors.	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution
Objective 2: To protect from inappropriate development existing open spaces, sport and recreational facilities that are of public value to residents.	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution
Objective 3: To maintain and enhance the quantity, range and quality of open spaces and sport and recreational facilities throughout the Borough.	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution
Objective 4: To protect and	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution

maximise opportunities for a network of open spaces and recreation routes across the Borough that contribute to sustainable transport.				
Objective 5: To support suitable recreation activity in the urban fringe.	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution
Objective 6: Increase the amount of sport and recreational provision in the Borough by providing new sites where resources and opportunities permit.	Dependent on type of open space, sport and recreational facilities provided	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution
Objective 7: To encourage a more efficient use of land by promoting sites that cannot be used for other purposes to be developed as open space and/or for sport and recreational purposes, and using brownfield sites in preference to greenfield sites.	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution	Positive Contribution
Comments and recommendations:				
The plan objectives are in accordance with sustainability principles and are compatible with the sustainability objectives.				

APPENDIX 4: SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK TOOLKIT CHECKLIST

1. Will the initiative protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and local landscape character?
2. Will the initiative protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value?
3. Will the initiative develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change?
4. Will the initiative contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities?
5. Will the initiative develop strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds and communities?
6. Will the initiative encourage sustainable economic growth and employment?
7. Will the initiative improve health and/or improve access to health care in the region particularly in deprived areas?
8. Will the initiative improve access to good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing?
9. Will the initiative contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities?
10. Will the initiative ensure efficient use of natural resources?
11. Will the initiative bring intermediate or higher levels skills into the current workforce or develop skills required to bring people back into the labour market?
12. Will the initiative reduce the need to travel or the distances needed to travel?
13. Will the initiative ensure the sustainable management of waste?
14. Will the initiative develop and market the region's image?

APPENDIX 5: SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK FINDINGS

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective A: To protect and improve the Borough's green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity														
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy						Option 2 – Implement the SPD								
Criteria	Impact +/++/-/-/?/0			Scale		Supporting Evidence – Any secondary or cumulative effects?	Suggested Changes	Impact +/++/-/-/?/0			Scale		Supporting Evidence – Any secondary or cumulative effects?	Suggested Changes
	S 3	M 10	L 10+	Local	Trans-boundary			S 3	M 10	L 10+	Local	Trans-boundary		
Will the initiative protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and local landscape character?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP policy seeks to protect and improve biodiversity and landscape character		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively to protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and landscape character	

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective A: To protect and improve the Borough's green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity														
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD							
Will the initiative protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP seeks to protect and improve open space, sport and recreation which may contain places of historic, cultural and archaeological value.		+	+	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy.	
Will the initiative develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP seeks to protect and improve open space, sport and recreation, the existence of which will help to deliver climate change policies.		+	+	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy.	

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective A: To protect and improve the Borough's green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP policy will protect and improve open space, sport and recreation which are fundamental to the creation of sustainable communities.		+	+	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively to meet the needs of the local community.
Will the initiative develop strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds and communities?	?	?	NA	Y	N	The UDP policy will protect and improve open space sport and recreation which forms the common ground where people from different communities and backgrounds can meet.		?	?	NA	Y	N	The SPD policy will protect and improve open space which forms the common ground where people from different communities and backgrounds can meet.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective A: To protect and improve the Borough's green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative ensure efficient use of natural resources?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP policy protects and improves open space, sport and recreation which is an efficient use of a natural resource.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively.
Will the initiative reduce the need to travel or the distances needed to travel?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP policy protects and improves open space, sport and recreation which in the context of the green infrastructure can form green corridors and links.		+	+	NA	Y	Y	The SDP will protect and improve open space, sport and recreation which in the context of the green infrastructure can form green corridors and links.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective A: To protect and improve the Borough's green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative develop and market the region's image?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP provides and protects and improves open space, sport and recreation which enhances the Borough's image.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively thereby improving the image of the Borough.

- ++ = Significantly moves towards
- + = Positive
- 0 = Neutral
- ? = Unsure
- = Negative
- = = Significantly moves away

During the course of the Sustainability Appraisal it was considered that Questions 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 13 from the Sustainability Framework Toolkit (Appendix 4) were not appropriate for Objective A so were not included.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective B: To ensure the effective and efficient use of all types of land and buildings in the most sustainable locations														
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy						Option 2 – Implement the SPD								
Criteria	Impact +/++/-/-/?/0			Scale		Supporting Evidence – Any secondary or cumulative effects?	Suggested Changes	Impact +/++/-/-/?/0			Scale		Supporting Evidence – Any secondary or cumulative effects?	Suggested Changes
	S 3	M 10	L 10+	Local	Trans-boundary			S 3	M 10	L 10+	Local	Trans-boundary		
Will the initiative protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and local landscape character?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	Through the protection, improvement and potential creation of new open space, sport and recreation provision the UDP policy will protect, enhance and manage local landscape character.		+	+	NA	Y	Y	Through the protection, improvement and potential creation of new open space, sport and recreation provision the UDP policy will protect, enhance and manage local landscape character.	

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective B: To ensure the effective and efficient use of all types of land and buildings in the most sustainable locations													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities?	+	+	NA	Y	N	UDP policy will ensure the provision of open space, sport and recreation provision which is an integral part of a sustainable community.		++	++	NA	Y	N	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively to meet the needs of the local community.
Will the initiative improve health and/or access to health care in the region particularly in deprived areas?	+	+	NA	Y	N	UDP policy will ensure the provision of open space, sport and recreation provision which is will contribute to improved health.		++	++	NA	Y	N	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively to meet the needs of the local community.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective B: To ensure the effective and efficient use of all types of land and buildings in the most sustainable locations													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative improve health and/or access to health care in the region particularly in deprived areas?	+	+	NA	Y	N	UDP policy will ensure the provision of open space which is will contribute to improved health.		++	++	NA	Y	N	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively to meet the needs of the local community.
Will the initiative contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities?	?	?	NA	Y	Y	The creation and protection of open space, sport and recreation provision may affect environmental quality positively or negatively depending on its use.		?	?	NA	Y	Y	The creation and protection of open space, sport and recreation provision may affect environmental quality positively or negatively depending on its use.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective B: To ensure the effective and efficient use of all types of land and buildings in the most sustainable locations														
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD							
Will the initiative ensure efficient use of natural resources?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	This is a key issue of the UDP.		+	+	NA	Y	Y	This is a key issue of the UDP which this SPD supplements.	
Will the initiative reduce the need to travel or the distances needed to travel?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	UDP policy will ensure the provision of open space, sport and recreation provision in accessible locations.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively to meet the needs of the local community.	

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective B: To ensure the effective and efficient use of all types of land and buildings in the most sustainable locations													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative develop and market the region's image?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP protects and improves open space, sports and recreation provision which enhances the Borough's image.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively thereby improving the image of the Borough.

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During the course of the Sustainability Appraisal it was considered that Questions 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 11, and 13 from the Sustainability Framework Toolkit (Appendix 4) was not appropriate for Objective B so they were not included.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective C: To maintain and improve open space, sport and recreational facilities														
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy						Option 2 – Implement the SPD								
Criteria	Impact +/++/-/-/?/0			Scale		Supporting Evidence – Any secondary or cumulative effects?	Suggested Changes	Impact +/++/-/-/?/0			Scale		Supporting Evidence – Any secondary or cumulative effects?	Suggested Changes
	S 3	M 10	L 10+	Local	Trans-boundary			S 3	M 10	L 10+	Local	Trans-boundary		
Will the initiative protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and local landscape character?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP policy seeks to protect and improve biodiversity and landscape character.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively to protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and landscape character.	

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective C: To maintain and improve open space, sport and recreational facilities														
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD							
Will the initiative protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP seeks to protect and improve open space, sport and recreation which may contain places of historic, cultural and archaeological value.		+	+	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy.	
Will the initiative develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP seeks to protect and improve open space, sport and recreation provision, the existence of which will help to deliver climate change policies.		+	+	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy.	

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective C: To maintain and improve open space, sport and recreational facilities													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	UDP policy will ensure the provision of open space, sport and recreation provision which is an integral part of a sustainable community.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively to develop and maintain sustainable communities.
Will the initiative develop strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds and communities.	?	?	NA	Y	N	The UDP policy will protect and improve open space, sport and recreation provision which forms the common ground where people from different communities and backgrounds can meet and partake in shared activities.		?	?	NA	Y	N	The SPD policy will protect and enhance open space which forms the common ground where people from different communities and backgrounds can meet and partake in shared.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective C: To maintain and improve open space, sport and recreational facilities													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative improve health and/or access to health care in the region particularly in deprived areas?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	UDP policy will ensure the provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities, the use of which is will contribute to improved health.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively to meet the needs of the local community.
Will the initiative improve contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities?	?	?	NA	Y	Y	The creation and protection of open space, sport and recreation provision may affect environmental quality positively or negatively depending on its use.		?	?	NA	Y	Y	The creation and protection of open space, sport and recreation provision may affect environmental quality positively or negatively depending on its use.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective C: To maintain and improve open space, sport and recreational facilities													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative ensure efficient use of natural resources?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP policy protects and improves open space, sport and recreation provision which is an efficient use of a natural resource.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively.
Will the initiative reduce the need to travel or the distances needed to travel?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP policy seeks to protect and improve accessible open space, sport and recreation facilities.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective C: To maintain and improve open space, sport and recreational facilities													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative develop and market the region's image?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP protects and improve open space, sport and recreation provision which enhances the Borough's image.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively thereby improving the image of the Borough.

- ++ = Significantly moves towards
- + = Positive
- 0 = Neutral
- ? = Unsure
- = Negative
- = = Significantly moves away

During the course of the Sustainability Appraisal it was considered that Questions 6, 8, 11 and 13 from the Sustainability Framework Toolkit (Appendix 4) were not appropriate for Objective C so they were not included.


Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective D: To improve the health of the Borough's population														
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD							
Criteria	Impact +/++/-/-/?/0			Scale		Supporting Evidence – Any secondary or cumulative effects?	Suggested Changes	Impact +/++/-/-/?/0			Scale		Supporting Evidence – Any secondary or cumulative effects?	Suggested Changes
	S 3	M 10	L 10+	Local	Trans-boundary			S 3	M 10	L 10+	Local	Trans-boundary		
Will the initiative contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities?	+	+	NA	Y	N	The UDP policy protects and improve the facilities which can be used to improve the health of the population which is a key element of a sustainable community.		++	++	NA	Y	N	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively.	
Will the initiative improve health and/or access to health care in the region particularly in deprived areas?	+	+	NA	Y	N	The UDP policy protects and improves the facilities which can be used to improve the health of the population.		++	++	NA	Y	N	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively.	

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SA Objective D: To improve the health of the Borough's population													
Option 1 – Rely solely on the UDP policy							Option 2 – Implement the SPD						
Will the initiative develop and market the region's image?	+	+	NA	Y	Y	The UDP protects and improves open space, sport and recreation provision, the use of which contributes to the improved health of the population thereby improving the image of Borough.		++	++	NA	Y	Y	The SPD provides more clarity on implementing the policy as through the identification of surplus and deficiencies on an area basis the SPD will enable us to direct S106 more effectively.

- ++ = Significantly moves towards
- + = Positive
- 0 = Neutral
- ? = Unsure
- = Negative
- = = Significantly moves away

During the course of the Sustainability Appraisal it was considered that Questions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 from the Sustainability Framework Toolkit (Appendix 4) were not appropriate for Objective D so they were not included.

APPENDIX 6: COMPLIANCE WITH THE SEA DIRECTIVE / REGULATIONS

Stage of the Sustainability Appraisal	 Signposted area of the SEA Directive
<p>Stage A:</p> <p>Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.</p>	<p>The Environmental Report should provide information on [inter alia]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the “relationship [of the plan or programme] with other relevant plans or programmes” (Annex I(a)) • “the environmental protection objectives, established at international, [European] Community or [national] level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation” (annex I (e)) • “relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme” and “the environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected” (Annex I (b), (c)) • “any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC” (Annex I(d)) <p>“...the authorities ...which, by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the environmental effects of implementing plans and programmes...shall be consulted when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report” (Article 5.4 and 6.3)</p>
<p>Stage B:</p> <p>Developing and refining options and assessing effects</p>	<p>“...an environmental report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated” (Article 5.1). Information to be provided in the Environmental Report includes “an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with” (Annex I (h))</p>

<p>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Report</p>	<p>“The environmental report shall include information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, (and) its stage in the decision-making process” (Article 5.2).</p> <p>Information to be provided in the Environmental Report includes: “the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects” (Annex I (f) and footnote).</p> <p>“an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with” (Annex I (h))</p> <p>“the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme” (Annex I (g))</p>
<p>Stage D: Consulting on the preferred options of the DPD and SA Report</p>	<p>The authorities [with relevant environmental responsibilities] and the public... shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme</p> <p>The environmental report...the opinions expressed [in responses to consultation]...and the results of any transboundary consultations...shall be taken into account during the preparation of the plan or programme before its adoption...</p> <p>When a plan or programme is adopted, the [environmental] authorities [and] the public...are informed and the following items [shall be] made available to those so informed: (a) the plan or programme as adopted, (b) a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme ...[including] the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives dealt with, and (c) the measures decided concerning monitoring</p>

<p>Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD</p>	<p>Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plans and programmes in order, <i>inter alia</i>, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action” (Article 10.1)</p> <p>The Environmental Report shall include “a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring”</p>
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